

THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION has formally registered its opposition to Enbridge's Northern Gateway Project with the National Energy Board's Joint Review Panel. In a

Northern Gateway

letter submitted by all MLAs we stated: "We have carefully weighed the risks and benefits of the NGP to British Columbia, and to Canada. After much consideration and consultation, we have come to the conclusion that the risks of this project far outweigh its benefits. We believe that the NGP will cause significant adverse economic and environmental effects and is not in the public interest. Therefore the NGP should not be permitted to proceed." (30th April, 2012)



WATER AT RISK
WEST CENTRAL COAST OF BC
KITIMAT RIVER BASIN
SKEENA RIVER BASIN
NECHAKO RIVER BASIN
MUSKEG - SALMON RIVERS
FRASER RIVER BASIN
MORICE RIVER
CROOKED RIVER
ENDAYO RIVER
NECLOSIE RIVER
STUART RIVER
PEACE RIVER

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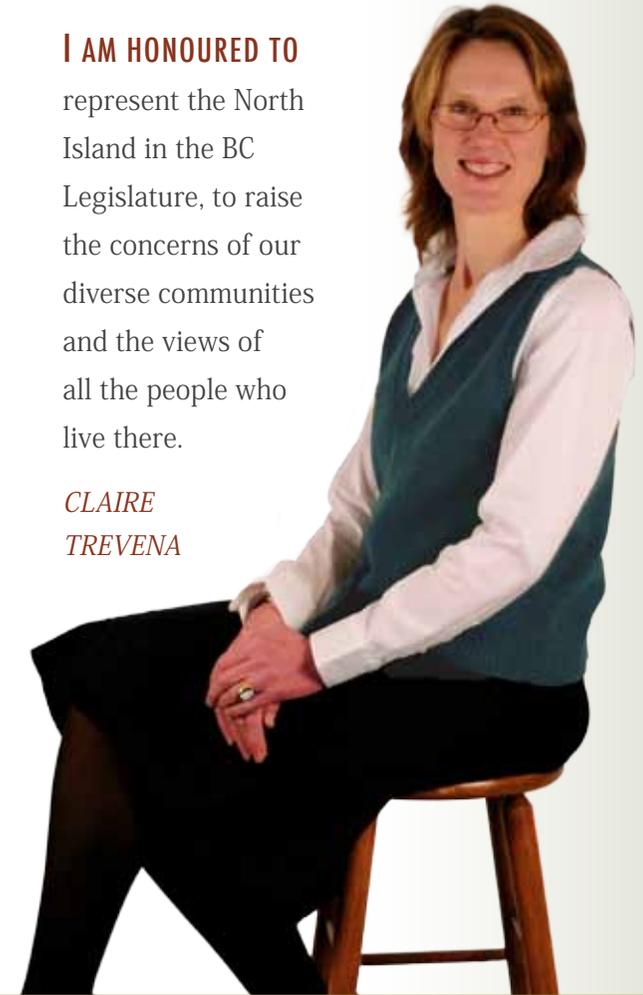
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I AM HONoured TO represent the North Island in the BC Legislature, to raise the concerns of our diverse communities and the views of all the people who live there.

*CLAIRE
TREVENA*



*Making sure the
concerns and issues
of the North Island
are heard in the
BC Legislature*



Claire Trevena MLA **NORTH ISLAND**



Forestry

I HAVE CONTINUED TO RAISE the state of our forestry-based economy and environment in the Legislature – in debates and in question period: “Last year 5½ million cubic metres of raw logs were shipped offshore to be processed; 15 years ago it was less than a million. A cubic metre is the length of a telephone pole, so picture this: 5½ million telephone poles laid end to end would circle the globe 1½ times. That’s what left our province last year alone. This minister has displayed the government’s gross mismanagement of our major resource and the foundation of our economy.” (February 21, 2012)

Education

THE BIG ISSUE THIS YEAR has been the teachers’ dispute and the government’s imposition of a solution through Bill 22. We tried to amend the bill to allow for real mediation but that was defeated by the government. “I think that the teachers have every right to be angry about Bill 22 and what it is doing to their rights as teachers to operate in a collective manner. There were alternatives this government could have used. It could have accepted mediation.... But we know the government has a history of legislating people back to work.” (March 5, 2012) I read into the record letters from teachers in the constituency describing the reality of their classroom experience.

Healthcare

IT’S GOOD NEWS THAT WE ARE FINALLY going to get a new hospital for Campbell River, although it is unfortunate that it will be built as a public-private partnership, which has been proven to be more expensive in the long term. But health care is not just a building: it depends on all the people who work in the system, from the doctors to the cleaners. With ongoing closures at Port Hardy hospital, I have been arguing with the Vancouver Island Health Authority to maintain health services in all parts of the constituency.

Internet access

I’VE SPENT SEVERAL MONTHS discussing ways that we can get a real high speed internet service into all our communities. Working with the government, Telus and the internet providers in all our communities, I believe we will be able to find a way to get to a level that is commensurate for what is now needed for doing business.

PHOTOS TOP LEFT Claire in the 2011 Canada Day Parade in Campbell River **TOP CENTRE** Claire on the steps of the Legislature with Carole James, welcoming Janine Annett at the end of Janine’s *A Walk For a Wish* **TOP RIGHT** Claire speaking in the Legislature **LOWER RIGHT** Claire with Chief Therese Smith and Eleanor Nicolaye of the Ka’yuu:k’t’h’/Che:k’tles7et’h’ First Nation at the Effective Date Celebration of the Maa-nulth Treaty **INSIDE FLAP** Claire at the rally outside the Enbridge hearings in Comox

Ferries

THE COASTAL FERRY ACT WAS AMENDED, leaving all coastal communities vulnerable to increased fares and the possibility of routes being cancelled. “The government should recognize that the ferries are part of our infrastructure... as important to our communities as any paved highway or any logging road.... As a representative of a number of ferry-dependent communities, what I hear from my constituents, when they heard about this act, is outrage and anger. They could not believe — they really could not believe — that they would be so let down by government. They had put a huge amount of faith, in a non-partisan way, in trying to get the ferry system back under highways, and they have felt completely betrayed.” (May 28, 2012)

These are some of the issues I have been raising in the Legislature over the last session.

