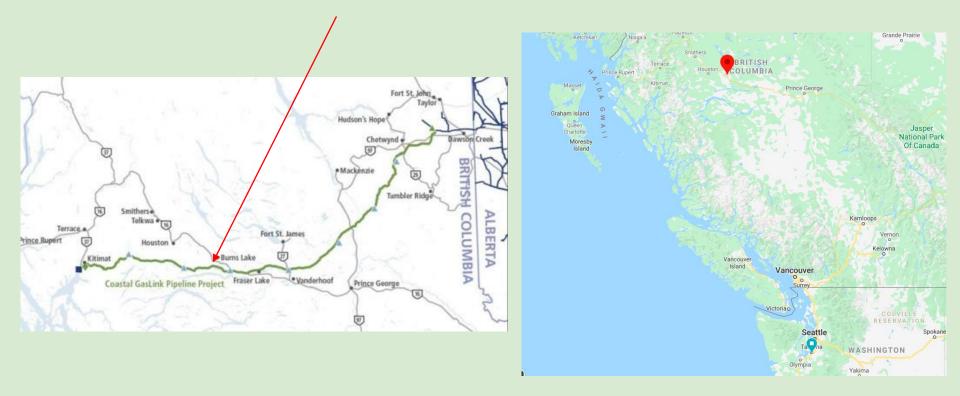
Indigenous Sovereignty: Redefining Colonial Perceptions of Sovereignty through Indigenous Self-Governance in BC, Canada

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### Wet'suwet'en



## Research Questions

- How do settler states assert sovereignty over Indigenous nations, specifically in areas with unceded territory?
- 2) How do Indigenous nations negotiate, and attempt to assert sovereignty over their traditional lands with the settler state?
- 3) How does Indigenous people's connection to land affect their definition of sovereignty?

#### Sovereignty

Westphalian sovereignty:

- Loyalty and support from population
- Mutually recognized by other sovereign states
- → Complete authority over a specific geographical area, without interference from outside sources

Both nation, by their own definitions, have a legitimate claim to the land

Redefining the concept of sovereignty

- Importance of land
- Protection of land vs. economical exploitation







# Why is this important?

- It proves that Indigenous nations can self-govern without a treaty
- Asserting sovereignty without a treaty can compromise the power of a settler state and challenge their claim to sovereignty
- It challenges the term sovereignty
- It focuses on a relevant, ongoing case, contributing valuable information to Indigenous nations

Thank You!

**QUESTIONS?** 

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