



Making a difference...together

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July 17, 2025

File: 0400-60

Chief Abraham Pelkey  
Councillors George Horne, Samantha Etzel, Wilhemena Harry, Perry Lafortune,  
Bruce Underwood, Mavis Underwood, Donald Willaims, John Wilson  
STÁUTW First Nation  
7728 Tetayut Rd.  
Saanichton BC V8M 2E4  
**via email:** [apelkey@tsawout.ca](mailto:apelkey@tsawout.ca)

Dear Chief Pelkey and Council:

**RE: CONGRATULATIONS ON SUCCESSFUL ELECTION & RE-ELECTION**

On behalf of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board, I wish to congratulate you on your successful election and re-election to serve as the governing body for STÁUTW First Nation.

Working with First Nations, on whose traditional territory the CRD and its member municipalities operate, is a key priority for the CRD Board. We greatly appreciate previous opportunities to meet with STÁUTW leadership and we are committed to continuing to strengthen our government-to-government relationship.

We were very pleased to sign and celebrate the CRD-STÁUTW Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on May 15, 2025, and want to thank you again for hosting us and for all that was shared. We look forward to working together to implement this MOU and collaborating on the priority topics as outlined.

In the MOU, we agreed to annual meetings between leadership to assess the MOU implementation progress. These leadership meetings are also an opportunity for us to deepen our relationship and learn more about how the CRD can support the priorities and interests of STÁUTW, and we look forward to meeting with your new Council.

Caitlyn Vernon, CRD's First Nations Relations Manager, will follow up with your staff to schedule a leadership-level meeting for early 2026. If you would like to meet earlier, we would be happy to do so.

Sincerely,

Cliff McNeil-Smith  
Chair, Capital Regional District Board

cc: Christine Bird, Chief Executive Officer, STÁUTW First Nation  
Ted Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer, CRD