



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

**Report on May
Community Engagement Sessions**

Prepared by: Communications Department

Date: April 27, 2015

May Community Engagement Sessions Agenda

Anacla: May 4, 3 to 5 p.m.

Vancouver: May 5, 5 to 7 p.m.

Port Alberni: May 6, 5 to 8 p.m.

Summary

A special Community Engagement Session was held in May to provide information about the process for the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Elections, on June 20, 2015.

Chief and Executive Council appointed Kit Spence as the Election Commissioner on April 9, and he conducted the May Community Engagement Sessions. They took place on May 4 in Anacla (eight participants), May 5 in Vancouver (11 participants) and May 6 in Port Alberni (25 participants). The meetings gave Huu-ay-aht citizens an opportunity to hear about the election process from the Election Commissioner.

At the end of his presentation, which is posted in this section of the website, citizens were invited to ask questions. These are the questions and answers.

Anacla

- Can we contact candidates to talk to them?
 - Yes, citizens are allowed to contact candidates via any media available, i.e. phone, social media, email or in person.
- Can we sign nomination papers for numerous candidates?
 - Yes, you can sign as many nomination forms as you like. Supporting a nomination does not mean you commit to voting for that individual, only that you agree that he should run for the seat.
- You say candidates can't harass us. At what point is it deemed harassment?
 - Candidates should contact eligible voters at a reasonable time in the day, not at all hours of the night. If that happened you should contact the elections commissioner. If you say no or ask them to leave and they won't, that is not appropriate. Should you need to file a complaint, please contact Kit Spence, Election Commissioner, by telephone at 1-250-881-0142 or by email at HFN_Election_Commissioner@shaw.ca
- Does a no solicitation sign mean that they cannot come to my house?
 - No, elections are not covered by this kind of sign.

Vancouver

- When are the All Candidates meetings going to be held? They are tentatively set for June 3rd and 19th Port Alberni, and June 4th in Anacla. We are looking to have

these live streamed.

- Does the one sheet of paper rule for all candidates apply to both sides? What size of font? Can I design/decorate it?
 - Yes, it can be designed as you want, it can be one page front and back and it can be whatever size font you want
- If an incumbent is running, they are still on salary, there is injustice there because employees have to take a leave of absence
 - There is an act governing the rules that apply to elections. Kit will be writing a report at the end of the election period outlining how the process ran and how it could be improved upon in the future.
- Is it possible to do electronic voting?
 - While it is possible, we will not be using this system in 2015.

Port Alberni

- What about voters who are in Vancouver or other communities that are not close to the polling stations in Port Alberni and Anacela on June 20?
 - They will be mailed a ballot and will be asked to return their vote by Election Day.
- What about mail-in ballots to citizens in Bellingham (or other American cities)?
 - They will also receive a mail-in ballot and a stamped return envelope, only with American postage. You should encourage them to return their marked ballots as soon as possible because the turnaround will have to be short due to the distance.



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