



CURVE LAKE FIRST NATION LEADERSHIP SELECTION CODE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When will this process take effect?

We will use this new process for the vote scheduled for June 2016. It will be used if our vote passes.

2. Under our new code, when will we vote?

We will vote at the same time of year – the third Monday in June. New Council terms will begin on the 1st of July.

We will vote less often. We will vote every three years instead of every two years.

3. Are there any changes to the number of Councillors?

No. We will still vote for one Chief and eight Councillors.

4. What is the change to the Term of Office?

Chief and Council will now sit for a term of 3 years instead of the two year term set out by the Indian Act.

5. How do we know when the vote is to be held?

Chief and Council, by way of Band Resolution must call an election in the same manner as we are accustomed to.

6. How do we select our Electoral Officer?

Chief and Council will select the Electoral Officer. The process they have been using is to issue a Request for Proposals and tender out the services through a competitive process. This is not intended to change.

7. Who is allowed to vote under the new Code?

There are no changes to the eligibility criteria to cast a ballot. A voter must be a Member who will have reached the age of 18 years on or before Election Day.

8. Will there be a mandatory nomination meeting?

Yes, the nomination meeting process will remain and will be consistent with our past practices.

9. Can a candidate be nominated for both Chief and Councillor positions?

Yes. Someone can be nominated for both. In the past, candidates could run for both positions in the election. The new process changes that. A Candidate must declare which position they are going to run for – Chief or Councillor. The candidate will not be permitted to have their name on both ballots.

Note that anyone who is an eligible voter can run for the position of Chief or Councillor.

10. Is there a change to the way we nominate candidates?

No, nominations will take place in the same way as we are accustomed to.

11. If I live off-reserve, can I vote?

Off reserve voters will be included in the mail out ballot process just as before. It is up to the Member of the First Nation to ensure the community has the most up to date address on file to exercise mail in voting rights.

12. Will the voting process at the community centre be different?

No, the polling process will remain the same.

13. What if I need help voting because of literacy or disability issues?

The process has not changed. The Electoral Officer or their designate will be able to assist.

14. If I'm a candidate in the election, can I have someone available to act as a scrutineer in the count?

Yes. In the new code, this process has been modified slightly. Any candidate will now have to declare in writing who may act as a scrutineer on their behalf. This is to ensure that this process is formal and fair across all candidates. Each candidate is allowed two scrutineers.

15. What if there is a tie in the voting?

A tie is settled by way of placing names in a hat and drawing for either the chief position or the Councillor position.

16. What if I want to appeal the results of an election?

Any Voter is able to Appeal an election. The Council will select a trained specialist in Alternate Dispute Resolution prior to the election in case of an appeal. This impartial, transparent and trained specialist will resolve the appeal. This replaces the role that AANDC used to play in our process.

17. Can we remove a Chief or Councillor from their position as community members?

Vacancies will occur in the position if a Chief or Councillor:

- a) is convicted of an indictable offense under the Criminal Code of Canada; or
- b) dies; or
- c) resigns from office ;
- d) or misses three (3) consecutive regular Council, special Council or community meetings set by the Chief with notice provided

18. How do we change the Code in the future?

Minor amendments to the code, including amendments for the use of automatic or electronic equipment, may be made by a motion of Council.

Major amendments, including: except for amendments which affect the:

- a) composition of Council;
- b) selection of Chief;
- c) selection of Councillors;
- d) eligibility for office;
- e) eligibility to vote;
- f) tenure of office; or
- g) changes to the amendment process.

shall require a duly called and advertised Amendment Vote meeting of Voters where the majority of voters in attendance cast a ballot in favour of the change.

19. Are there rules to govern how Chief and Council operate?

Yes, there are, but they do not make up a part of this Code. This Code is how we select our Leadership. How leadership operates is currently included in a policy that is available at the Band office or on the First Nation website.

20. Can I vote yes on certain areas or and no on other changes in the Code?

No, you will vote on the Code on the whole. This means you will not be able to extend the term of office but vote against someone being able to run for Chief and Council at the same time. You must vote for the document as written.

21. When is the Vote?

It is Saturday, September 12th, 2015. Polling Stations are at the community Centre.