



To: All Eligible Voters of the Squamish Nation
From: Squamish Nation Chiefs and Council
Re: LAND CODE VOTE (APRIL 7TH & 8TH) - THE FACTS

In December 2000, the Land Code Initiative was introduced to all First Nations through a Framework Agreement. Chiefs and Council have provided Membership with several updates, throughout the years, of our development of our own proposed Land Code. The Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management is a government to government agreement that allows First Nations to resume and exercise their own jurisdiction, control, and decision-making over Reserve Lands and resources. Over the years, Squamish Nation and Membership have reviewed and discussed the Land Code Initiative that gives the Nation increased authority and stewardship over our own Reserve Lands.

The Land Management Act does not surrender Squamish Lands. The Land Code developed under the Land Management Act, will in fact set out the process and procedures that must be followed when land is being managed. Any decisions to lease land will be made by Membership according to the rules and procedures developed under the Land Code.

The Land Code has nothing to do with taxation. The tax exemptions of the Indian Act will continue to apply under a Land Code. The Land Code is not a treaty or a self-government agreement.

The Land Code will remove the Department of Indian Affairs from any role in the decisions our membership make regarding the use of Squamish Nation Lands. The past has shown us that the Department has not and will not manage our lands in the best interests of the Squamish people. Making our own decisions is the best way for the Squamish to protect our Aboriginal Rights & Title.

The Squamish Nation has been taxing non-members who lease Squamish Nation lands under the Indian Act since 1993. It is currently generating several million dollars a year to programs and services for Membership. We have never taxed our members and the taxation laws that have been passed exempt members housing from taxation.

Chiefs and Council wants to assure you that your land will never be lost, you will never lose your home, and you will never be taxed on your home. The Land Code puts us in control of the Community Development Plan. This plan assures the Nation has the funds to buy land, provide housing for members, and increase the funding for programs and services.

Chiefs and Council encourage all eligible voters to attend the scheduled meetings for more details check out the Squamish Nation Website for access to Bulletin No.1
<http://www.squamish.net/community/events.htm>.

Come out and make your vote count on April 7th & 8th to take back control of our Reserve Lands.

Sincerely,
SQUAMISH NATION
Chief Gibby Jacob
KáKeltń Siyám

Executive Operating Officer
Intergovernmental Relations, Natural
Resources, & Revenue

Sincerely,
SQUAMISH NATION
Krisandra Jacobs

Council Co-chair

Sincerely,
SQUAMISH NATION
Byron Joseph
Ts'élkwílem Siyám

Council Co-chair

