NRESi



"Our environment is our future"



3:30 - 4:30

Weldwood Theater

7-238



For Elluminate information and link to the webcast: http://www.unbc.ca/nres/nresi_webcast.html

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Dr. Tyler McCreary

Post-doctoral Research Fellow Geography Dept. University of British Columbia



PLACING THE ENBRIDGE NORTHERN GATEWAY PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF WITSUWIT'EN TRADITIONAL JURISDICTION

The opposition of the Witsuwit'en to the proposed Enbridge Northern Gateway Project represents the most recent episode in their struggle for recognition of their relationship to their traditional lands. In the joint review process, there was token recognition of Witsuwit'en concerns, but the review panel left unaddressed the Witsuwit'en assertions that they have a right to determine the course of development on their traditional territories. These residual claims, existing outside the scope of Canadian regulatory consideration, continue to challenge the limitations of the frames of state recognition. Claiming a right to free, prior and informed consent prior to development on their lands, Witsuwit'en peoples trouble the state's assumed right to unilaterally decide the course of development, and assert that Aboriginal peoples must play a key role in determining the shape of policy around resource extraction, energy exports, and the environment.