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## **ELECTION RULES FOR THE GRAND CHIEF**

Pursuant to Article 13(e) of the *Constitution of the Council of Yukon First Nations* (the “**Constitution**”), the General Assembly hereby adopts these Rules for the purpose of electing the Grand Chief of the Council of Yukon First Nation (the “**CYFN**”).

### **Appointment of a Returning Officer**

1. The Leadership shall appoint a Returning Officer no later than 45 business days before the first day of the General Assembly, who shall conduct the election for the position of the Grand Chief
2. The Returning Officer shall conduct the election of the Grand Chief in accordance with these Rules and, in particular, shall be responsible to:
  - a) prepare, post and announce notice of the election, including the placement of notices in the local media and the provision of notices directly to the Yukon First Nations;
  - b) prepare the candidacy forms and make forms available at the main administrative office of CYFN;
  - c) compile the list of voters;
  - d) prepare the voting places;
  - e) supervise the count of the ballots;
  - f) rule on spoiled ballots and make determinations with respect to other matters related to the election process;
  - g) declare the results of the vote;
  - h) destroy the ballots upon the direction of the General Assembly; and
  - i) generally, oversee and supervise the conduct of the election and take action to ensure that the election is fair and effective in a manner consistent with these Rules.

3. The CYFN shall direct its administration to provide sufficient support staff, space and resources to enable the Returning Officer to fulfill his or her duties.
4. The Returning Officer may appoint an assistant returning officer who shall:
  - a) assist the Returning Officer; and
  - b) exercise any specific responsibilities delegated to him or her by the Returning Officer.
5. The Returning Officer may modify any procedure to execute any of his or her duties if it is deemed necessary to ensure the secrecy of the ballot or the integrity of the voting process.

### **Nominations**

6. A Yukon First Nation citizen, eligible for enrollment under Chapter 3 of the Umbrella Final Agreement, may submit a candidacy form to the Executive Office of CYFN for the position of the Grand Chief no later than 4:00 p.m. PST on the twentieth business day before the first day of the General Assembly (the “**Close of Nominations**”)
7. Any candidacy form submitted under section 6 of these Rules must:
  - a) confirm the intent of the candidate to be the Grand Chief;
  - b) set out the signature of the candidate; and
  - c) set out the signature of a Chief of a Member.
8. The Returning Officer shall release the list of candidates to the public and media after the Close of Nominations.

### **Election Process**

9. If only one Yukon First Nation citizen has been nominated for the position of Grand Chief, the Returning Officer shall declare that nominee to be elected as Grand Chief by acclamation.



10. If two or more Yukon First Nation citizens submitted candidacy forms in accordance with these Rules, the Returning Officer shall prepare the necessary ballot forms for the election of the Grand Chief.
11. Each candidate shall have the opportunity to address the General Assembly. A candidate's address shall not exceed 20 minutes unless the General Assembly has indicated otherwise.
12. The Returning Officer shall count the ballots and compile a list of candidates for the position of Grand Chief and the number of votes that were cast in favour of each candidate.
13. Immediately after the completion of the counting of the votes, the Returning Officer shall declare the candidate with a 60 percent (60%) majority of votes to be elected as the Grand Chief. The Returning Officer shall post a statement signed by him/her showing the number of votes cast for each candidate.
14. If the candidate with the highest number of votes does not have a 60 percent (60%) majority of votes, the candidate with the fewest number of votes shall be removed on each subsequent vote. If only two candidates remain, subsequent votes shall be held until a candidate has a 60 percent majority of votes.

## Electors

15. Prior to the commencement of the voting process, the Returning Officer shall compile a list of the following persons who may vote in the election for Grand Chief (the "**Voters List**"):
  - a) the Elder selected by the Elders Council pursuant to Article 22 of the Constitution;
  - b) the Youth selected by the Youth Council pursuant to Article 24 of the Constitution;
  - c) the Chief, or his or her representative designated in writing by that Chief, of each Member of CYFN;
  - d) four (4) other representatives of each Member designated in writing by that Member; and
  - e) one (1) representative of each Associate Member designated in writing by that Associate Member.



16. Only those names on the Voters List shall be entitled to vote. No proxies are permitted.
17. No changes may be made to the Voters List once the Returning Officer signs it immediately before the commencement of the voting process.

### **Voting**

18. The election for the Grand Chief shall be held at a General Assembly.
19. The vote shall be secret ballot unless directed otherwise by the General Assembly.
20. Each candidate may appoint a scrutineer to witness the collecting and counting of the ballots by the Returning Officer. The scrutineer will be identified by the candidate on the Candidacy Form.
21. The Returning Officer shall have the authority to rule on spoiled ballots.
22. The General Assembly shall direct the Returning Officer to destroy the ballots upon the declaration of the elected Grand Chief.
23. Any and all election rules previously adopted by the Council of Yukon First Nations are hereby repealed and superseded by these Rules.
24. The definitions of the Constitution apply to these Rules.

**Approved by the CYFN Leadership on March 19, 2019.**

**Moved By:** Chief Steve Smith, CAFN

**Seconded By:** Executive Councillor Robert Wally, CTFN

