

Sq'ewqel



SEABIRD ISLAND



SQ'EWQEL

Sq'ewqel (Seabird Island) Referendum Information

MONDAY
2 JUNE 2025



Your Voice Matters. Your Vote Matters.



WHAT IS THE **SEABIRD ISLAND REFERENDUM?**

Sq'éwqel (Seabird Island) members are being asked to vote on two important decisions about **land use and development** and **affordable housing**.

These votes help guide the future of our Nation and ensure decisions reflect our Members voice.

What is Land Code?

The Land Code is Seabird Island's own set of rules for how we manage and make decisions about our reserve land giving our community more control and self-governance.

What is a Referendum?

A referendum is a community vote. It gives members the power to approve or reject important decisions — like land use changes or lease agreements.



WHY VOTE?

- Help decide what happens to our land.
- Your voice matters in big decisions.
- Make your choice on housing and leases.
- Shape the future of Seabird Island.
- Stay informed. Stay involved.
- Every vote makes the process stronger.
- Show up for your community.
- It's your right and responsibility.
- Decisions today affect tomorrow.

Your Voice



Your Vote



Your Future





BC HOUSING

LEASE FOR NEW HOMES

Seabird Island received funding from BC Housing to build 34 new affordable housing units along Pípehò:M Road.

To meet funding requirements, Seabird Island must lease the land to the band-owned Seabird Housing Society for 42 years, including 2 years for construction.

Why a vote is required

According to Seabird Island's Land Code, any lease over 25 years must be approved by eligible voters in a referendum — even if it's with one of Seabird's own groups.



Project Overview

- 34 housing units: mix of townhomes and apartments, including an Elders' building with accessible units for Seabird Island Members.
- Lease term: 42 years (40 years + 2 years construction)
- The land would be leased to the Seabird Housing Society
- Funded by a **forgivable loan** of approximately \$21.3 million from BC Housing, meaning the loan does not need to be repaid if the Housing Society follows the agreement.
- The Housing Society will operate and manage the units under an agreement with BC Housing



Ballot Question

Do you approve of Seabird Island leasing land on Pípehò:M Road to ourselves through our Seabird Housing Society for a term of 42 years, for the BC Housing Affordable Housing Project?



AE CONCRETE

LEASE EXTENTION

AE Concrete (AEC) is asking to extend its lease in Sq'éwqel Business Park from 25 years to 75 years. This would support long-term jobs, training, and community benefits.

AEC pays \$80,000/month in rent and also pay annual property taxes to Seabird Island. Extending the lease means 75 years of income, economic growth

Ballot Question

Do you approve an extension of the Seabird Island lease for AE Concrete from the present 25 years to a 75-year term?



What AEC Brings to the Community

- Hires community members when possible.
- Works with Seabird College and the Community School for job training opportunities.
- Gives a \$20,000 education bursary every year to Sq'ewqel Band Members.
- Plans to create 25-45 new jobs in the next 5 years.
- Brought gas access and other infrastructure to the site that benefits the community.
- Helps attract more businesses to the Business Park. With more commercial tenants like AEC, Seabird Island doesn't have to lease out as much land to non-member farmers. This means more land can be kept for local food production and community needs.





Sq'éwqel
Seabird Island



HOW TO VOTE

If you have never voted before, register at **www.onefeather.ca**

1. Click on "Sign Up" on OneFeather.ca
2. Enter in your personal email and a password
3. Check your email for your verification
4. Click on "Vote Now" on the homepage
5. Select our community
6. You will then see all available voting events



WHEN TO VOTE

Monday, June 2, 2025
8 a.m. to 9 p.m.



WHERE TO VOTE

Seabird Island Mill Hall

Sq'éwqel (Seabird Island) Referendum 2 June 2025

**Scan for More
Information**

