

Follow us every day for
up-to-the-minute breaking news
at telegraphjournal.com

ACTUALITÉS

Chief calls for peaceful protest

JOHN CHILIBECK
AND COLE HOBSON
TELEGRAPH-JOURNAL

The chief of Elsipogtog First Nation has called for peaceful and lawful protests against the shale gas industry following the arrest of three people.

Aaron Sock said in an emailed statement Thursday the protests on two days earlier this week were over seismic exploration within Mi'kmaq traditional territory, escalating tensions.

"I am requesting that any demonstrations that take place be done peacefully and lawfully," he wrote. "We must never be afraid to raise our voice to protect our rights and interests, yet we must have the resolve to do so peacefully. This is the spirit and intent of the treaties that our ancestors had the wisdom to contemplate and these values must be respected."

On Wednesday a group of roughly 100 people gathered on Highway 126 in southeastern New Brunswick between Moncton and Miramichi and blocked traffic where SWN Resources Canada was doing seismic testing. Traffic was diverted and slowed for about two hours. Three people were arrested.

The day before, protesters seized a vehicle owned by an SWN subcontractor, although authorities said that situation came to a peaceful resolution. No arrests were made.

Elsipogtog First Nation, formerly called Big Cove Band, is just east of the test area, but the 3,000 people from there consider it traditional Mi'kmaq territory.

Premier David Alward said Thursday it was important that work proceed in the controversial industry, which opponents

fear could pollute the environment and drinking water sources.

"There will always be people that have concerns. Our responsibility is to be able to provide people with a level of confidence," he said, citing some of the work his Tory government had done over the last two years to ensure the industry is environmentally sound, including new regulations.

"They can have confidence we can develop our natural resources and provide jobs in New Brunswick so our young people don't have to go work out west in the same sectors that can exist here."

Green Party Leader David Coon said he supports demonstrations against the shale gas industry, as long as they are not violent. He compared the situation to civil disobedience that helped end the logging of old-growth forests in British Columbia in the 1990s and the fight for civil rights in the United States in the 1960s.

"It took a lot of courage on the part of people who showed up there to defend their communities," he said of the Elsipogtog protesters. "When people feel they are poorly served by their governments, they're going to defend the things that they love. They're trying to defend the well-being of their communities, their water, their environment and their health."

RCMP spokeswoman Cpl. Chantal Farrah said most of Wednesday's protest was peaceful, but certain demonstrators moved farther up the highway and crossed the line from legal protest to illegal activity.

"While there was no violence, some people were impeding the lawful operation of a business, when they went on the

road in front of some heavy equipment doing work in that area," she said. "This is not only against the law, but very dangerous."

Farrah said many RCMP members spoke with protesters to let them know what they could and couldn't do, but a few people refused to listen and were subsequently arrested.

A man and a woman were arrested for mischief and are scheduled to appear in court at a later date, while a 16-year-old male was arrested for obstructing a police officer. All were later released.

In an emailed statement, officials with SWN Resources Canada said they "applaud Chief Aaron Sock's leadership and support his call for peaceful and law-abiding expression of views."

"We hope that people can safely and openly express themselves while allowing our work to continue in accordance with the licences and permits granted to us by government," the statement said.

"SWN Resources Canada is confident that if a commercially viable resource exists, then relationships with First Nations will be integral to achieving a goal of safe and responsible development in the province that First Nations can proudly participate in without compromising their rights, values and traditions."

SWN is doing about 210 kilometres of seismic imaging in various parts of Kent County. The majority of its program is expected to be on Crown land or Department of Transportation right of way. The work is expected to be completed within three months.

Four lines are being explored on the summer project, all in the Rogersville area north of Moncton.



Alberta Premier Alison Redford will address the New Brunswick legislature on Friday morning. PHOTO: FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alberta premier first to address legislature

CHRIS MORRIS
LEGISLATURE BUREAU

FREDERICTON – Alberta's Alison Redford will become the first premier from another province to address the legislature on Friday as she visits New Brunswick to promote the proposed west-east pipeline project.

Premier David Alward said Redford's visit is critical to show the political momentum and alliances that are forming around the possibility of a pipeline to the Atlantic to ship crude from the Alberta oilsands to global markets.

Redford is expected to visit the provincial legislature in Fredericton in the morning. She will address the House beginning at around 9 a.m.

Redford and Alward will then drive to Saint John where she will speak to the city's Board of Trade at a luncheon event.

Following that, Redford will tour the Irving Oil refinery in Saint John, the largest refinery in Canada, and the Irving Canaport Marine Terminal.

"Coming to Saint John is important for her to be able to present to the Board of Trade, and then have the tour of the refining facilities and the port of Saint John, and for her to be able to actually see and understand the tremendous infrastructure that's here in New Brunswick," Alward said Thursday.

"This is a great project that we believe will make a long-term, lasting difference in the province, and she's been a great partner to work with so far."

Alward and Redford have been meeting with fellow premiers and industry partners to move ahead on the west-east pipeline, which Alward believes could be the salvation for New Brunswick's struggling economy.

He said that a west-east pipeline would generate benefits in all regions of Canada and in every community in New Brunswick.

"Governments aren't receiving the revenues they could be, and that translates into programs and services that Canadians need," Alward said.

"It's good for the economy, and it's also important for programs and services for Canadians. I'm very pleased to have Premier Redford coming to New Brunswick."

John Herron, president of the Atlantica Centre for Energy, said the partnership between Alward and Redford is key to driving home the message that the west-east pipeline should be a national priority.

"The message here in New Brunswick and across the country is that it's a national priority for us to have a diversity of markets for our natural resources," Herron said in an interview.

"This is a very exciting opportunity in that New Brunswick and the port of

Saint John in particular have the ability to actually make a contribution to strengthen the overall Canadian economy by providing international access to growing markets. At the same time, the pipeline has the capacity to value add Canadian raw materials in Ontario, Quebec and Saint John."

Redford's trip comes after Alward went to Alberta in February, where he welcomed the prospect of a pipeline shipping oil to his province.

TransCanada Corp. (TSX:TRP) now is seeking binding commitments from shippers before determining whether to convert an existing 3,000-kilometre natural gas pipeline so it can carry crude into Quebec, with the possibility of an extension into Saint John.

The Calgary-based company says it will seek those commitments until June 17.

Alward said ultimately the pipeline will be a commercial decision. But he said it's important for him to send the message that New Brunswick is open for business and understands the importance of a project like the pipeline.

"We've got the 'open season' process right now where TransCanada has put it out to the producers and the refiners to say 'Are you prepared to commit to a pipeline if we're prepared to build it?'" he said.

"So there has to be a business decision. But we're confident that this is a great solution for Canada. Right now, producers in Alberta are literally losing billions of dollars in revenue because they don't have diversified markets."

Herron said he is optimistic the west-east pipeline will go ahead.

He said the problems other pipeline projects are running into, such as the proposed Northern Gateway pipeline and the Keystone XL project, are making the west-east proposal look increasingly likely.

"Any time other options fall off the table, this proposal looks more and more probable," Herron said. "In addition there is an immense amount of political momentum around the project."

Patrick Brannon, major projects director for the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council, says the pipeline would bring significant economic impacts to New Brunswick during construction, but it's difficult to speculate on how that would continue after it is complete.

Even the pipeline company itself is staying away from speculation, for now.

Phillip Cannon, a spokesman for TransCanada, said the company won't comment or speculate on possible economic benefits for New Brunswick until the call for proposals wraps up on June 17.

Insurance cap for minor accidents criticized

LAVERNE STEWART
THE DAILY GLEANER

FREDERICTON – A Fredericton personal injury lawyer says the increased insurance cap for minor automobile accidents isn't nearly enough.

George McAllister said the increase in the cap to \$7,500 from \$2,500 on July 1 doesn't go far enough.

"It's not enough in hardly any cases," he said.

McAllister said this might be enough to

compensate people who are able to recover fully from minor injuries within a couple of months but it won't help those who experience chronic, ongoing pain and suffering following an accident.

The definition of what constitutes a minor injury is also changing. McAllister said there are some improvements but it doesn't go far enough either.

"It goes some way to ensuring that some people will get fully compensated for their injuries but not everybody," he said.

People with conditions such as

post-traumatic stress, fibromyalgia and depression might be able to return to work following an accident but they could experience lifelong pain and suffering as a result of injuries, under the new definition that are deemed to be minor, he said.

"I think people will still get caught by this cap"

In a system that's balanced there should be no cap on payments for injuries. Under this kind of insurance system some people are paying a high price so that everyone can have lower insurance, he said.



SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS

Since 2000, the College of Fellows has recognized accredited members of the Canadian Public Relations Society who have proven to be leaders in their communities as well as the public relations and communications industry. This year we're proud to say they are awarding a Fellowship to New Brunswick's own, Bill Whalen.

Over the years Bill has worked tirelessly in promoting Moncton to the rest of the world. He's played key roles in attracting prestigious events like; The IAAF World Junior Championships, The World Men's Curling Championships, as well as, The CFL's Touchdown Atlantic and numerous other world class events. In addition, he has been a leader in the public relations profession for over 30 years.

It's this dedication to the city and province he calls home and to his chosen profession that made him a worthy recipient of this prestigious National recognition.

From all your friends and colleagues at Hawk, congratulations Bill. We're all very proud of you.

Items of special interest: Older toys - especially wind ups and dolls • Figurines • Oil Lamps • Old Handmade

LGE 3 ESTATES AUCTION!

132 Millennium Dr. - Quispamsis, NB

SAT. JUNE 8TH SALE: 11am VIEW: 10-11am

SUN JUNE 9TH SALE: 1pm VIEW: 12 NOON-1pm

This Lge. 2 day sale will feature over 1200 items arranging from beau. furniture incl. modern and ant., lge. lot Hockey and Baseball cards - many are boxed sets never opened and many are Boston Red Sox, incl. Ted Williams and others such as Bobby Orr, etc., lge. lot of beau. JEWELLERY - beau. rings, broaches, pendants, old cameos, jewellery making equipment incl. the gem tumbler, etc., lge. coll. Glass and China, COINS incl. old Can. Coins and paper money incl. NFLD Coins, Linens and bedding, lamps, clocks, paintings and prints, older coll. items incl. sev. lots comic books, her lov. Oak China Cabinet w/full glass front and sides, oak chairs, white French bedrm. set. And just so much more in this lge. 2 day auction. Come and bring a friend and enjoy the day. You will be amazed at the bargain prices. Admission and Registration FREE.

Buyers Premium Terms. More info phone (506) 643-1598

132 Millennium Drive, Quispamsis
Ph: (506) 847-9568 • Cell: (506) 643-1598

www.auctioneers.ca

Quilts & Linens • Furniture • Old Victorian Clothing • Crystal & China • Figurines • Oil Lamps • Old Handmade Quilts & Linens • Old Victorian Clothing • Crystal & China • Figurines • Oil Lamps • Old Handmade Quilts & Linens • Old Victorian Clothing • Crystal & China • Figurines • Oil Lamps • Old Handmade Quilts & Linens • Old Victorian Clothing • Crystal & China • Figurines • Oil Lamps • Old Handmade Quilts & Linens • Old Victorian Clothing • Crystal & China

Stoneware Crocks • Jugs & Bottles • Old Jewellery • Old Clocks • Clocks • Stamps • Coins & Stamps • Old Jewellery • Old Bottles • Jugs & Bottles • Stoneware Crocks • Jugs & Bottles • Old Jewellery • Old Clocks • Clocks • Stamps • Coins & Stamps • Old Jewellery • Old Bottles • Jugs & Bottles