



Indigenous Relations Manager

Location: Surrey BC, Kelowna BC

The Indigenous Relations Manager is responsible for relationship building, detailed consultation, and economic negotiations with Indigenous communities related to FortisBC's major projects. This position is responsible for the ongoing alignment of Indigenous policies, programs, and communications across FortisBC.

- The position will lead the development and execution of Indigenous community engagement and consultation plans, focusing on collaboration and open dialogue. The position will play a key role in negotiations, supporting the project teams in obtaining mutually beneficial economic agreements (both short, and long-term) with Indigenous communities.
- Develop and maintain trusting, strategic relationships with Indigenous communities, government, staff, economic development corporations, businesses, and community members.
- Leading the development of strategic Indigenous engagement plans which outline the ways in which FortisBC will support long-term relationship building with Indigenous communities affected by major projects.
- Leading the development and execution of Indigenous consultation plans to support project teams through permitting processes (BC Environmental Assessment, Canadian Environmental Assessment, BC Oil and Gas Commission, BC Utilities Commission, etc.). Liaising with internal FortisBC permitting staff, affected Indigenous communities, and external agencies to support obtaining permits in a timely manner.
- Provide leadership and direction to Indigenous Relations staff; establish goals, manage performance expectations and support employee development
- Providing strategic advice, ongoing reporting, and/or presentations to senior management regarding Indigenous engagement, consultation & economic for FortisBC's major projects.
- Working collaboratively with internal and external parties to develop Indigenous participation/procurement plans for FortisBC's major projects. These plans support FortisBC's
- Working collaboratively with FortisBC Environmental & Archaeology leads and/or designated Environmental & Archaeology consultants, to ensure Indigenous communities are aware and involved in the development of FortisBC's environmental and archaeology plans and procedures. Assist with the negotiation with Indigenous communities for both project-specific and long-term relationship agreements to help build certainty for the company and the Communities. These agreements may be purely economic in nature, or they may include a range of other mutually beneficial opportunities for shared collaboration.

- Support FortisBC's pursuit of enacting our Statement of Indigenous principles, and alignment of our Indigenous policies, programs, and communications across FortisBC .
- Maintain an awareness of national, regional and local Indigenous issues that could affect Company operations and growth opportunities.
- Provide assistance to media relations, emergency response plans and act as a Corporate spokesperson as required.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree from a recognized program plus 4 to 7 years of demonstrated leadership in the field of Indigenous/community/public relations, business development, or project management.
- Knowledge of the business structure and strategy of a regulated utility
- Demonstrated Indigenous relations experience with communities in British Columbia
- Demonstrated ability to complete applications and obtaining permits through British Columbia regulatory agencies, (e.g. BC Utilities Commission, BC Environmental Assessment Office, BC Oil and Gas Commission)
- Demonstrated ability to meet firm deadlines with minimal supervision; proven capacity to be a self-starter
- Demonstrated project management skills with ability to manage key initiatives and budgets simultaneously
- Demonstrated ability to plan, organize and execute work on time and on budget
- Demonstrated ability to execute effective community engagement strategies
- Demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication/presentation skills
- Strong analytical and professional judgment skills
- Demonstrated Indigenous peoples cultural and business awareness, with ability to collaborate effectively with community leaders to build lasting relationships
- Proven leadership skills, both of projects and personnel.
- Experience with issues management and risk mitigation
- Ability to manage issue related conflicts and issue resolution capacity (negotiation skills).