



Joint Statement from Ts'uubaa-asatx First Nation and the Town of Lake Cowichan on Respect, Safety, and Community Well-Being

Lake Cowichan, B.C. — Wednesday July 8, 2026 — Ts'uubaa-asatx and the Town of Lake Cowichan are aware of community concerns regarding ongoing incidents involving photographs, videos, and online posts directed at Elected Official, Nation's Leadership, Town staff, Public Works, Fire Department personnel, RCMP members, and personal vehicles belonging to members of Ts'uubaa-asatx.

Some of these concerns relate to activity along or near North Shore Road, as well as other public spaces, including parks. We understand why repeated photographing, posting, or commentary involving vehicles, public spaces, and identifiable individuals has been upsetting for many people. We also recognize the impact this has had on those who have been photographed, named, or discussed online.

Ts'uubaa-asatx and the Town of Lake Cowichan are monitoring the situation closely. The RCMP is also aware of the situation and is monitoring it. We will continue to work through appropriate channels and respond in a calm, responsible, and safety-focused way.

We want to reassure the community that Town vehicles, Public Works vehicles, emergency response vehicles, RCMP vehicles, and personal vehicles travelling along or near North Shore Road, or appearing in other public spaces, are doing so for ordinary and legitimate reasons. These areas include routes to lift stations, municipal infrastructure, public buildings, emergency response areas, workplaces, homes, parks, recreational areas, and Ts'uubaa-asatx lands and residences.

There is no improper purpose behind people travelling through these areas or using public spaces. Public service work, emergency response, infrastructure maintenance, recreation, family time, and daily travel are all part of normal community life.

We respect freedom of expression and the right of people to raise concerns. At the same time, we ask everyone to consider the human impact of repeated photographing, posting, and targeting of identifiable individuals. While people may not intend to cause harm, these



actions can feel intimidating and harassing to those involved, creating stress, fear, and a sense of being watched, followed, or singled out. To be clear, no one deserves this and we collectively ask that this conduct stop immediately!

We also recognize that some situations may involve people who are struggling or experiencing difficulty, including challenges that may be mental-health-related. Our message is one of care, calm, and de-escalation. We want everyone to be safe, including those who may be in distress.

We thank residents and community members who have shown restraint, avoided online conflict, and chosen not to engage in ways that could escalate the situation. That response helps reduce harm and allows the appropriate agencies to deal with the matter responsibly.

If you witness conduct that appears threatening, harassing, or unsafe, please report it to the RCMP.

Lake Cowichan and Ts'uubaa-asatx are connected communities. People must be able to work, serve, travel, gather, recreate, and live here without fear of being targeted. We remain committed to supporting a respectful, inclusive, and safe environment for all.

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