



October 24, 2015

Press Release

For Immediate Release

## Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band Election 2015

October 24, 2015, Corner Brook—the Qalipu Band Council is made up of a Chief, two Vice-Chiefs representing central and western Newfoundland, and nine Ward Councilors. Yesterday, thousands of members of the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band turned up at the polls to choose those leaders that will represent them for the next three years.

Five Ward Councilors will go forward in their previous roles, lending some continuity to the governing body after an election characterized by big changes. In particular, three of the top leadership positions have changed hands. Brendan Mitchell defeated incumbent Brendan Sheppard for the position of Chief, and newcomers Erica Samms Hurley and Joseph Bouzanne will represent the membership as western and central Vice-Chief, respectively.

Annie Randell, who works closely with Chief and Council in her role as Chief Executive Officer, said that she is proud of a fair and transparent election that saw an improvement in voter turnout from the Band's election in 2012. She said, "It's great to see that the membership is interested and engaged in the happenings of the Band. They have demonstrated this by coming out to vote."

Randell noted that following a 30 day appeals period, as per the Custom Rules Governing the Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band Elections, the new Chief and Council will transition in, and begin orientation.

-30-

Media:

Alison White  
Marketing and Communications Coordinator  
Qalipu Mi'kmaq First Nation Band  
Tel. (709) 634-5163  
[awhite@qalipu.ca](mailto:awhite@qalipu.ca)