

AIB ELECTION UPDATE #1

With the election for Chief and Council and the membership code referendum vote set for May 6th, Blair MacKenzie has been appointed as Electoral Officer. He can be contacted in Victoria at 250-480-1433 or by email: blair.mack@shaw.ca. The Deputy Electoral Officer is Diana Hoggard who can be contacted at the office at 250-453-9154 and her email is diana@ashcroftband.ca. The fax number is 250-453-9156.

With the nomination meeting set for March 23rd at the Roundhouse from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., the Electoral Officer will be mailing a package to off-reserve electors consisting of the notice of meeting, a mail-in nomination form, a voter declaration to nominate candidates form and a request for mail-in ballot. This will go in the mail on Feb. 26th. Electors on-reserve who wish to nominate a candidate by mail, can get the forms from Diana at the office.

Mail-in Nomination Form

This is the form used to nominate a candidate for the upcoming election. You may only nominate one person for the position of Chief and only two people for the position of Councillor. To nominate more than one candidate for Councillor, simply make a photocopy of the nomination form and fill it out. If a same elector is nominated twice, that additional nomination is used to second the original nomination.

Mail-in Voter Declaration to Nominate Candidates

It is important that you as the person making the nomination complete the Voter Declaration form. For anyone nominating more than one person, one Voter Declaration is all that is needed.

Request for Mail-in Ballot Form

In the last election, this was used for the first time. Prior to this, all off-reserve electors (who had provided an up-to-date address to the office) received a voting package with ballots. If you want to vote in this year's May election, it is important that you send this completed form, with a copy of a proof of identity, to the Electoral Officer.

Sending in the forms

All the documents noted can be returned by mail, email or fax. If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch with the Electoral Officer or Diana Hoggard.

Membership Code Referendum

Another date to be aware of is for the information meeting regarding the referendum vote on membership which has been set for April 14th, starting at 10:00 am and lasting for one hour. This will be an online forum conducted by Zoom and telephone from the Band's Kamloops office. The Band's lawyer will give a half hour summary of the Membership Code, followed by a half hour question and answer period for electors. More info on referendum code will be coming later.

Mail-in Ballots

The voting packages for both the Chief and Council election and the referendum vote will be mailed out to off-reserve electors on April 1st. Just a reminder that only those who have requested a mail-in ballot for the Chief & Council election as noted above will be receiving this package. On-reserve electors who wish to vote by mail can do so by contacting Diana for the forms. All off-reserve electors who have provided the office with a current address will receive the voting package and related information for the referendum. On-reserve electors may also vote by mail-in ballot by getting the forms from Diana.

Covid-19 Policy

Please make note of the policy which is also posted. It is important that everyone coming to the nomination meeting on March 23rd and voting in person at the polling station on May 6th be aware of and carefully follow the safety measures listed in the policy.

