## VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT AND DECISION MAKING

COLLETTE SUNDAY, BAND ADMINISTRATOR

UPPER NICOLA BAND

FNPSS WEBINAR MAY 27, 2020



- In Jan 2020 UNB made amendments to the Custom UNB Election Regulations.
- One of the changes was to allow voters to vote electronically.
- Election was scheduled for Mar 21/20 with advance poll on Mar 14/20
- On Mar 18/20 UNB declared a local emergency due to the coronavirus,
   COVID-19.
- Polls on The Advance Poll and Election Day were open for in person voting, as well
   as electronic voting.

- In the UNB Custom Election Regulation, the vote count is scheduled to take place on the day after election day, so in this case Mar 22/20.
- In the Regulations, membership are invited to witness the count in person.
- With the Local Emergency due to COVID-19, we needed to find a safe alternative.
- UNB requested that they borrow FNPSS's ZOOM account to broadcast the Count.
- UNB posted updates on how count would proceed on UNB website and UNB Facebook pg.
- The count took place, the results were posted immediately, and we were able to engage with UNB Community members.



 The UNB Election 2020 was the second time we utilized the electronic platform for UNB electors to vote. In November 2019, UNB held referendum to seek direction on ratification of the TMX Impact Benefit Agreement.



## **RESULTS**

Election 2020	Referendum 2019	Election 2017
Eligible voters: 798	Eligible voters: 798	Eligible voters: 798
Total votes: 326 or 40%	Total votes: 158 or 20%	Total votes: 247
Electronic: 158 or 48%	Electronic: 64 or 54%	Mail in: 2 or .008%
In person: 168 or 51.5%	In person: 59 or 59.5%	In person: 245 or 99.19%

It has been beneficial to have electronic voting in both Referendum 2019 and Election.
2020.

More members voted.

We provided a safe mechanism for members to cast their ballot and witness the count in Mar 2020.

UNB is looking at other ways to engage our community members in the new environment we are operating in.