



Press Release: For Immediate Release

Chief Brendan Mitchell chosen to be the interim AFN Regional Chief for Newfoundland

January 30, 2023, Corner Brook—Qalipu First Nation is proud to share that its Chief, Brendan Mitchell, was chosen by the Assembly of First Nations' Newfoundland contingent¹ to be the interim AFN Regional Chief for Newfoundland.

Late last year at a Special Chief's Assembly of the Assembly of First Nations (AFN), a resolution was brought forward to create a voting seat at the Executive Office for Newfoundland's own Regional Chief. Then represented by a seat for Nova Scotia and Newfoundland combined, the resolution, brought forward by Chief Mi'sel Joe of Miawpukek First Nation and seconded by Chief Mitchell, would give Newfoundland unique representation among Regional Chief's from across Canada who form the Executive Committee of the Assembly of First Nations.

The resolution was carried at the assembly with a favourable vote and since that time, the Newfoundland group has been working together to establish a budget and carry forward the established process to officially put in place Newfoundland's Regional Chief.

Chief Mitchell noted that one of his first goals as interim Chief is to lobby government for support in establishing the new Regional Office.

"During this time of reconciliation, and in consideration of this opportunity for Newfoundland to participate in this way at the Assembly of First Nations, government should support the establishment of a Regional Office in Newfoundland. We need a budget to get this historic project going, and we will be looking for their support."

Chief Mitchell has been involved with the Assembly of First Nations since Qalipu First Nation joined the National group in July of 2018. In addition to being the interim AFN Regional Chief for Newfoundland, he serves on AFN National Committees including the Chief's Committee on Charter Renewal, the Chief's Committee on Emergency Management and the Sub-Committee on Additions to Reserve.

Congratulations to Chief Mitchell on taking on this exciting role.

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¹ The Chiefs who currently make up the Newfoundland contingent are Chief Joanne Miles, Flat Bay Indian Band; Chief Brendan Mitchell, Qalipu First Nation; Chief Marie Vaters, Sple'tk First Nation; and Chief Mi'sel Joe, Miawpukek First Nation.