



TTC President Confident About Red Chris Mine Outcome

Posted by: [Melissa Shaw](#) October 9, 2014

Tahltan Central Council president Chad Norman Day admits that with tensions over resource development in the territory it's a challenging time to be in a leadership role.

Day was elected in July, shortly before a tailings pond wall at the Mount Polley mine near the Town of Likely breached on August 4, releasing mine wastewater into the surrounding lakes and rivers.

Day said his thoughts and prayers go out to those affected by Imperial Metals Mount Polley mine tailings pond breach.

The Mount Polley spill prompted Imperial Metals to agree with a review of their Red Chris tailings pond by a third party engineering firm that the TCC selected.

He said the Tahltan people have different opinions about the mine.

Day said the reviewers have finished examining the Red Chris site but their report hasn't yet been finalized.

He said once the report is completed the TCC will work with Imperial Metals to develop a co-management regime and bring that management plan to the people for their input.

Day said if an agreement with the company is reached they will hold a vote amongst their membership to approve or deny that agreement.

A Tahltan group called the Klabona Keepers that was blocking roads leading into Red Chris claimed victory in court this week after Imperial Metals gained a temporary injunction to remove their blockade.

The enforcement order comes into effect October 14 and the activists are calling the court ruling “an incredible victory for all Indigenous nations.”

In a release the First Nations activists said they successfully petitioned the court to hold the next hearing in Terrace so that the Elders and youth can attend.

The Klabona Keepers and Secwepemc allies said they also blocked the interlocutory injunction and immediate enforcement order from being approved.

Amidst tensions over the blockade 46 Tahltan signed an open letter to government and the TCC proclaiming their removal from the council over alleged “derogatory comments” Day made towards the Klabona Keepers.

The letter stated they feel Day should represent them and not dictate to them.

Day said the signatories to the letter can definitely rejoin the council at any time.

He said removing themselves from the TCC means they won’t be able to vote in council elections but they will still have all the rights that come with being Tahltan.

<http://cfnrfm.ca/ttc-president-confident-red-chris-mine-outcome/>