HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS

Report of Executive Director to Legislature Re: *Budget Act, 2015*

For consideration at the sessions of the Huu-ay-aht Legislature

Friday, March 20 &
Monday, March 30, 2015

Prepared By: Executive Director
Date: March 9, 2015

BACKGROUND:

The *Budget Act, 2015* establishes the authority of government to spend money from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016. A Budget Act is required by the *Financial Administration Act* each fiscal year. Government may only spend money if it has spending authority.

Executive Council called a regular session of the Legislature with the first session on Friday, March 20, 2015 and the second and third sessions on Monday, March 30, 2015.

As per section (30) (1) and (2) of the *Government Act,* the Law Clerk must provide public notice of the session of Legislature including dates, times, location, agenda, proposed Huu-ay-aht Acts and proposed motions.

The Deputy Law Clerk provided public notice on February 17, 2015.

DISCUSSION:

The *Budget Act, 2015* was prepared based on number provided from the Three Year Forecast produced at January 31, 2015 and approved by Executive Council. The *proposed Budget Act, 2015* was posted with the public notice on February 17, 2015.

At its February 12, 2015 meeting Executive Council approved a draft *Budget Act, 2015* (the "draft act") for introduction to the Legislature. Since the approval of the draft act, the Finance Committee has continued to consider budgetary matters based on input from members of government and the administration. The Finance Committee met on March 18, 2015 and resolved to recommend amendments to the draft act (the "proposed amendments") as set out in the attached revised draft act.

Executive Council recommended that the proposed amendments be introduced to the Legislature.

Amendment to the proposed Budget Act 2015 were introduced at the first sitting of legislature on March 20, 2015. The proposed amendments are reflected in the blackline version of the Budget Act 2015 attached to this report. The amended Budget Act 2015 aligns with the top 15 strategic priorities of 2015/16 and the Financial Plan (accepted by Executive Council on March 19, 2015) as well as the continuation of project that had begun in 2014.

Highlights of investments for 2015/16 include significantly increased number of culture, education and health activities, school education in Anacla and traditional foods and the completion of the sewer project, subdivision and new cemetery.