

For Immediate Release: August 13, 2008
Contact: Mary Vickers, tel. 001 - 250 - 475 - 1024

Heiltsuk Vickers Family Takes Stand For Threatened Ingram - Mooto Watershed

Bella Bella, BC The Vickers Family travelled to the threatened Ingram - Mooto Watershed in Heiltsuk traditional territory on Friday, July 25, 2008. They then erected signs in the Ingram - Mooto demanding a halt to road building and logging plans. "The lack of consultation has left us no choice now as a Family, but to make a move." - Heiltsuk Vickers Family Statement. "It's a tough call, we as a Community should be benefiting from this logging operation."

Located just 52 km north of Bella Bella, Ingram - Mooto is in Spiller Inlet, known to the Heiltsuk as 'Glditas Daqvu'. We respectfully ask that our Community be consulted on the economic benefit to our Nation. Will there be a long-term benefit to the Heiltsuk, or just a few short-term jobs? We would also like assurances that the logging and road building will not damage other local resources.

"The short - term benefits vs. long - term damage to the land. The fact is that First Nations have to follow EBM guidelines while Industry carries on 'Business As Usual'. The high - grading of Cedar is devastating to us as Heiltsuk." - Don Vickers, Elder and Fisherman.

"As a Heiltsuk Family, we are tired of not being told what is happening in our traditional territories! There are many of us. We deserve an opportunity to have a say on the impacts on behalf of future generations. I cannot stress enough the importance of Cedar and Wild Salmon to our survival, as a Nation." - Mary Vickers.