



# *Kitimaat Village Council*

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March 1, 2010

Dear Haisla Nation Membership

## **Haisla Nation – Rio Tinto Alcan Legacy Agreement**

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Kitimaat Village Council received formal notification from its auditing firm, BDO Dunwoody that the Haisla Nation membership had voted in favour of signing a negotiated agreement with Rio Tinto Alcan. The total ballots casted: 445 with specific results showing: Yes: 300 No: 144 Empty ballots: 1.

This historic agreement involved approximately 3 years and 3 months of negotiations between the parties and was triggered by Rio Tinto Alcan's plans to modernize its existing Kitimat Aluminum Smelter.

The Haisla Nation-Rio Tinto Alcan Legacy Agreement holds great promise for the Haisla Nation members, as it provides for employment, training, as well as provisions for Haisla Nation businesses to become engaged in procurements for not only the modernization project, but ongoing Kitimat Smelter operations before and after the modernization and perhaps more significantly the agreement provides for a legacy trust to be established.

This historic agreement marks renewed beginnings in the relationship between Rio Tinto Alcan and the Haisla Nation, which has seen the Kitimat Smelter in operations in Haisla Traditional Territory for the past 55 years.

Elected Chief and Council would like to thank and commend the Haisla Nation Membership for voting in favour of this agreement.

Best regards,

Dolores Pollard  
Chief Councillor  
Kitimaat Village Council