huu ay aht
ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

November 13, 2026

A Message from ḥaẃiiḥ and Executive Council Regarding Citizen Distribution

ʔeekoo, Huu-ay-aht Citizens,

Over the past several days, Executive Council received requests from citizens asking whether Huu-ay-aht First Nations (HFN) could provide a financial distribution to help families during the holiday season and rising cost of living. After careful consideration of HFN's financial position and long-term sustainability, Executive Council approved a $200 per citizen distribution. This distribution is being funded through HFN fees and taxation revenues, not government program funding.

Since the announcement, we have heard questions regarding both the amount of the distribution and HFN's overall financial position. We believe it is important to provide additional context about the Nation's finances and the factors considered in making this decision.

We believe it is important to provide context about HFN's financial position. Approximately 85% of HFN's revenue comes from funding agreements with Canada, British Columbia, and grant programs. These funds are restricted and must be used for programs, services, and governance on behalf of our citizens.

While HFN continues to invest in economic development and opportunities that support long-term prosperity, our business investments have not yet generated revenue that can be used to fund citizen distributions. We remain committed to building a strong and sustainable Huu-ay-aht economy that will create greater financial independence and opportunities for future generations.

As a result, the unrestricted revenue available for discretionary spending is limited and must be carefully balanced to support priorities such as elder benefits, emergency and crisis assistance, food voucher supports, medical and dental assistance, community programs, and investments that strengthen our Nation's future.

The decision to provide this citizen distribution was made while ensuring these important supports remain available to citizens throughout the year.

We understand that $200 may not go far in today's economy. Many families continue to face rising costs for groceries, housing, fuel, and other necessities, and we appreciate the perspectives shared by citizens.

At the same time, we believe it is important that discussions about citizen distributions

are grounded in a clear understanding of the Nation's financial realities. Our commitment is to be transparent about both the opportunities and challenges facing Huu-ay-aht First Nations as we continue working toward greater economic self-determination.

Executive Council and ḥaw̓iiḥ remain committed to making decisions that balance the needs of citizens today with our responsibility to protect and strengthen the Nation for future generations.

We thank all citizens for their engagement, their questions, and their continued commitment to our Nation.

Respectfully,
Ḥaw̓iiḥ and Executive Council
Ḥuu-ay-aht First Nations