

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024

## **NOTICE TO MEMBERS**



## Keeping people & animals safe on reserve

There has been a report of a dog that had a leash dragging behind it, and it got caught up on something. It was there for awhile, and when an Elder went to set it free, they were pulled by the dog. While there were no injuries from this incident, it could have turned out quite differently. The elected members of the Land Authority remind members of their role and responsibility in keeping dogs and people safe on reserve by ensuring animals are not allowed to roam freely.

We acknowledge that owning a dog can be very rewarding and offers many health benefits such as more physical activity and less stress. We also acknowledge that caring for a dog is much more than daily walks and keeping food and water bowls full. It also means ensuring the animal is reasonably contained within the owner's premises for its own safety and that of members and animals on reserve.

The lands authority would like to urge all dog owners to ensure their animals are not allowed to roam freely on reserve and become a nuisance and impediment to the safety and enjoyment of others. We recommend that all dogs on reserve be leashed or otherwise physically controlled when in any place other than the premises of the owner. Lands Authority recommends the SPCA can remove an animal that is deemed aggressive/vicious, or there is animal neglect. For more information, please contact Tania Solonas, Lands & Tax Administration Manager by telephone: 250-562-0847 ext. 2008 or send an email to landsmanager@lheidli.ca.