



Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw Treaty Association

Moving forward letter from Leadership

February 2, 2021

Éy Swáyel dear community members,

As we move into a new year together, we are providing a brief update on our work. During the November 4-14, 2020 vote, we asked whether you approved the Shxwelméxwelh (Constitution) of the Stó:lō Xwexwilmexw. An overwhelming majority of those who voted, voted “Yes” (please see complete results at sxta.bc.ca), but we did not meet the voter turnout goal that we had set for ourselves.

As a goal, we established a voter threshold of 50% + 1 of the eligible voters in each community who voted on this referendum. Two of our communities were able to achieve this goal and passed their referenda. While a majority of voters in the other four communities voted “Yes” to our Shxwelméxwelh (Constitution), they did not reach our voter threshold.

Where do we go from here? Our process is still alive and requires ongoing work in the remaining four communities. The SXTA recognizes and respects the uniqueness of each of our member First Nations. We are leaving it to each of the four communities who have yet to meet our voter turnout goals to determine what is best for them and their membership in taking their next steps. As a group, we have asked each of the communities who did not meet our voter turnout goals to determine their next steps.

Together, the SXTA remains actively engaged in treaty negotiations and we remain strong in our commitment to working together. We greatly appreciate your commitment and interest in working toward a better future for our youth, communities, and future generations.

In Unity,

Chief Maureen Chapman, President
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