

April 18, 2007

**To: Leq'á:mel First Nation Members**

**Re: Leq'á:mel Land Code**

Please find enclosed documents for your review. Leq'á:mel First Nation first introduced our inclusion to the First Nations Land Management Initiative in 2005. Since that time the Land Code Development Committee (which is comprised of Chief & Council and Family Representatives) have been drafting the Leq'á:mel Land Code to it's final stage, which is in this mail-out. The Land Code Development Committee feel that this document which will become the guideline in Managing our Lands is comprehensive in taking in all factors that currently are identified in the Framework Agreement. The Leq'á:mel Land Code has been developed in consultation with our Legal Advisor.

As other First Nations before us, the decision is to begin taking back responsibility for the Management of our Lands. This jurisdiction would pass from Indian and Northern Affairs Canada to us, Leq'á:mel First Nation.

The ultimate decision is left in your hands as the membership on whether you feel that this is the right decision. This package as well identifies the voting process. There is opportunity for mail-in ballot voting, as well as on-site polling at our Administration office, which will be held over three days. Commencing June 18 through 20, 2007 (Monday through Wednesday). The poll will be open each day from 10am to 7pm.

Leq'á:mel First Nation will have at the time of the vote 289 eligible electors, this includes on and off reserve members. Each and every member will receive an information package and a voting package that outlines how you can participate in this historical event. In the event that an eligible voter is overlooked, please make contact to the office as soon as possible. We strive to maintain our Members current addresses, but sometimes people forget to update the Administration office when a residential move takes place. Please take the time to provide the updated information.

To provide a picture, as to how we will achieve the approved vote to accept the Leq'á:mel Land Code this is what needs to take place.

**In order for the Leq'á:mel Land Code to come into effect 146 eligible voters need to participate in the voting process, of those participants 74 need to approve the ballot question. Whether you accept Leq'á:mel First Nation to Manage our own Lands [YES vote], or if not, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada will continue managing [NO vote].**

We have appointed Gina Beddome as the Ratification Officer and her contact information is on the 'Notice of Vote'.

We feel strongly that these are steps in progressing to Self Governance and as a Community we continue to head in this direction.

It has been an honour bringing this potential event to ratification and I feel that the best has been put forward on your behalf in the development of the Leq'á:mel Land Code. If there are any questions at all with any part of this ratification or the code itself, please contact me at your earliest convenience. Under separate cover will be notices of information sessions that will compliment this information package.

**Your participation is key, show your support by participating in the ratification of the Leq'á:mel Land Code decision. Set the path for our future generations.**

Respectfully,

Councillor Barb Leggat  
Land Code Development Coordinator

Contact Information:

Leq'á:mel First Nation  
43101 Leq'á:mel Way  
Deroche, BC, V0M 1G0

Phone: 604 826-7976  
Fax: 604 826-0362  
Toll free: 1- 888-626-7976  
E-mail: [barb@lakahahmen.com](mailto:barb@lakahahmen.com)  
Web-site: [www.lakahahmen.com](http://www.lakahahmen.com)