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Representing Northern Business Since 1973

February 12, 2019

Re: NATIONAL LETTER FOR NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION AND SENATE COMMITTEE TESTIMONY
CANADIAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS UNITE TO PRESS FOR ACTION ON RESOURCES

The NWT Chamber of Commerce, representing 500+ local businesses throughout the Northwest Territories, is joining other Chambers from across the country to sound the alarm that Canada is at an economic and social tipping point because of our failure to get energy resource infrastructure built.

The cohesion of our country is threatened by the devastating impact of low oil prices, our inability to get energy resources to global markets and a growing sense of alienation among Canadians who live and work in the resources sector.

Our natural resources should be a source of pride for all Canadians. As producers of some of the cleanest, most ethically-produced energy products in the world, we should be doing all we can as a country to get them to global markets, where they can get a fair price, help reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to our prosperity as a nation.

Canada's economic well-being is at risk and the growing sense that Canadians who live in resource-dependent regions are being ignored is creating deep and serious divisions among our citizens. We need to come together as one country and this letter is intended to deliver a clear message to politicians in Ottawa and across Canada: the businesses in your jurisdictions want you to act and act now.

In order to do so, we are asking Canada's federal and provincial leaders to:

- Make amendments to Bill C-69 to bring greater clarity, predictability and transparency to the bill, as outlined in the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's Senate submission.
- Get our energy resources to tidewater, starting by recognizing that the Trans-Mountain Expansion is in the national interest and by expediting its construction in uncontested jurisdictions.
- Implement the regulatory changes promised in the Fall Economic Update.
- Declare a broad mutual recognition of each province's standards, across all sectors.

Canadians in all regions believe that we can and should get our resources responsibly to global markets. Canada's business community is prepared to do its part. We need Canada's politicians do theirs. Now.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of Renée Comeau.

Renée Comeau
General Manager, NWT Chamber of Commerce

A black ink signature of Trevor Wever.

Trevor Wever
President, NWT Chamber of Commerce