

Ditidaht First Nation

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Notice of Appeal Clarification

Dear Ditidaht Members,

I would really like to sincerely thank all of the membership for your patience with this matter. It has been a sensitive and thorough process, and we have been striving to maintain a stable administration and service delivery during this time.

The 2023 Ditidaht General Election held on July 15th was contested through a formal appeal. An initial Appeal Panel was convened and, after seeking legal advice, was declared invalid. A new Appeal Panel was convened by myself as the Interim Administrator. After going through the process of investigation, the new Appeal Panel made a decision that the appeal must be upheld because online voting was not permitted by the Regulations and therefore influenced the outcome of the election. This means that there will be a new election within ninety (90) business days from the date of the appeal decision.

The Election Regulations specifies that the current Chief and Council are to stay in place for a period of up to ninety (90) business days while a new election takes place. During this period, they will carry out all related business of the Ditidaht First Nation as usual, including the Annual General Meeting.

To clarify - The former Council's term expired July 15th, 2023 therefore the current Chief and Council as declared by the Electoral Officer at the 2023 General Election are:

- Chief Judi Williams (Thomas)
- Councillor Robert Joseph
- Councillor Tina Joseph
- Councillor Mike Swityk, and
- Councillor Derek Thompson

I truly appreciate all of the support that membership has expressed, and I am excited for the community to come together at the Annual General Meeting on September 23rd to hear about all of the great work that is being done by the departments.

Respectfully Yours,

Marina Rayner
Interim Administrator