



# New Life

## Community Church

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TO TRANS MOUNTAIN PIPELINE MANAGEMENT

We write this with the hope that it will become part of the permanent record of New Life Community Church's interactions with the Trans Mountain Expansion Project.

As a small local church that has ministered to the residents of the Lougheed Mall region of Burnaby and Coquitlam for close to 50 years, we (the Board) have worked hard to manage this uninitiated disruption of a pipeline through our property to the best of our ability. As you know the pipeline is a controversial project that has, unfortunately, cost us dearly in terms of relationships and loss of members and will severely impact our use of the playground and greenspace that have been a respite for us and our neighbours. We have also been forced to negotiate under the continuous threat of Right to Access to our property and ultimately accepted this contract because we have been led to believe that by putting the pipeline through our property it will have the least environmental impact in our neighbourhood.

Again, we acknowledge that our power in these negotiations is limited and so we have accepted the contract that has been offered to us. As you know, a point of considerable concern for us is the possibility of losing access to our property for a period of up to four years, particularly when all previous communication indicated it would be for a maximum of two years. This change had never been part of previous discussions and feels disingenuous. The potential loss of our playground/picnic area for this length of time is extremely hard to accept. It is the focus of our community where families meet to socialize, play, and picnic in a sheltered, perimeter fenced area. We will be challenged to try and host children's summer camps and the area is also well used by our neighbours at Habitat for Humanity. This amenity, above all others, will be sorely missed. We are asking TMX to commit to being as quick as possible with the installation of the pipeline and the restoration of our property. New Life Community Church is wanting to once again be an outdoor gathering place for our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we will be praying that any construction delays will be minimal.