
AAMJIWNAANG CHI'NAAKNIGEWIN

Community Constitution Ratification Timeline

Anishinaabe Chi'Naaknigewin

Development of the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin

- In 2004, the Chiefs Committee on Governance mandated the Restoration of Jurisdiction to establish a committee made up of Restoration of Jurisdiction staff and technical advisers formally known as the Anishinabek Nation Constitution Development Committee to draft the Anishinabek Nation Constitution.
- The Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin/Anishinabek Nation Constitution is a nation level constitution.

Governance Working Group

- Throughout the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the Governance Working Group (GWG) was introduced to the Anishinabek Nation Constitution via GWG sessions.
- The GWG played a key role in the success and implementation of the constitutional convention.

Constitutional Convention I

- In March 2010 the Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin Maawanjiidiwin/Anishinabek Nation Constitutional Convention I, was held in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The purpose of the Constitutional Convention I was to advance the development and approve the final draft of the Anishinabek Nation Constitution by seeking input from Anishinabek citizens and leadership in presenting and defining each article of the constitution.
- The Draft Anishinaabe Chi-Naaknigewin was unanimously accepted in principle by the Chiefs and a mandate was given directing all Chiefs to inform and consult with their citizens in order to prepare for the 2012 proclamation.

RATIFICATION VOTE DATE: OCTOBER 27- 2016

AAMJIWNAANG CHI'NAAKNIGEWIN

Community Constitution Ratification Timeline

Aamjiwnaang's Involvement and the Relation to the Anishinabek Education Agreement

1. Aamjiwnaang was involved in the Chi-Naaknigewin discussions for a number of years. At the same time there was Aamjiwnaang representation at the discussions on the Anishinabek Education system.
2. Early proposals by the federal government included a clause in the agreement where communities with 'own source revenue' would be responsible to "self-fund" education.
3. Given that Aamjiwnaang has a number of sources of revenue that are considered "own source", it was decided that Aamjiwnaang would step back from the agreement discussions.
4. There were no formal motions made to withdraw from the Anishinabek education system.
5. 2 years ago, the UOI representatives shared information with Aamjiwnaang that the "own source revenue" clauses were removed from the agreement. Aamjiwnaang returned to the table and considered being a part of the AES.
6. UOI representatives informed Aamjiwnaang that an education constitution was needed in order to be a part of the AES. It was thought that an education constitution would be very simple and straightforward and would be voted on at the same time as the AES.
7. **In late January 2016, Aamjiwnaang was informed that a full constitution was needed in order to proceed with the AES, this was confirmed at meetings in February 2016.**
8. The Aamjiwnaang Council set aside funds in the fiscal year budget 2016-17 in order to develop a constitution. The budget was approved and administration put forward a plan in April 2016 to gather a committee of interested individuals to work on the Constitution (Ad-hoc committee).
9. In May of 2016, council approved a recommendation to appoint a staff lead dedicated to assist with the Constitution Development initiative. The Constitution Development Ad-Hoc Committee, is now know as the Constitution Development Team.
10. The "Team" has been working with lawyer Fred Bellefeuille, from the Anishinabek Nation to develop a draft constitution. A working draft was completed on June 29, 2016 and is being shared with the community through focus groups, community info sessions, and social media. The committee is asking for community feedback on the draft constitution and most especially the PREAMBLE which describes who we are as an Aamjiwnaang community.

RATIFICATION VOTE DATE: OCTOBER 27- 2016