



Qalipu
FIRST NATION

November 23, 2023

Press Release: For Immediate Release

Qalipu First Nation Prepares to Say Farewell to Chief Mitchell

Earlier today, November 23, 2023, Chief Brendan Mitchell advised the Council that he will be resigning from his position of Chief of Qalipu First Nation effective November 30th as he prepares to take up his new role as [Regional Chief for Newfoundland with the Assembly of First Nations](#).

Chief Mitchell is currently serving his third term as Chief of Qalipu First Nation, having been elected to the position originally in 2015. Prior to being selected to lead Newfoundland as Chief with the AFN, he was interim Regional Chief for Newfoundland for several months. Earlier in his career with the Indigenous community, Chief Mitchell served a term as the Ward Councilor for Corner Brook (2012-2015).

Chief Mitchell has accomplished a great deal during his tenure as Chief. Most notable among his accomplishments are his success in forming a strong relationship with the Mi'kmaq Grand Council, having the Band included at the table at the Assembly of First Nations and later being part of the movement to establish a regional seat for Newfoundland at that same table. Chief Mitchell also brought us to the Atlantic Policy Congress, and was the originator of the Community Room concept, gathering spaces for use by community people currently operating in Corner Brook and Grand Falls-Windsor.

His legacy as Chief is a strong one, and we look forward to seeing what he will accomplish as Regional Chief for Newfoundland with the Assembly of First Nations.

As the Chief's term ends with less than 12 months remaining in the current term, the bylaws do not require a by-election. Pursuant to section 2.4 of the General Bylaws of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band, should the Chief vacate office for any reason, the Band Council, by majority vote, shall determine which of the two Vice Chiefs shall assume the responsibilities of the Chief in his/her absence.



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As such, it is anticipated that the Council will meet following November 30th to assign the duties of Chief to one of the two regional Vice Chiefs in accordance with Qalipu First Nations general bylaws.

The selected individual will maintain their current responsibilities and title and in addition, assume the responsibilities of Chief until a new Chief is elected by the members during the next general election anticipated to take place in October 2024.

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