

Bonaparte First Nation

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MEMO

To: St'uwxtéws Bonaparte First Nation Membership

CC: Chief and Council, Clinton Roan – Executive Director

From: Marilyn Porter – Governance,

RE: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – Bonaparte First Nation Election Code

The Bonaparte First Nation has undertaken community consultation to review the draft *Bonaparte First Nation Election Code (2024) (Code)*, including meetings with the family pods, community engagement meetings and review at the Annual General Meeting.

The Code has been meaningfully revised in accordance with community input, has been legally reviewed and the fourth draft of the Code has been approved by Canada to advance to a Ratification Vote by the Membership.

Key elements of the Code include:

- Confirmation that the Code acknowledges the four pillars of Secwepemc society and was developed in accordance with the collective core values of the Bonaparte First Nation, including xyemstés - respect, tsetsetenwéns - integrity, knucwentwécw - helping one another and yúcwementwecw - taking care of each other.
- Four-year, staggered Council terms that will support governance stability.
- The ability for voters to participate in nomination meetings in person and digitally and to vote in person, by mail and electronically.
- Election appeals being conducted by an adjudicator, rather than Canada; and
- The creation of the Ethics Committee to review any serious complaints made by Members regarding the conduct of a member of Council.

Bonaparte First Nation will now conduct a Ratification Vote, for the members who have reached the age of eighteen (18), as of the date of the Ratification Vote, to approve the Code.

If a majority of voters (50 percent + 1) vote by secret ballot to approve the Code in the Ratification Vote, Chief and Council will pass a Band Council Resolution requesting that Canada repeal the order made pursuant to section 74 of the Indian Act so that Bonaparte First Nation can conduct its elections under the approved Code.

The Chief and Council, and the Governance team would like to thank the membership for contributing to the engagement process. This accomplishment of the membership collaboration to create an impressive document is something to be proud of.

If the Members approve the Code, Chief and Council will request that Canada confirm the conversion to the Code for the next Chief and Council Election.

Warmest Regards,

Marilyn Porter - Governance