ELECTIONS 2015
Overview

• Treaty conveyed self governance rights
• Elections every 4 years
• Governed by
  • Constitution
  • Laws – e.g. Election Act
  • Regulations
• Established Government
  • Chief Councillor & 5 Councillors
• Voting age – 18+
Election Commissioner

• Appointed according to Election Act
• Independent, unbiased, expert
• Don’t make the rules; implement your rules
• Loyal to law & election principles, not to any person or office
• Ensure that everyone who has the right to vote can and is not prevented from voting
• Ensure that no one votes who does not have the right
• Conduct an open and transparent election so that you are confident in the end result
Who Can Vote

- Huu-ay-aht citizens 18+ on Election Day (June 20)
- Voters list prepared & open to inspection
- Deadline for corrections – May 18
- Corrections on the prescribed form
- List provided to candidates for purposes of campaign
- You can ask to have your contact information hidden
Candidates

• Any voter can be a candidate
• Can run for both offices at the same time
• Nomination period May 4 – 14 at noon
• Notice has been posted along with nomination pkg
• Need:
  • Signatures of 10 eligible voters
  • Colour photo
  • Signed solemn declaration
  • Criminal record check done in the last 90 days
Solemn Declarations

- Sworn statement in front of
  - Commissioner of Oaths
  - Judge
  - Ta’yii Hawilth
  - Speaker
  - Law Clerk
  - Executive Director
  - Tribunal Chair
  - Election Commissioner
  - Lawyers or Notaries

- Offence to make a false statement
Restrictions on Candidates

- Election Act Part 3 sets restrictions on who can run
  - Undischarged bankrupt
  - In debt to HFN
  - In default of a contract
  - Convicted of certain criminal offences, or for offences where 5 years have not passed
  - Disqualified by the Election Act or other HFN Acts
  - Member of the Tribunal
  - Speaker
  - In a prescribed position or contract
  - An employee
Employees

- Must comply with the Act
- Provide notice in writing
- Seek leave for the nomination and election period
- Resign if elected
Challenges to Nominations

• Nominations can be challenged
• Should not be done lightly
• MUST set out ground for challenge
• MUST provide evidence to support

• Candidates can withdraw up to May 28
Campaign

- Campaign period May 22 – June 19
- Commissioner will distribute information from candidates
- Candidates will have voters lists
- Candidates and their supporters must adhere to a code of conduct
- Can make general promises, but not promises to specific people,
  e.g. Can promise to improve housing, but cannot promise to build a specific voter a house.
- All candidates meetings in Anacla and Port Alberni,
- Port Alberni – on June 19
Voting

- In person on June 20
- Polling stations in Anacla and Port Alberni
- Open from 8 – 8
- By mail-in ballot
- Need to request mail-in from Commissioner by May 28th
- Mail in ballots distributed May 29, must be received before end of day June 19th or handed to Election Commissioner at the poll on June 20th.
Counting

- On Election Day after the polls close
- Ballot box from Anacla will be transported to Port Alberni and counted there
- Need to preserve the secrecy of the vote
- Ballots from both polls and mail in ballots all counted together
- Preliminary results announced after the count
- Final results in two days if no request for recount
- Requests for recount or challenges must be supported by evidence
Questions

• Contact the Election Commissioner
• Kit Spence
• 1-250-881-0142
• HFN_Election_Commissioner@shaw.ca