



GIDIMT'EN CHECKPOINT

RESPECTING OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
OCTOBER 12 2021**

SABOTAGE AND THREATS OF VIOLENCE WITH REDEPLOYMENT OF C-IRG IN WET'SUWET'EN YINTAH

SMITHERS, BC: It is day 16 of the occupation of Gidimt'en Territories by Hereditary Chiefs and supporters. Coastal Gaslink has been evicted from the drill pad where they planned to drill under the Wedzin Kwa river, and their work site has been transformed into the remote "Coyote Camp". Despite intimidation tactics by the C-IRG (Community-Industry Response Group) from E-Division of the RCMP, Gidimt'en people stand strong.

Gidimt'en members and supporters experience daily threats and intimidations. Members of the C-IRG were violent against supporters and joked about genocide and that they "can't wait to see it on social media". Officers were hiding their badge numbers and some officers were not wearing masks or practising social distancing. They have been threatening Cas Yikh members and supporters with violence as well as the threat of spreading COVID.

Sgt Jason Charney, a C-IRG officer well known for violence at Fairy Creek, also emptied water cisterns and threatened to arrest anyone who tried to stop him. They rifled through tents, took ATV and truck keys and locked them inside a vehicle, and harassed media and legal observers.

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There have been ERT (Emergency Response Team) members in the bushes near Coyote Camp, regular daily helicopter fly-overs by the RCMP and contractors, and constant surveillance and harassment of the Cas Yikh members and supporters.

Solidarity actions continue near and far in response to our call for a week of action starting on Friday, October 9th. Banners have been dropped, rallies held and trains were even stopped for several hours in Montreal. The week of action continues until October 15th, follow #AllOutForWedzinKwa on social media to see all actions/events.

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