

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOTICE TO MEMBERSHIP

May 16, 2023

This announcement is directed specifically to the members of the Upper Nicola Band.

The Chief and Councillors of the Band have most recently been involved in dealing with social media posts that complain of certain deficiencies in the recent custom election. The allegations of impropriety and wrongful conduct were made in social media by one of our members. While Chief and Council have also been dealing with the member directly, Council has some concern over the effect that those social media posts may have in the community. Any matters of election behaviour or other decisions made by Band officials are made according to policy or regulation. If those behaviours or decisions cause members difficulty, then, as in this case, there are specific ways, also set out in the regulations to deal with those difficulties. Those specific ways do not include social media posts.

Please be fully aware that the allegations set out in the social media posts are in the view of the Chief and Council, untrue, and have no basis in fact. The Band's appeal processes are set up to determine whether or not facts alleged by complainants are true. Please do not assume them to be true just because you have read a social media post. The Band's appeal processes have not been used by the member.

If you have concerns over this Notice to Membership, we invite you to learn what the Band's processes are and how to use them instead of social media. This will save a great deal of frustration, aggravation and discontent.

We remind you that you should not distribute any social media that contains unfounded allegations. That is just as bad as publishing those allegations in the first instance.

The Band has taken the step of issuing this public announcement in an effort to reduce and hopefully eliminate the harm that can take place due to any misdirected impressions of the Chief and Council and the Band's administration. Please ask about any of the procedures you may wish.

While the member's most recent allegations targeted others connected with the Band, this public announcement is not meant to answer the legal response of others. Those people, being targeted as they were, may wish to pursue their own remedy and this announcement is not intended to advise them in any way.

CHIEF AND COUNCIL

