



**MEDIA ADVISORY – April 2, 2023**

## **Gitxaala Nation to hold press conference ahead of court hearing in BC mining case**

*Two-week hearing set to begin in legal challenge to BC's free entry mineral tenure regime – the first case to consider enforceability of BC's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*

VANCOUVER / x<sup>w</sup>məθk<sup>w</sup>əyəm, Skwxwú7mesh & səliiwətaʔt territories – Media are invited to a press briefing on Monday, April 3 at 8:30am PST, hosted by the Gitxaala Nation.

**What:** In October 2021, Gitxaala launched a ground-breaking legal challenge against BC's outdated practice of granting mineral claims without Indigenous consultation or consent.

On April 3, the BC Supreme Court will begin hearing arguments from parties and intervenors in this closely-watched case, which challenges BC's "free entry" mineral claim regime. Gitxaala Nation leaders will hold a press conference just prior to the start of the Court hearings, followed by a procession to the Courthouse.

**When:** Monday, April 3, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. PT

**Where:** Ballroom A, Sutton Place Hotel, 845 Burrard St., Vancouver

**Who:**

- Robert Nahanee, Squamish Nation (territorial welcome)
- Gitxaala Sm'ooygit Nees Hiwaas (Matthew Hill)
- Gitxaala Sm'ooygit Txagyet (Clarence Innis)
- Linda Innes, Gitxaala Chief Councillor
- Marcia Robinson, Gitxaala Councillor (moderator)
- Jessica Clogg, Legal Counsel, West Coast Environmental Law
- Representatives from Gitxaala's smgyigyet (chiefs) and sigyidm hana'anax (matriarchs)

**Contact information:**

James Herbert, Senior Advisor, Gitxaala Territorial Management Agency,  
778-881-1534 / [senioradvisor.gtma@gitxaalanation.com](mailto:senioradvisor.gtma@gitxaalanation.com)