



FORT ST. JOHN SOCCER CLUB

FSJ Soccer Club

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April 17th, 2024

Hello soccer families,

Ever since the formation of the Fort St John soccer club, almost 25 years ago, we have been a part of the Alberta Soccer Association under the Northwest Peace district. In the last week, we have been directed by all pertinent governing bodies that Fort St John Soccer will shift from Alberta Soccer and begin operating under BC Soccer moving forward. The newly formed district we will now fall under is NIYSA (Northern Interior Youth Soccer Association).

The FSJ Soccer board of directors has spent a great deal of time meeting, emailing, and talking to Alberta soccer, BC Soccer and ultimately Canada Soccer in a bid to remain with the ASA. FSJ Soccer has always been served well by the ASA and the fact that we share the same type of soccer programming (primarily indoor) was the basis of FSJ Soccer asking to continue as we have in the past.

The initial BC Soccer policy on this action and formation of NIYSA occurred mid 2021 and was a directive passed down by Canada Soccer in an effort to align provincial soccer operations in Canada. FSJ Soccer was made aware of the changes in early 2022 and from that time until now, we have engaged in dialogue with the ASA and BC Soccer explaining the logistics and rationale to support us staying with Alberta. With a lack of positive direction from the ASA and BC Soccer, Canada Soccer was contacted to help clarify the decision. Last week it was determined that FSJ Soccer would move to operate under BC Soccer.

Along with this change, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been written that states the ASA and BC Soccer have agreed that Fort St John soccer can remain playing in Alberta in the same capacity we always have. This MOU applies to all the soccer clubs in BC that have historically played in Alberta for much the same reasons we have.

There will be some changes moving forward so we will keep the membership informed of what they look like. We will also ask that members exercise patience with questions asked of the club, the things we are not well informed on may take some time to determine how it needs to be done under BC Soccer. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Andy Amboe on behalf of the Board of Directors