

ʔAQ'AM

NOTICE OF MEETING OF MEMBERS VOTE

TO: ʔaqam Membership

DATE: January 8th, 2016

TAKE NOTICE that a Meeting of Members Vote will be held in accordance with the *St. Mary's Indian Band Land Code* on **February 25, 2016**, in order to determine if Eligible Voters are in favour of enacting the ʔaqam Amended Land Code.

Ballot Question:

The following question will be asked of ʔaqam Eligible Voters, by ballot:

Do you approve all amendments to the *St. Mary's Indian Band Land Code, 2014*, which include renaming it the *ʔaqam Amended Land Code, 2016*?

Summary of the ʔaqam Amended Land Code:

In April 2014, ʔaqam Membership voted in favour of ratifying the *St. Mary's Indian Band Land Code* and Individual Agreement with Canada. The *Land Code* came into effect on July 1, 2014 and ʔaqam has undertaken considerable work under Land Code in the last year. Working under the *St. Mary's Indian Band Land Code* has identified certain provisions within the *Land Code* that should be amended to more accurately reflect the Organization and the role of the Lands Department.

The most substantive proposed amendments include:

- Changing the name from the "St. Mary's Indian Band" to "ʔaqam" throughout the document;
- The removal of the provisions granting Council the authority to make Regulations;
- Removal of all references to the St. Mary's Indian Band Register and replacement with the First Nations Land Register;
- Additional language and clarification around the Transfers on Death and Mental Incompetence provisions; and
- The ability for Council to make non-substantive amendments to the *Land Code* by Band Council Resolution.

Meeting of Members Voting In-Person:

The Meeting of Members Voting will take place on **February 25, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.** local time at:

ʔaqam Administration Office- Boardroom
7470 Mission Road, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7E5
Phone: 250-426-5717

Voting By Mail-in or Phone-in Ballot:

Any Eligible Voter may also vote by mail-in ballot or phone-in ballot.

The ʔaḡam Lands Officer will send mail-in ballot packages, and instructions for phone-in voting, to all Eligible Voters on January 18, 2016.

If an Eligible Voter wishes to vote by mail-in ballot and has not received voting documents by February 1, 2016, please contact the ʔaḡam Lands Officer so that the necessary documents can be supplied to you.

If an Eligible Voter wishes to vote by phone-in ballot, please phone 250-426-5717 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. on February 25, 2016. **Collect calls will be accepted for Voters phoning long-distance.**

Voting from Outside Canada:

If you live outside Canada you are encouraged to vote by phone-in ballot to ensure that your vote is received by the closing of polls. Mail-in ballots that are not received by the closing of polls will not be counted in the vote.

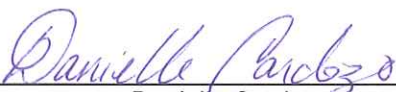
Questions and Obtaining the Full Text of ʔaḡam Amended Land Code:

In order to obtain a copy of the full text of the ʔaḡam Amended Land Code and any background documents, or if you have any questions regarding the ʔaḡam Amended Land Code, please contact Leeanna Rhodes, Lands Officer, during normal business hours at:

ʔaḡam Administration Office
7470 Mission Road, Cranbrook, BC V1C 7E5
Phone: 250-426-5717 ext. 3533

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that all Members of ʔaḡam 18 years of age or older as of the date of the Meeting of Members Vote are Eligible Voters.

DATED at Cranbrook, Province of British Columbia this 11th day of January, 2016.



Danielle Cardozo
ʔaḡam Land Law Voting Officer
PO Box 812
Cranbrook, British Columbia
V1C 4J5