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November 26, 2012

ATTN: Sarah Devin, Panel Manager Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Place Bell 160 Elgin Street Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

Dear Ms. Devin:

## **Re: Northern Gateway Pipeline**

The British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects (BCSLA) is following attentively the Joint Review Process for the proposed Northern Gateway Pipeline.

BCSLA represents almost 600 highly trained and talented professionals whose expertise encompasses land and aquatic analysis, resource planning and environmental design. Our primary professional objective is to ensure that human use of our land and water resources enhances and sustains environmental health.

As British Columbia is one of the most naturally diverse, beautiful and ecologically important places on our planet, we strive to achieve a balance between development and responsible stewardship. Our membership works closely and effectively with all levels of government, with allied professions including engineers and scientists, with First Nations and with communities throughout our province to creatively address and resolve resource use issues. While challenging, supportable outcomes are possible when all relevant data and stakeholder concerns are recorded and rigorously evaluated.

Given the magnitude of the Northern Gateway Pipeline's potential influence on Western Canada's economy and ecological status, our Society is pleased that a joint review process is underway. We expect that it will fulfill its mandate of thoroughly assessing all information on record including this proposal's economic and environmental risks and benefits. A transparent process will help ensure that the Panel's objectives and results are unassailable. We look forward to reviewing the Panel's report which we anticipate will make recommendations based on a balanced consideration of all facts presented.

In closing, the BCSLA trusts that the Joint Review Process concludes successfully and credibly, with recommendations that guide us toward a sustainable future for all British Columbians. Our members look forward to following your progress.

Yours sincerely, BC Society of Landscape Architects

**BCSLA Board of Directors** 

C. Honourable Christy Clark, BC Premier National Energy Board Honourable Terry Lake, BC Minister of Environment Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency