

STÁUTW First Nation achieves Financial Management System Certification

SXÁUTW FIRST NATION – SXÁUTW First Nation, Located in WSÁNEĆ territory, on the east side of the Saanich Peninsula in Greater Victoria, British Columbia, has achieved Financial Management System (FMS) Certification from the First Nations Financial Management Board (FMB). This means that SXÁUTW First Nation's finance and administrative governance practices now meet the standards of FMB's highest level of financial certification, based on internationally recognized standards of fiscal management.

"Being a Nation that is financially certified not only displays strong governance and leadership but also creates a solid foundation for future generations to come," says STÁUTW Chief Abraham Pelkey.

CEO Dr. Christine Bird adds, "Achieving financial accreditation through the FMB means that we have done our due diligence to establish STÁUTW as a Nation that has developed the capacity and financial prowess needed to move forward with confidence. Financial accreditation places the Nation in a unique position to engage in development and meet the needs of the community in a way that has never been done before. This is a credible accomplishment for STÁUTW First Nation's leadership and administration."

SXÁUTW is currently working on several infrastructure projects, including a highway exit and upgraded wastewater infrastructure. It's also continuing to add housing units for its citizens.

"The Finance Department at STÁUTW First Nation is committed to upholding the highest standards of financial and risk management under the direction of Chief and Council," says Greg Diemer, STÁUTW's Chief Financial Officer. "This certification is a testament to the leadership of STÁUTW First Nation as they seek to become a transparent and progressive First Nation by ensuring responsible financial management practices for the benefit of the community."

The FMB congratulates Tsawout First Nation on the significant achievement of FMS Certification.

More About STÁUTW:

SXÁUTW First Nation is one of the five WSÁNEĆ Nations. The Nation is currently working on several infrastructure projects, including a secondary exit and access, a new wastewater treatment plant, Early Childhood Education Centre, five new multiplexes that will provide 40 new housing units in addition to the Nation's purchase of a 99-acre parcel that borders the community. SXÁUTW's more recent commercial ventures include a whale watching company, seaweed farm, and construction operations. For more information, please visit www.tsawout.ca.

About FMB:

The First Nations Financial Management Board is a First Nations-led non-profit organization that supports First Nations in developing sound financial and administrative governance practices. The FMB was created under the *First Nations Fiscal Management Act* (FMA) in 2006. Services offered are at no cost to First Nations. For more information on all products and services, visit www.fnfmb.com.

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Media Contacts
Helen Murphy, Senior Communications Manager
First Nations Financial Management Board
P: (343) 598-2606
helen murphy@fnfmb.com

Abraham Pelkey, Chief STÁUTW First Nation chief@tsawout.ca