



**TSAWWASSEN FIRST NATION**  
**s̓c̓awaθən məsteyəx<sup>w</sup>**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

## **NEW LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO OVERSEE URBAN SELF-GOVERNING NATION**

**TSAWWASSEN, B.C.** - Tsawwassen First Nation members cast their ballots yesterday to elect the first Legislative Assembly. This is the first election to be held under the Tsawwassen Constitution since the historic Tsawwassen Final Agreement came into effect in April 2009.

Chief Kim Baird retains her position for a 6<sup>th</sup> term, acclaimed during the nomination process in July 2009. Chief Baird states, "I am honoured to have the challenge of helping to implement our new governance structures. This is a historic period for our nation. It is exciting to have our first government under our treaty established."

The twelve member Legislative Assembly will hold office for a three year term. Under the new Government, the four legislators with the highest number of votes will comprise the Executive Council. The Executive Council will manage the day to day operations, debate proposed regulations under Tsawwassen Law, and fulfill other responsibilities of Tsawwassen Government. The Executive Councillors, should they accept, include incumbent Councillors Laura Cassidy and Andrea Jacobs. Marvin Joe, a former Chief and Council member, claims the third seat. And Bryce Williams, the youngest of the elected Legislature, becomes the fourth member of the Executive Council.

The Legislative Assembly's responsibilities include meeting to debate, consider, and enact Tsawwassen Laws, and to pass the annual budget. The remaining eight elected legislators include Ken Baird, Sheila Williams, Tony Jacobs, Loretta Williams, Louise Ahlm, Kathy Genge, Andrew Bak and Nikki Jacobs.

In reflecting on the election results, Chief Baird said that "I am encouraged to see such a diverse range of members interested in participating in our new government, and I look forward to working with this dynamic and diverse new team to build on our success as a nation."

These official results will be confirmed on September, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, the first day of the new term of Tsawwassen Government. Members will be sworn in at a ceremony on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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