

Engagement Summary Report

Nechako Reservoir Engagement: Step 1

March 2017 - October 2017

Prepared for:

The RioTinto logo is displayed within a white rectangular box. The text "RioTinto" is in a red, serif font, with "Rio" and "Tinto" joined together.

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21 November 2017

Contents

1.	Executive Summary	2
2.	Nechako Reservoir Engagement Process – Overview	4
3.	Overview of Consultation Methodology and Participation	5
3.1.	Letters to First Nations and Local Government	5
3.2.	Newspaper advertising campaign	6
3.3.	Open houses and community events	6
3.4.	Stakeholder Meetings	8
3.5.	Emergency Response Workshop	8
3.6.	Feedback Form – Nechako Watershed Engagement	9
3.7.	Feedback Form – Flow Facts	9
3.8.	Email Notification (Flow Facts)	9
3.9.	Social Media	9
4.	Feedback Results	10
4.1.	Feedback Form Results (Nechako watershed engagement form)	10
4.2.	Flow Facts Survey	14
4.3.	Stakeholder Meetings	14
4.4.	Emergency Preparedness Workshop	16
	Next Steps / Recommendations	17

1. Executive Summary

In 2017 Rio Tinto BC Works renewed its focus on engaging with watershed communities about its operations and related interests.

The overall objective of the Rio Tinto BC Works watershed engagement process was to work with stakeholders to identify ways to enhance Rio Tinto's operations and achieve an improved balance of interests in the Nechako Watershed.

Rio Tinto launched the first step of the process in March 2017 with a focus on broadly communicating its intent to establish two-way engagement with watershed communities about its operations. The 7-month process concluded at the end of October 2017 and included feedback mechanisms to collect stakeholder input related to preferred engagement methods and topics of interest.

Highlights of stakeholder notification and participation in Step 1 include:



12 First Nations and local governments received letters inviting participation in the process



5 front page newspaper advertisements were placed to provide notice of the process and invite feedback



4 notifications were sent out to the Flow Facts database (108 recipients)



Approximately **86 individuals participated in 4 open houses** in watershed communities



Rio Tinto hosted the **Southside Spillway Community BBQ with more than 200 attendees**



32 feedback forms were submitted by the public



7 stakeholder meetings through targeted invitation



1 emergency response workshop



Online feedback form available throughout 7-month process



Flow Facts survey available to 108 flow facts recipients

The following represent highlights of feedback provided through feedback forms and in person meetings:

- The majority of feedback form recipients heard about the engagement process through the newspaper advertisements, word of mouth, and open houses;
- The majority of feedback form recipients indicated open houses, community advisory groups and small group meetings as their preference for how they would like to be engaged and receive information in the future;
- Rio Tinto asked feedback form recipients to indicate what aspects of Rio Tinto's operations were of most important to them. Results were fairly uniform with respondents indicating that all topics were of importance. However the topic most often selected as being VERY important was wildlife (23 respondents), followed by environmental research and monitoring (19 respondents), followed by how Rio Tinto engages with the community and safety (each 18 respondents). This suggest that most respondents have a wide range of interests rather than one single interest;
- When asked about specific stakeholder concerns regarding Rio Tinto's operations, the most frequently cited concern from feedback form recipients was related to water management. For example regulation of water levels, including the management (volume and timing) of flows on the Nechako River; too much water was being released from the spillway; and effects of fluctuating water levels on the shoreline, including loss of shoreline and visual impacts.
- When asked if there were any benefits related to Rio Tinto's operations, the most frequent comment (10 mentions) was that Rio Tinto's operations greatly benefitted the community, particularly through sponsorship and donations. Four respondents noted employment as a benefit while four also indicated there were few benefits.
- In an open-ended question, feedback form recipients were asked to indicate their top three interests regarding Rio Tinto's operations. Reservoir operations was most frequently mentioned (16 mentions), followed by communications and engagement (8 mentions), local employment and investments (8 mentions) and environmental impacts (8 mentions);
- The majority of feedback form recipients resided in Vanderhoof, Southside and Wistaria (each representing 26% of participants).
- Input received through stakeholder meetings was more specific to individual stakeholder interest and concern, however there were some common themes, for example:
 - Several stakeholders suggested that a spillway at Kenney Dam may assist in addressing current challenges related to water flow, specifically in relation to fisheries conservation and shoreline impacts;
 - Overall concerns regarding the health of the Nechako River and related ecosystem, and specific mention of impact to sturgeon;
 - Desire for increased and consistent information sharing about Rio Tinto's operations; and
 - Concerns regarding water flows, including temperature, volume and timing and its effect on stakeholders and fisheries.

The following report provides a detailed summary of Step 1 engagement methods, notification and participation, as well an analysis of feedback provided through feedback forms and in person meetings.

Rio Tinto BC Works will review this engagement summary report and determine how feedback will be considered and actioned as plans for the next step of the process are developed.

2. Nechako Reservoir Engagement Process – Overview

Rio Tinto is committed to operating a sustainable business that reflects the world in which it operates, and the conditions of today. The new BC Works smelter in Kitimat incorporates leading technology that enables one of the lowest carbon footprint aluminums in the world. We continue to invest in improvements to our assets in the Nechako region to ensure our operations deliver benefits to our host communities for many decades. We strive to be world-class in all that we do, and that includes the way we engage with communities about our operations.

As part of this commitment, in 2017 Rio Tinto BC Works renewed its focus on engaging with watershed communities about its operations and related interests. The objective of this engagement process is to identify ways to enhance our operations and in doing so, achieve an improved balance of interests in the Nechako Watershed that reflects what matters most to those who live and enjoy the watershed.

Rio Tinto envisions a multi-stage process through which we are working with stakeholders to consider their feedback in designing plans for how we can improve our operations in the reservoir. The first step of the process was initiated in June 2017 and sought to obtain community feedback on our engagement process, to ensure it meets community needs and reflects community interests. The following consultation summary report provides an overview of what we heard and how we will consider the feedback we received as we move forward.

3. Overview of Consultation Methodology and Participation

Rio Tinto implemented several communication methods to inform the community of the engagement process and gather feedback. The following sub sections provide an overview of the communications and engagement methodologies, participation, and outreach.

3.1. Targeted notification to First Nations and Local Government

Prior to the public launch of the engagement process, in March 2017 Rio Tinto reached out to First Nations and local governments to provide an overview of the proposed engagement process, as well as invite them to meet with Rio Tinto to discuss the process and hear their initial view and feedback. Formal letters of invitation were followed up by telephone calls, emails and or in conversation. The following First Nations and organizations received letters:

- Cheslatta Carrier Nation
- Carrier Sekani Tribal Council
- Nadley Whut'en First Nation
- Nee Tahi Buhn Band
- Office of Wet'suwet'en
- Saikuz First Nation
- Skin Tyee Nation
- Stelat'en First Nation
- District of Vanderhoof
- Regional District Bulkley-Nechako
- Village of Fraser Lake
- Village of Burns Lake

In addition, notification about Rio Tinto's renewed engagement initiative was provided to the following federal and provincial government agencies through established communications channels and regular meetings:

- BC Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
 - (Director & Comptroller of Water Rights)
 - Resource Stewardship Division (Executive Director)
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Ecosystem Management Branch)
- City of Prince George (Mayor)

Rio Tinto developed a newspaper advertising campaign to notify the community of the engagement process and communication methods to encourage involvement and feedback sharing from community members. The newspaper campaign appeared on the front page of local newspapers and included a 4-page information piece (newspaper 'wrap'). The newspaper wrap shared information about the history of Rio Tinto's operations in BC, and Rio Tinto's proposed new way of doing business, including water management, ongoing monitoring and research, and information sharing and engagement initiatives. The newspaper Extra invited readers to share their feedback with Rio Tinto through a variety of methods, including a Feedback Form that could be completed at local community offices, or online through Facebook, email and Rio Tinto's website.

Rio Tinto

Building our business *together*

The Nechako Watershed

An important part of our world

Get involved today!

The Nechako Watershed has been an integral part of people's lives and livelihood in the region since time immemorial. At Rio Tinto we are launching a renewed focus on engaging with watershed communities about our operations and related interests. The objectives of this engagement process is to clearly identify opportunities for enhancing our operations and in doing so, achieve an improved landscape that reflects what matters most to all of us.

We invite you to get involved to make sure your interests are considered well into the future.

Words overlaid on the aerial view include: claims, gravel, watershed, fun, salmon, temperature, irrigation, swim, sturgeon, poplar, fish, habitat, sockeye, flow, beaver, business, people, chinook, natural, food, beautiful, sand, livestock, ice, swan, boat, water, crops, flood, heritage, geese, ducks, muskrat, canoeing, river, trapping, trout, erosion, cottonwood, migration.

The Nechako Watershed: An Important part of our world
May 2017

NechakoWatershedUpdates@rio-tinto.com
nechakowatershed
@RioTintoOperations

NAME OF PUBLICATION	DATE
Prince George Citizen	15 June 2017 17 June 2017
Omineca Express	14 June 2017
Lakes District News	14 June 2017

Rio Tinto hosted open houses in four watershed communities between 24 May and 8 June 2017. Notification was primarily provided via newspaper advertisements as follows, as well as via the weekly Flow Facts emails:

NAME OF PUBLICATION	DATE
Omineca Express	17 May 2017
	24 May 2017
Lakes District News	17 May 2017
	25 May 2017
	31 May 2017
	6 June 2017

Rio Tinto invites you to an open house




Rio Tinto is hosting open houses in your community to provide an update about our BC Works operations, including reservoir management, engagement plans and completion of the Second Tunnel Project.

We encourage you to drop in, learn about what we are seeing to, and share your feedback. We look forward to seeing you.

Light refreshments will be served.

Burns Lake
Thursday 8 June 2017
1:00 pm to 6:00 pm – drop in any time
Rio Tinto Community Office
Evergreen Mall - Unit 3B, 321 Highway 16

For more information about Rio Tinto:

-  www.riotinto.com/bcworks
-  NechakoReservoirUpdates@riotinto.com
-  [@BCOperations](https://www.facebook.com/BCOperations)

RioTinto

The open houses were designed to provide an update on Rio Tinto's BC Works operations, promote the engagement process, and seek feedback. Guests were invited to sign-in and register to receive updates on Rio Tinto's operations. Members of the Rio Tinto communities team were in attendance to greet community members and answer questions, address concerns, and encourage feedback. Display boards were presented to share information on Rio Tinto's operations and associated activities including water management, environmental monitoring and research, and emergency planning. All attendees were encouraged to complete a Feedback Form.

COMMUNITY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION	ATTENDEES
Wistaria	24 May 2017	6 – 8pm	Community Hall	18 ¹
Vanderhoof	26 and 27 May 2017		Vanderhoof Tradeshow	50 ²
Fort Fraser	5 June 2017	6 – 8pm	Community Hall	1
Burns Lake	8 June 2017	1 – 6pm	Rio Tinto's Community Office	17 ³

In addition to the open houses, Rio Tinto encouraged participation in its engagement process at the Skins Lake Spillway Community BBQ. This event provided an opportunity for Rio Tinto's BC Works team to meet with community members and discuss their interests and concerns. Information about Rio Tinto's operations was made available similar to the open houses listed above, and attendees were encouraged to share their thoughts through a feedback form, which was made available in hardcopy at the event.

DATE	EVENT	EVENT OVERVIEW
25 Aug 2017	Southside Spillway Community BBQ	Over 200 community members were in attendance. Postcards with details of the engagement process and feedback methods were distributed

¹ 13 people signed in, but approximately 18 people were counted in attendance.

² Approximately 50 people visited the Rio Tinto booth.

³ 11 people signed in, but 17 people were counted in attendance, most not local.

3.4. Stakeholder Meetings

Members of Rio Tinto's management team met with a number of stakeholders to discuss the engagement process and gain an understanding of stakeholder interests regarding watershed operations. A number of these individuals were selected because of their previous involvement in NGO-led engagement initiatives related to Rio Tinto's operations (eg Nechako Watershed Council, River Alliance, Neyenkut Society). The overall goal of these meetings was to gain feedback based on stakeholder experience engaging with Rio Tinto historically and in previous processes as to what a future engagement process should consider based on what worked and didn't work in the past.

As part of Stage 1 of the engagement process, the following meetings took place:

DATE	STAKEHOLDER	RIO TINTO REPRESENTATIVE
5 September 2017	District of Vanderhoof (Mayor and senior staff)	Andrew Czornohalan Jennifer Campeau Justus Benckhuysen
5 September 2017	Henry Klassen	
5 September 2017	June and Dennis Wood	
5 September 2017	Fort Fraser Livestock Association (Alex Kulchar)	
5 September 2017	Craig Hooper	
17 October 2017	City of Prince George (Mayor Lyn Hall and Council)	Gareth Manderson Jennifer Campeau
17 October	Prince George Chamber of Commerce	

3.5. Emergency Response Workshop

Rio Tinto held a full-day workshop with emergency responders on 20 June 2017 to discuss the development of Rio Tinto's Emergency Preparedness Planning Program related to the Nechako Reservoir Dam Emergency Plan. The workshop focused on gathering feedback from subject matter experts on plans and communications protocols, and identifying next steps to facilitate response plan development from emergency response stakeholders and First Nations. The initial workshop targeted the involvement of 15 individuals made up of local emergency stakeholders and First Nations, who were invited by email. Additional workshops will be organized as part of future stages of the engagement program.



3.6. Feedback Form – Nechako Watershed Engagement

A feedback form was developed to collect input regarding the Nechako Watershed engagement process. The public was made aware of the Feedback form primarily through the newspaper advertising campaign. Postcards were handed out at meetings and community events with information on how to access the online form. Hardcopy forms were available at open houses and other community events, as well as at the community office. A total of 32 feedback forms were completed (18 online and 14 hardcopy). A detailed summary of feedback received through the form is provided in Section 4.1 of this report. A copy of the document is attached as [Appendix X](#).

3.7. Feedback Form – Flow Facts

In addition to the Nechako Watershed Engagement feedback form, Rio Tinto sought input from Flow Facts recipients regarding the current information Rio Tinto shares on reservoir operations. A total of four forms were completed and a summary of the feedback related to Flow Facts is presented in Section 4.2 of this report.

3.8. Email Notification (Flow Facts)

Rio Tinto distributes information on its reservoir operations on a weekly basis to a group of individuals who have registered to receive updates (Flow Facts). As of the date of this report, the database includes 108 recipients. Flow Facts recipients receive email notifications on Watershed engagement initiatives, including open house dates and locations, and feedback mechanisms such as the online feedback form. Specifically, notifications were distributed on the following dates:

- 12 May 2017
- 19 May 2017
- 26 May 2017
- 2 June 2017

3.9. Social Media

<Lianne / Jennifer - to provide dates of any social media posts that provided notification of the engagement process and events.>

Feedback form: A new way of doing business

We believe that by working together we can make better decisions about our operations. As we look towards the future, we want to ensure that our operations and engagement meets your needs and reflects your interests. We invite you to complete the following feedback form to help us develop a plan for the future. Once we have received your feedback, we will share what we heard and what the next steps are in the process.

You can also complete this feedback form online by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/r/nechakowatershed

1. How did you learn about Rio Tinto's community engagement survey?

☐ Newspaper advertisement ☐ Flow Facts ☐ Word of mouth
☐ Open house ☐ Email from Rio Tinto ☐ Other _____

2. How important are each of the following aspects of Rio Tinto's operations to you?

	NOT AT ALL IMPORTANT	SLIGHTLY IMPORTANT	IMPORTANT	VERY IMPORTANT	NO OPINION
Reservoir operations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Job / contracting opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
How we work with the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fisheries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climate Change	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental research and monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. What aspects of Rio Tinto's operations concern you the most, if any? How so?

4. How does Rio Tinto's operations benefit your community, if at all?

5. Please indicate your top three interests regarding Rio Tinto's operations?

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

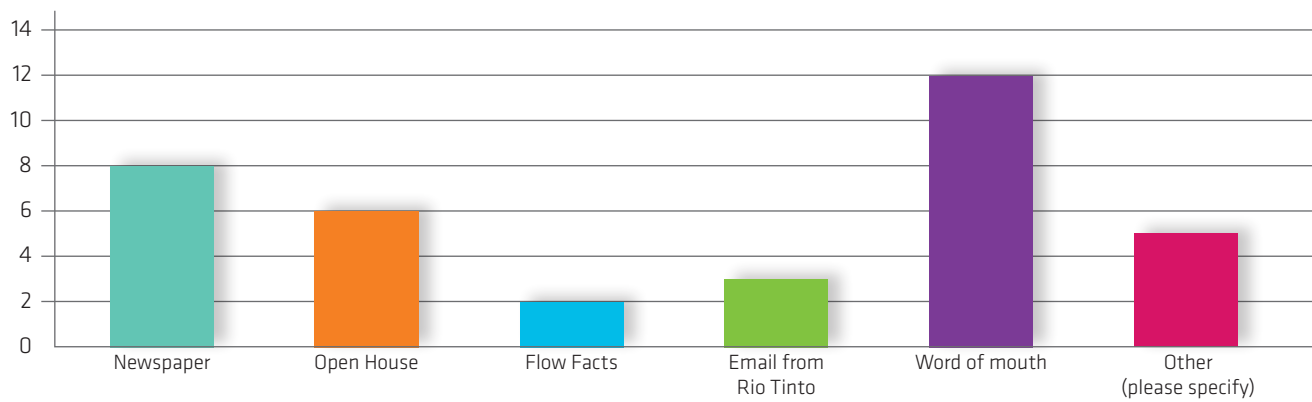
4. Feedback Results

The following section provides key theme summaries and analysis of feedback collected throughout Stage 1 of the engagement process.

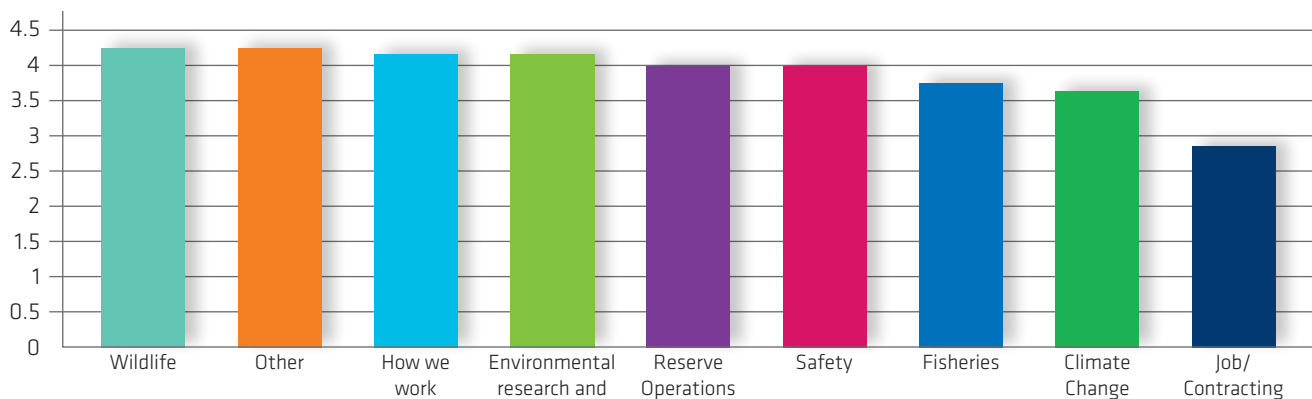
4.1. Feedback Form Results (Nechako Watershed Engagement feedback form)

The following section provides a summary of the 32 feedback forms collected during stage 1 of the engagement process. Fourteen forms were submitted in hardcopy and 18 forms were completed online.

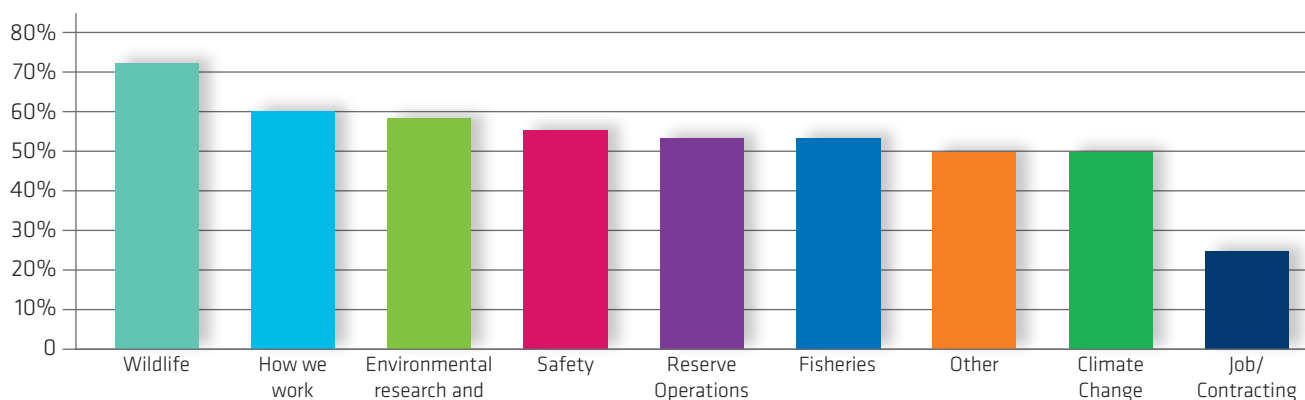
Q1: When asked how participants learned of Rio Tinto's community engagement survey, of the 31 people who responded to this question, the responses were as follows:



Q2: Participants were asked to rate how important a number of aspects of Rio Tinto's operations were to them, on a scale from "not at all" to "very important". The majority of respondents indicated that all aspects of Rio Tinto's operations were important to them, with jobs and contracting opportunities selected as the least important. The following list demonstrates what respondents deemed as most important to least important in ascending order, based on weighted average response:



Given the fairly uniform responses across the board, further analysis was undertaken in order to look only at responses of "very important." On that basis, there is somewhat greater clarity on aspects of Rio Tinto's operations that are perceived as very important.



For a detailed description of respondents answer to this question, see Appendix xx

Q3: The following represents a key theme summary of responses provided by 23 respondents when asked what aspects of Rio Tinto's operations are of most concern⁴:

- **Water management** – The majority of comments (10 mentions) identified water management as the aspect of Rio Tinto's operations that was of most concern to them. With respect to water levels, respondents noted they were concerned with the regulation of levels, including the management (volume and timing) of flows on the Nechako River. Several commented they felt that too much water was being released from the spillway. Other respondents noted the effects of fluctuating water levels on the shoreline, including soil erosion due to high water, loss of shoreline and visual impacts of exposed shoreline. One respondent noted they have property on Ootsa Lake and therefore fluctuating water levels are a major concern for them.
- **Environmental impacts** – Four respondents noted environmental impacts as a concern regarding Rio Tinto's operations, with specific mentions including the effects on wildlife, ecology and fish (i.e. sturgeon and Kokanee) and impacts related to the alteration of the physical and traditional landscape due to Rio Tinto's operations.
- **Communication and information sharing** – Three respondents noted communication and information sharing from Rio Tinto as a concern. Specifically, the lack of flood zone mapping available to the public, farmers and ranchers, as well as the level of information contained in notifications (i.e. too little information).
- **No concerns** – Three respondents indicated they had no concerns regarding Rio Tinto's operations.
- **Other comments** provided include concern regarding Rio Tinto potentially ceasing operations in the area, "clean" aluminum production, and the perceived inequity in Hydro costs given that those impacted in the watershed pay the same rates as others.

Q4: Participants were asked to identify how/if Rio Tinto's operations benefit their community. Of the 27 people that responded to this open-ended question:

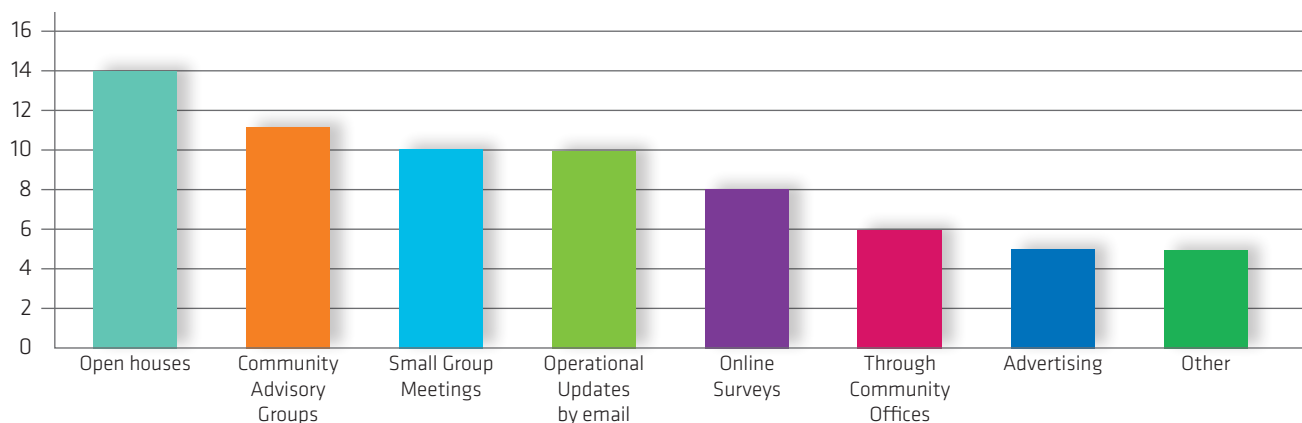
- Ten respondents indicated that Rio Tinto's operations greatly benefitted their community, particularly through sponsorship and donations to community groups and events.
- Four respondents indicated there were few benefits from Rio Tinto's operations in their community.
- Four respondents noted employment opportunities with Rio Tinto as a benefit.
- Three respondents indicated the community barbeques and events as benefits.
- One respondent noted the electricity produced and sold to BC Hydro to power the Kitimat Smelter as a benefit.
- One respondent indicated that benefits from Rio Tinto's operations were minimal, however they may reduce flooding in years with extreme snowpack/runoff.
- One respondent indicated Rio Tinto maintenance of river flows and mitigation of temperature fluctuations as a benefit.

⁴Note: this was an open-ended question and therefore respondents self determined the topics they wished to share as being of concern.

Q5: Participants were asked to indicate their top three interests regarding Rio Tinto's operations. The following topics represent key theme summaries of all interests indicated by the 20 people who responded to this question⁵:

- **Reservoir operations** were identified as the most common interest (16 mentions), specifically the fluctuation of water levels and its impacts on fish, wildlife and property. Areas of note included Skins Lake Spillway, the flooding of Cheslatta and Ootsa Lakes, flow in the Nechako River, and cold-water release at the Kenney Dam.
- **Communications and community engagement** were identified as a key interest (9 mentions), including the importance of communications, such as weekly Flow Facts emails, as well as engagement and relationships with local residents.
- **Employment opportunities and local investment** were noted as a key interest by eight respondents. One respondent suggested Rio Tinto should consider providing internet service to local communities.
- **Environmental impacts** were identified as a key interest (8 mentions). This included impacts of the reservoir on fish and wildlife, as well as environmental considerations such as clean or alternative energy and climate change.
- **Business** – Two respondents identified export and producing top product as a key interest in Rio Tinto's operations.
- **Safety** – was identified by one respondent as a top interest. Another indicated a need for local emergency awareness.
- **Historic considerations** – One respondent expressed concern about the generational impact of Rio Tinto's operations on First Nations communities. Another respondent suggested restoration of historic river values.

Q6: When asked for their top three preferences for how Rio Tinto should engage or provide updates in the future, 29 people responded as follows :



Of the 5 respondents that indicated other, the following were provided as suggestions: surveys, notification of events sent by email, community First Nations group, and posting of survey results and consideration of feedback in the local newspaper.

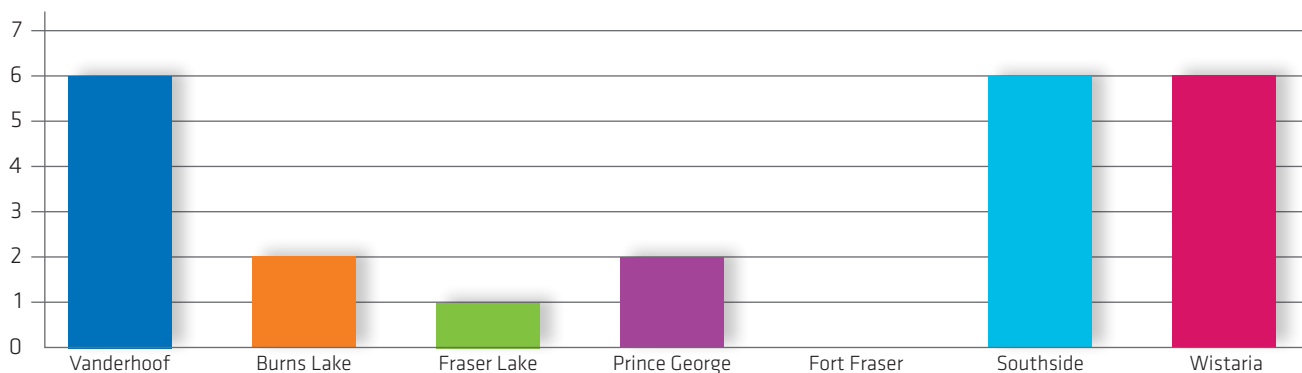
⁵ Note: this was an open-ended question and therefore respondents self determined the topics they wished to share as being their main interests related to Rio Tinto's operations.

Q7: When asked how Rio Tinto can improve how it engages with communities, 24 people provided the following feedback:

- Eleven respondents indicated that they felt Rio Tinto was doing a good job of engagement. One of these respondents expressed appreciation of the Rio Tinto office in Burns Lake, and its 'open door' policy.
- Six respondents requested more in-person engagement opportunities, including community meetings, barbeques and open houses. One of these respondents suggested holding biannual awareness planning meetings in local communities.
- Two respondents requested that Rio Tinto place greater emphasis on environmental considerations including the health of the Nechako River and indigenous communities, rather than power production for profit. One respondent requested that Rio Tinto communicate with water quality committees.
- One respondent suggested that Rio Tinto increase efforts to change the path of the future given that they have benefitted so much from the past. Another respondent suggested that Rio Tinto must address its historical relationship with aboriginal and non-aboriginal communities around its operations and make significant steps to improve it.
- One respondent requested more frequent Flow Facts, particularly in the spring when flooding is prevalent. Another respondent noted the need for improved flood control.
- One respondent noted by being a good employer.

Q8: When asked for any other comments or feedback for Rio Tinto's consideration, 13 respondents noted the following:

- Two respondents suggested providing high-speed internet at a reasonable price to residents.
- One respondent suggested removing underwater wood, clear shorelines, and restoring habitat in lowland areas;
- One respondent suggested paving the road from Houston to Southside/Wistaria, and from Fraser Lake to Uncha Lake;
- One respondent suggested providing maps of flood zones for farmers, ranchers and First Nation communities;
- One respondent suggested providing lake access and safe harbours for boating on Ootsa Lake for people who don't live directly on the lake;
- One respondent suggested that Rio Tinto work with Carrier Sekani Nation to develop a healing centre or family support home for families affected by abuse;
- One respondent suggested that Rio Tinto sell properties along the lake to local people;
- One respondent noted their concern with how information has been shared regarding the use of power, i.e. not all power generated is strictly for smelter operations, and there should be more transparency in power sold to BC Hydro.
- One respondent requested a tour of Kemano and the Kitimat smelter.

Q9: When asked where community respondents live, 23 people responded as follows:

4.2. Flow Facts Survey

An online feedback form was developed to seek input from Flow Facts recipients. Four people from Vanderhoof, Prince George, Fort Fraser and the Reservoir responded to this survey, and a summary of feedback is as follows:

- All respondents indicated that they access Rio Tinto's Flow Facts website and review the 'Nechako Reservoir Updates' email sent to them by Rio Tinto to access information about the Nechako Reservoir.
- All respondents indicated that access to the Flow Facts website was useful to them, with two people indicating that it is very useful.
- When asked how frequently they access the Flow Facts website, two respondents indicated they access it one to two times per week, while two respondents indicated they access it less than once per month.
- When asked if there is additional information they feel should be included as part of the Flow Facts website:
 - One respondent requested that Rio Tinto make reservoir data from prior to 2016 available;
 - One respondent noted that information should be included on the Sutherland / Necoslie snowpack and its influence on the Nechako River; and
 - One respondent shared that before accessing Flow Facts, they were unaware that the normal annual change in reservoir height is less than three feet.

4.3. Stakeholder Meetings

The following table provides a key theme summary from each of the stakeholder meetings held as part of Rio Tinto's Nechako Watershed Engagement.

5 SEPTEMBER 2017	
STAKEHOLDER	SUMMARY
Meeting #1 – District of Vanderhoof Mayor and Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expressed that a better understanding is needed of Rio Tinto's process and decision making to build credibility and support one another; • Noted concerns around water temperature, specifically with respect to the hatchery, species at risk, and wildlife; • There is a desire to improve the health of the Nechako River; • Noted the importance of clear and regular communication with local governments and communities, commenting that there appears to be a disconnect between Rio Tinto communications materials and what is happening on the ground in Vanderhoof; • Request for a tour of the Kemano generating station, as well as a planning session between the District and Rio Tinto; • Concern that Vanderhoof is not compensated adequately and that other communities have a say in what happens, despite the fact that the Nechako River flows through the Vanderhoof; • Expressed a need to diversify the local economy.

5 SEPTEMBER 2017	
STAKEHOLDER	SUMMARY
Meeting #2 – Mr. Henry Klassen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestion that more water should be released to support Sturgeon recovery, noting that having spillway at Kenney Dam would help address issues downstream; • Identification of problems, including volume, timing and temperature of flows; • Identified long-term need to remove homes from the flood plains and a need to build a surface spillway at the Kenney Dam; • Identified need to find ways for improved relationship with Rio Tinto and improved quality of life, noting that there is still dissatisfaction in the community.
Meeting #3 – June & Denis Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns regarding the health of the river due to the impact of flows, specifically on the sturgeon; • Concerns about the personal and financial impacts on families, and request for more consultation and accommodation similar to First Nations; • Would like a spillway at Kenney Dam to improve flow patterns – but not if it would mean less water in the river; • Concern regarding the flow system used during the winter season and resulting impacts on fish; and • Request for an update on the Kemano T2 Project and the Tahtsa Narrows dredge project⁶.
Meeting #4 – Fort Fraser Livestock Association (Alex Kulchar)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns were expressed regarding cattle grazing, water levels, and the normal operating range of the reservoir; • Noted that if Tahtsa Narrows were to be dredged it would lead to issues for ranchers. • Notes that they have approximately \$39 million in sales and water is a limiting factor concerning their business and ability to grow; • Concerns regarding aquifer and suggestion to map and quantify; • Expressed appreciation that Rio Tinto is available to them to provide updates as needed, noting it would be good to receive more regular updates even if there is no flood etc.
Meeting #5 – Audience: Craig Hooper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Tinto asked what can be done better; • Discussion regarding Rio Tinto's historical (Alcan) decision to change the direction of the rivers and recreation corridors; • Notes they fought for fair flows for the Nechako and spillway at the Kenney Dam, however nothing materialized; and • Rio Tinto has to show that there is something substantial to discuss and for mutual benefit in order to get people to participate.

⁶ An update was provided during the meeting

17 OCTOBER 2017	
STAKEHOLDER	SUMMARY
Meeting #6 – City of Prince George	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitation to Rio Tinto to present to Council during the Natural Resource Conference regarding the engagement process; • Questions regarding how reservoir levels affect Prince George and discussion about ice jams and impacts on the Fraser River; and • Noted that in the past Prince George held a referendum about dyke systems to discuss long term floods and ice jams and educate the public on what dikes can do, noting that the referendum failed.
Prince George Chamber of Commerce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jennifer to provide notes</i>

4.4. Emergency Preparedness Workshop

The following topics were identified by participants as key areas of interest related to Rio Tinto's operations, with a specific focus on emergency planning:

- **Emergency Event Notification Procedure:** Event notification was of utmost importance to those in attendance. Several participants raised concerns regarding the speed of notification, the means of notification, and those identified and/or omitted on the notification list.
- **Clarification of Roles & Responsibilities:** Need for improved understanding and alignment regarding roles and responsibilities across all facets of emergency planning and response, to be clarified amongst Rio Tinto, local communities and First Nations, and government at each step in the emergency preparedness process.
- **Water Management:** The subject of water management was raised by participants several times during the workshop. It is considered to be a foundational issue to be addressed as a key element in emergency preparedness and response. Rio Tinto identified water management as a very important but a somewhat distinct topic. Participants welcomed the suggestion that Rio Tinto could address this issue through an engagement process.

APPENDICES – under development

Question 1

- 12 respondents heard through word of mouth
- 8 respondents heard from newspaper advertisements
- 6 respondents heard through an open house
- 3 respondents learned by receiving the weekly Flow Facts
- 2 respondents heard through an email from Rio Tinto
- Of the 5 respondents that identified “other”:
- two respondents heard through the trade show
- two have family members that work for Rio Tinto; and
- one answered through the local community.

Question 2

1. Wildlife – 23 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”
2. Environmental research and monitoring – 19 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”
3. How Rio Tinto works with the community – 18 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”
4. Safety – 18 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”
5. Reservoir operations – 17 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”
6. Fisheries – 17 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”, whereas four respondents had “no opinion” on the subject.
7. Climate change – 15 respondents indicated this aspect as “very important, whereas five respondents had “no opinion” on the subject.
8. Job / contracting opportunities – Eight respondents indicated this aspect as “very important”, whereas five respondents identified this aspect as “not important at all”, and three respondents had “no opinion” on the subject.

Question 6

1. Open houses and small group meetings (14 respondents)
2. Community advisory groups or committees (11 respondents)
3. Small group meetings (10 respondents)
4. Operational updates by email (10 respondents)
5. Online surveys (8 respondents)
6. Community offices (6 respondents)
7. Advertising (5 respondents)
8. Other (5 responses) - other comments included surveys, notification of events sent by email, community First Nations group, and posting of survey results and consideration of feedback in the local newspaper.

Question 9

- Six respondents noted they live in Vanderhoof
- Six respondents noted they live in Southside
- Six respondents noted they live in Wisteria
- Two respondents noted they live in Burns Lake
- Two respondents noted they live in Prince George
- One respondent selected Fraser Lake

Engagement Summary Report

Nechako Reservoir Engagement: Step 1

March 2017 - October 2017

Prepared for:

The Rio Tinto logo, featuring the words "Rio Tinto" in white serif font on a red rectangular background.

RioTinto

Prepared by:

SB Consulting Ltd.

21 November 2017