



Date: September 7, 2016
To: Squamish Nation Membership
From: Chiefs and Council
Re: Riverside Trailer Park - Seaichem IR # 16

We are writing to our membership to update you regarding the status of the Riverside Trailer Park on Seaichem Indian Reserve #16.

As a responsible government, we have an obligation to always act in the best interests of Squamish Nation membership and protect the Amalgamation. Council must also ensure that all members benefit from revenues derived from lands held collectively by Squamish Nation membership.

Background:

In 2010, it came to our attention that the Riverside Trailer Park was being operated within the boundaries of Lots 1, 2 and 6 and 7 of the Seaichem Reserve.

Council requested a review of the status of these lands. This included researching the history of these lands and meeting with the Williams family. Our research shows that Lots 1 and 2 are held by the Williams family through a Certificate of Possession, which allows them to use and occupy these lots. The research also shows that this Certificate of Possession does not include Lots 6 and 7. As Council has not allocated these lands to the Williams family pursuant to the Nation's custom allocation policy, the information showed that Lots 6 and 7 are lands that belong to the Squamish Nation membership as a whole. Council therefore took action to protect Squamish Nation land by taking over control of the portion of the trailer park located on Lots 6 and 7.



Currently:

Council has reviewed the information and documents pertaining to this matter, and has decided to close the operation of the portion of the Riverside Trailer Park located on Seaichem Indian Reserve #16, Lots 6 and 7, for business purposes, which include reasons driven in part by health and safety matters.

The 19 tenants residing within Lots 6 & 7, who have been renting lots on the reserve on a month-by-month basis, are being provided with a full year of notice of this closure of the trailer park. During this one year period, the tenants will not be required to pay rent or property taxes.

Council understands that relocation may be difficult for some tenants, and in addition to this one year, rent-free period, the tenants are eligible to receive a maximum payment of \$9,600 (being the equivalent of two years' worth of rent) upon vacating the reserve.

The tenants also have the option of removing their cottages, homes or any other leasehold improvements before the end of the one year, rent-free period, at their own expense.

Sincerely,

SQUAMISH NATION
Council Co-chairs

Syexwáliya
A. Whonnock

Ann Whonnock (Syexwáliya)
Council Co-Chair

Byron Joseph

Byron Joseph (Ts'élkwílem Siyam)
Council Co-Chair

