Blockade

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dawn, prescient, bulldozer | the flow of resources go also through our mind |
| cardboard boxes and broken crates on fire; three white-tails further down the ditch | first, what family’s land | the road, the pipe, the terminal, the tanker, the destined port, the profit—all going away and leaving |
| resting crouched on the ground, feet planted, listening to the sounds of small creatures, the air, the rich smell of hoolghuhl powering the ravine, the trickle of water everywhere, the place is not numbers, the place is not yours | a tourniquet would seem so enticing too | enbridging v. : to make a leap in logic that dismisses all other points of view | “nation-building” the minister’s claim staked | what else is a 1991 Civic for | named Tehwehron, named MacBlo Brutalist in 1993 | this passive act of war, this bodied word | lyric line = pipe line

crossroads, a gas station, and a tow truck overturned | the joint review panel should have gone and sat in the woods for three days instead | a 50-metre right-of-way through vital organs | Tiananmen Square 1989: “It is necessary to take a clear-cut stand against disturbances” | paved with state-of-the-art technology | an overseas market compass | a 100 meter wave in 1977 |
| all a history of the roads in | what type of line is created, how is it traversed, and to what end | built up junctures split | standing in front of a large machine is not blocking progress | the time it takes to get a sticky price tag off something | an act of creation in standing one’s ground |
| the storied land is waiting dormant | there is this wise saying that has almost been forgotten | the 10% equity offer hung in the air like smog |
| occupy the health of a place |

| you were there, sewing patches for strength | a knack for being in the wrong place and a disregard for personal safety | can’t stop can’t slow can’t give can’t care can’t live can’t recant can’t not can’t | by the sign saying ‘watching for trucks turning’, by the sign that something is awry | the territory’s family name | sub-boreal spruce and balsam: picea speaking outside the frame | the result is not conclusive, but the intervening language moved back south | what is it about the interruption of the normal? |
| wild rose cattail soapberry and raspberry | the first bulldozer here
1969 under Socreds | gravel from Chetwynd | asphalt | centre line | is the message delivered or stopped? | flows and system analysis concluded that the excess was not accounted for | LNG is fracked gas and the quakes are just starting

| an oily patch on the way | the BC Access Office is where you renew your driver’s license | a prepositional phase | the reason for the media is a place to record the movement of public emotion | can’t go, further | a stop in a line of energy, when as if the self was yours to throw in front of | the pit house slept up to 12 | municipal, provincial, or federal policy finds your local, assumes | or first traditional

| if Delgamuulk\(^1\) is ignored | a trap set at each blueprinted line | an ally does the work, asks no reward | an eagle feather promise | TransCanada changes its name to TC Energy to lower Google hits lives cut hereditary and Indian Act | it would say that story doesn’t belong on this land when being a polite host fails | 3\(^{rd}\) phase of the Healing Centre’s concrete base

**ROBERT BUDDE** teaches creative writing at UNBC in Prince George. He has published eight books (poetry, novels, interviews, and short fiction)—most recently *declining america* and *Dreamland Theatre*. The manuscripts he is working on include *Testes* (poetry addressing masculinity) and *Panax* (an ethnobotanical poetic study of *Hoolhghulh* / Devil’s Club).

\(^1\) *Delgamuulk v. British Columbia* (1997) refers to a famous ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada concerning the claiming of Aboriginal title by the Gitxsan and Wet’suwet’en peoples over 58,000 square kilometres in northwest BC.