

Fraser Valley Métis Association

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June 9, 2024

RE: Addressing False Allegations and Request for Community Cooperation

Dear Mission & Abbotsford Community,

We hope this letter finds you well. As a vital part of our community, we are writing to address recent concerns regarding allegations of elder abuse at the Mission Indigenous Graduation Ceremony. These allegations are both distressing and completely unfounded. As a community, it is vital that we approach such sensitive issues with caution and responsibility. These allegations are deeply concerning and warrant a clear and transparent response.

Our top priority is the well-being and dignity of our Elders. We take any claims of mistreatment seriously and have strict protocols in place to investigate such matters thoroughly. In response to the current situation, a formal investigation is already underway to address these malicious accusations. We are confident that the investigation and the witnesses will reveal the truth and clear the names of those wrongfully accused.

In the meantime, we kindly ask all community members to refrain from engaging in libel and defamation. Spreading unfounded rumors and making baseless accusations not only harms innocent individuals but also undermines the trust and unity of our community. It is essential to remember that everyone is entitled to the presumption of innocence until proven otherwise.

We understand that these allegations may cause concern, and assure you that we are handling this matter with the utmost seriousness and urgency. If you have concerns or information related to this issue, we urge you to come forward and speak directly with the authorities handling the investigation.

MNBC Senate Clerk: Bill Bresser senateclerk@mnbc.ca

Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) BC https://www.oipc.bc.ca/about/contact-us/

Our community has always been built on mutual respect, support, and understanding. Let us continue to uphold these values by ensuring that our actions and words reflect our commitment to justice and compassion. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding during this challenging time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

FVMA Board of Directors