

## SITE C CLEAN ENERGY PROJECT

# INFORMATION SHEET

## FORT ST. JOHN COMMUNITY AGREEMENT

BC Hydro and the City of Fort St. John have concluded a Community Measures Agreement related to the construction of the Site C project. Under the terms of the agreement, BC Hydro commits to specific mitigation measures important to the City, including those that provide meaningful benefits to the residents of Fort St. John and other communities in the Peace Region.

### **Adequate, Predictable and Sustainable Funding**

BC Hydro will provide a direct stream of financial payments to the City of Fort St. John in recognition of the City's unique position as a regional service centre to the North Peace Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal communities, and the proximity of main construction areas to the City.

BC Hydro will provide \$1 million per year to the City of Fort St. John during construction, increased by 3.5 per cent each year.

The agreement includes the following benefits for Fort St. John:

### **Support for Community Services and Infrastructure**

- Provide direct funding to the City to fund one additional RCMP officer to be based out of the Fort St. John detachment.
- Provide more than \$1 million to support regional non-profit organizations during construction, including:
  - \$800,000 to support non-profit organizations in the North and South Peace.
  - \$250,000 to local non-profits that provide emergency and transitional housing services, including the recent donation to the Salvation Army Northern Centre of Hope.
  - \$75,000 to one or more non-profit organizations identified by the City.
- Pre-purchase tickets for the project workforce to use of Fort St. John recreation facilities totalling approximately \$432,000 over the construction period.
- Provide a payment of \$125,000 to the City in respect of the City's collaboration and technical engagement efforts.
- Provide an on-site project health clinic, water and sewer systems, and recreational facilities at the worker lodge to reduce demand on community infrastructure and services.
- Support local governments, Northern Health, emergency service providers and School Districts 60 and 59 by providing information to help them plan for potential changes in resident population.
- BC Hydro and the City of Fort St. John have developed a monitoring and mitigation plan for the City water supply. If adverse project effects are identified, BC Hydro would implement mitigation measures to maintain the proper performance of the infrastructure.

## **Support Workers Living Locally**

- Working with BC Housing, build a total of 50 new rental housing units in Fort St. John. Forty units would be used by the construction workforce and their families during project construction. Ten units would be built for immediate use by the community. At the completion of construction, all 50 units would be provided as affordable rental housing for community use.
- Provide new daycare spaces in the Fort St. John area to support families in the labour force.

## **Expanded Recreation and Tourism Opportunities**

- Construct a viewpoint on the north bank that can be safely accessed by the public during and after construction.
- Provide \$200,000 for a community recreation site fund to support community groups in developing new shoreline recreation areas.
- Provide \$200,000 to fund the development of a BC Peace River / Site C Reservoir Navigation and Recreation Opportunities Plan.
- Build and operate three permanent Site C reservoir boat launches, which would include docks and day use areas, at Cache Creek, Lynx Creek and at the base of DA Thomas Road in Hudson's Hope.

## **Improved Transportation Infrastructure**

- Provide funding to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to conduct pavement condition monitoring on project-related roads. Fund repairs if project-use results in road deterioration.
- Implement safety improvements to North Bank roads, including: Old Fort Road, 240 Road, 269 Road and 271 Road.
- BC Hydro and the City of Fort St. John have developed a traffic monitoring and mitigation plan that includes traffic counts and intersection and performance analysis.
- Provide a shuttle service to transport workers between the worker lodge and the Fort St. John area for access to services and leisure activities.

## **Increased Access to Skilled Trades and Labour**

- BC Hydro has invested in training to increase the availability of local labour, including:
  - \$1 million to Northern Lights College Foundation to support trades and skills training through the creation of student bursaries.
  - \$184,000 to Northern Opportunities for the creation of a school district career counsellor position to help students transition into trades and career training.
  - \$100,000 to the North East Native Advancing Society to support trades training under its North East Aboriginal Trades Training program.
  - \$175,000 over five years to Northern Opportunities for its pre-apprenticeship program.
- Work with contractors to identify and increase apprenticeship opportunities and participate in regional workforce training initiatives.

## **Responsible Management of Construction Areas**

- Implement a project-specific Construction Environmental Management Plan.
- Implement site specific mitigation measures for the 85th Avenue Industrial Lands:
  - Reduce visual, noise and light impacts
  - Install air quality station and manage air quality and dust
  - Manage invasive plants to minimise the spread of noxious weeds
  - Develop a site reclamation plan that takes into account future light industrial land use, and design a storm water retention pond for the site

## **Create Economic and Job Opportunities**

- Work with contractors and employment agencies in the Peace Region to advertise job opportunities locally. Access Site C job postings at [www.employmentconnections.bc.ca](http://www.employmentconnections.bc.ca).
- Maintain the BC Hydro Community Consultation Office located in Fort St. John during construction. The office will provide information to the public, businesses and other stakeholders regarding procurement, employment and construction activities.
- Continue working with the Fort St. John Economic Development Department, the Fort St. John & District Chamber of Commerce, the North Peace Economic Development Commission, and other local economic development organizations, to implement the Site C business participation strategy and hold information sessions about contracting opportunities.