

OUR LAND IS OUR FUTURE

UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA INDIAN CHIEFS

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June 10, 2019

Gilakas'la Chiefs Council,

I hope this letter finds you doing well and in good spirits. I am writing to let you know that on June 4, 2019, I submitted my resignation as Vice-President of the UBCIC.

This decision came about for the following reasons. In May 2019 the Kwikwasutinuxw Haxwa'mis First Nation had an election for Chief and Council, I did not seek re-election. Further, I have decided to seek election as an NDP Member of Parliament in the Federal 2019 election. In order for me to seek federal election, I am required to take a leave of absence from the UBCIC Chiefs' Council.

It is very important to me that I remain respectful of the UBCIC organization, ensuring its continued effective operations. I do not want to cause any disruption in UBCIC's advocacy and other important efforts with my leave of absence. We are living in a time of rapid and expansive changes and our communities need the support of strong, focused political advocacy and leadership— I know this includes having an active Vice-President in office.

As I leave my role as Vice-President, I wanted to take this opportunity to express my thanks and offer some acknowledgements. I have the deepest respect for the UBCIC and all the leaders whom steer the direction of this organization. It has been a great honour both personally and professionally to have served on the Executive for these many years. My time as Vice-President has been equally challenging and rewarding as I have worked alongside you to advance Aboriginal Title and Rights, consistent with the resolutions passed by Chiefs' Council. Thank you for entrusting me with leadership roles in this organization for the past 10 years, I will be forever grateful for the opportunity.

Your work as leaders of First Nations has been an honour to witness and so valuable to learn from. I would like to extend a special thank you and acknowledgement to Grand Chief Stewart Phillip for his endless guidance, support and encouragement in seeking to advance solutions to our collective struggles. Grand Chief Phillip has demonstrated unwavering, determined commitment to our communities, rising to all challenges and speaking our truth – my time spent learning from him has been a gift.

The UBCIC and its Executive are supported by amazing, talented and knowledgeable staff, thank you for your dedication.

I wish all of you well in your work and look forward to hearing of the successes that will come as you provide the strong leadership for your communities and Nations.

I know for certain that our paths will cross in the near and distant future and I very much look forward to those days and times.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R Chamberlin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Robert (Galagame) Chamberlin
Email: Rchamberlin@shaw.ca