

North Vancouver District to host pipeline town hall

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file photo Mike Wakefield, North Shore News

Opponents and proponents of Kinder Morgan's proposed pipeline expansion can pipe up this **Friday at District of North Vancouver municipal hall.**

A ministerial panel is holding a town hall meeting – the only such gathering on the North Shore – as part of a series of sessions along the pipeline route. The panel is set to report its findings to the Minister of Natural Resources by Nov. 1.

At least one anti-pipeline activist is hopeful environmentalists will pack council chambers.

"The ... proposal would have serious impacts on health and safety, fish and wildlife, Indigenous rights and Canada's ability to meet our climate targets," wrote Dogwood Initiative organizing director Laura Benson in a press release. "We need to show Ottawa it's making a major miscalculation."

The event is scheduled to begin with discussion from local governments between 10:30 a.m. and noon, followed by a town hall meeting from 2:30 to 7 p.m. District hall is located at 355 West Queens Rd.

Kinder Morgan is seeking to twin approximately 981 kilometres of pipeline between Edmonton, Alberta and Burnaby, nearly tripling oil exports from 300,000 to 890,000 barrels a day.

All three North Shore municipalities have opposed the expansion, noting unacceptable spill risks and potentially ineffective cleanup.

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