Elections Workshop April 21, 2016

Workshop Overview

Opening Prayer

Introductions

Overview of Déline Got'ine Government

- Council roles and responsibilities
- **Overview of First Election**
- Eligibility Requirements
- Nominations Process
- Transition Phase June 06-Sept 01
- Joint Leadership Council

Questions



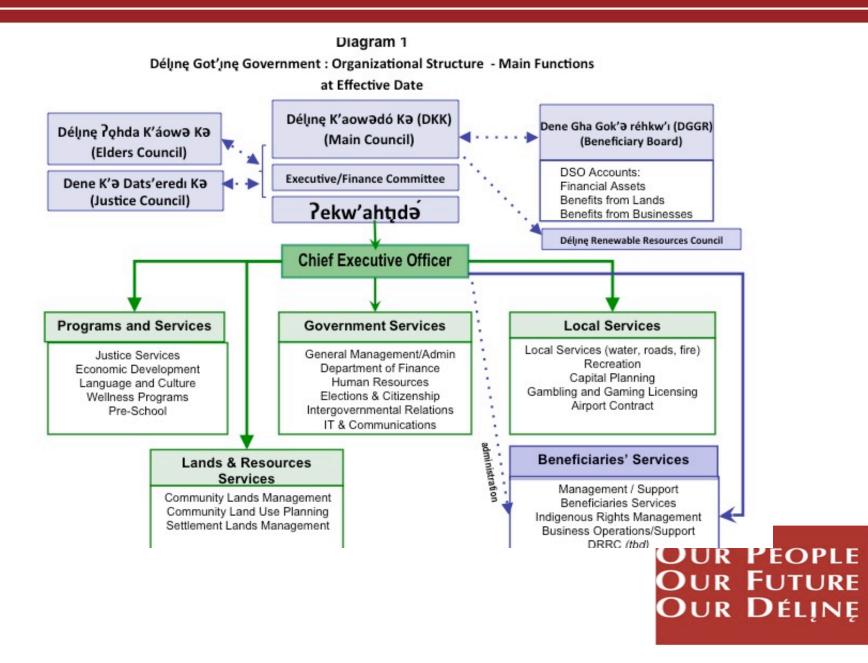


Institutions





Elections Workshop – Overview of DGG Institutions at Effective Date



Which positions are being elected?

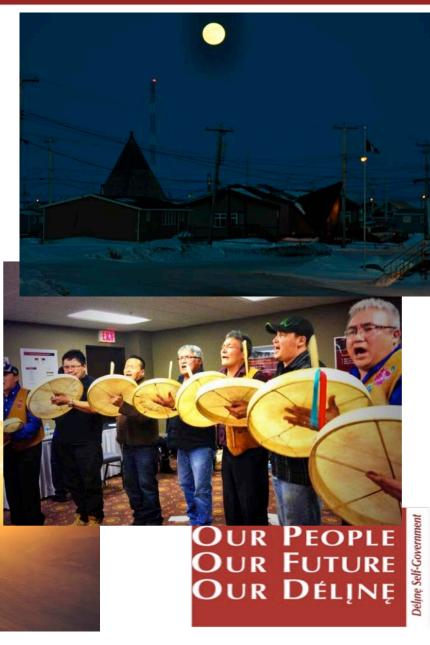
- ?ekw'ahtidə́ •
- **6** Councillors ۲
- Term of 2 years ۲



OUR PEOPLE OUR FUTURE OUR DÉLINE

How is self-government different from the current councils?

- First community self-government: everyone is watching, never been done before
- New relationship: government to government
- Law making powers
- Managing Change a new system for people
- New policies and enforcing them
- Budgeting, Tax revenues
- Accountable to the people
- Working together



Délinę K'aowədó Kə (DKK or Main Council)

The duties of DKK are to:

- Develop and evaluate the plans, policies and programs of the Déline Got'ine Government (DGG)
- Make the laws and resolutions of the DGG as authorized under legislation.
- Ensure that the powers, duties and functions of the DGG are appropriately carried out.

Council Members are responsible to:

- Make decisions concerning Déline Got'ine Government governance, operations and business.
- Comply with legislated and policy requirements.
- Represent the citizens and residents in a professional, ethical and appropriate manner.
- Attend, and be prepared for, all Council Meetings except in unavoidable circumstances, and notify the ?ekw'ahtidation (CEO) if unable to attend a specific meeting.
 Attend, and be prepared for, all Council Meetings except in unavoidable (Chief) or Chief Executive Officer OUR PEOPLE OUR FUTURE

Déline Self-Government

Our Déline

?ekw'ahtįdð

- Constitution talks about the qualities expected of the ?ekw'ahtidad and these are in the Draft Government Organization Act :
- The responsibilities of the ?ekw'ahtidé shall be exercised and performed in a manner consistent with the Déline Got'ine ?e?adó and include:
 - upholding the dignity and honour of the office of the ?ekw'ahtįdé;
 - understanding, respecting and practicing Dene culture, heritage, language and traditions, and following the wisdom of the ?ohda and ancestors;
 - representing, protecting and promoting the interests of the Sahtúot'inę people;
 - overseeing the activities of the DGG; and
 - representing the DGG as required at ceremonial, official and other events or activities in Canada and elsewhere.
- Is a member of Main Council (DKK) and takes direction from, and acts on behalf of, DKK.
- Is the official spokesperson of the Government and represents the DGG to governments, organizations and businesses unless others are delegated to do so.



How will elected councilors be prepared for the change to self government?

- Newly elected councilors will participate in a series of orientation and skill development workshops between June 06 and September 01;
- Councilors will be required to review and approve the basic laws, job offers, and administrative policies;
- Information will be reviewed by new and existing leaders within the Joint Leadership Council;
- Orientation workshops will take place where councilors will learn about their new roles and responsibilities, and review and decide on the processes for how the government institutions (meetings, passing laws, etc) will work.





Election Overview

Election Day is June 06, 2016

- Held under NWT Local Authorities Elections Act
- Nominations are open April 25, 2016 until 3pm on May 9, 2016.
- Proxy application forms will be available until June 01, 2016.
- Kirk Dolphus is Returning Officer

The election is for the following:

- ?ekw'ahţidé
- Six (6) councillor positions on the Délinę
 K'aowədó Kə (DKK or Main Council)
- The Elders representative on the DKK is appointed by the Elders.





What is the role of the Returning Officer?

- Organizes the election;
- Gives notice to the general public of important procedures and dates in the election process;
- Ensures that eligible voters are on the voters list;
- Supervise the other Election Officers;
- Ensures the proper and peaceful conduct of elections;
- Sets up and supervises the running of voting stations and supervise the counting of the ballots; and
- Writes reports about the election results.





A Person is eligible to Vote if they:

- Are a Canadian citizen;
- Have reached the age of 18 years; and
- Have lived in the community at least 36 consecutive months immediately before Election Day. (June 2013 is the residency requirement)
- * Only someone eligible to vote can nominate a Candidate.





A person is eligible to be a Candidate if they:

- Are a Canadian citizen;
- Have reached the age of 18 years;
- Have been a resident of the electoral district (ward) at least 36 consecutive months before the close of nominations; and,
- Have not been disqualified by other eligibility sections in the Local Authorities Elections Act.
- Only DFN band members and members of DLC are eligible to be candidates for ?ekw'ahtidation (4.2.2b) and 4.6.3 of FSGA)





Reasons someone cannot be nominated or stand as a Candidate:

Professional Conflicts - Section 18(2)

- A judge, territorial judge, youth court judge or justice of the peace;
- A member of the Legislative Assembly;
- A full-time permanent employee of the municipal corporation who receives a salary;
- An election officer involved in the same election; or
- An assessor or auditor of the municipal corporation.

Indebtedness – Section 20(1)

- A person who owes the municipal corporation more than \$500 for more than 90 days;
- A person who has a controlling interest in a corporation (owns, directly or indirectly shares of the corporation with more than 10 percent of the voting rights) that owes the municipal corporation more than \$500 for more than 90 days; or
- A person who has not paid municipal taxes due December 31 of any year prior to the election.



Reasons someone cannot be nominated or stand as a Candidate continued:

Criminal Convictions and Election Offences

- Any person who has been convicted of a major election offense under the Local Authorities Elections Act within the past three years;
- Any person who has been convicted of an indictable offence punishable by imprisonment for five or more years within three years immediately preceding election day, or whose imprisonment (from an indictable offence) ends within three years immediately preceding election day; or
- A person found to have been in a conflict, under the Conflict of Interest Act, may be prohibited by a Court Order from becoming a candidate.



Photo: Morris Neyelle



How does the Nomination Process work?

- Once the Notice of Nominations has been posted, Candidates and nominators can file nominations papers at the Charter Community Office.
- Both nominators and the candidate make their declarations in front of the Returning Officer.
- When the candidates pick up their nomination papers, they should not wait until the last moment to file their declaration.
- Reminder to candidates: their nominators must be eligible to vote. If an unforeseen event occurs, the candidate may have to find another nominator.
- Candidates who file at the last moment may not be able to find another nominator in time.





How does the Nomination Process work?

Candidates and nominators must declare they are eligible to be either a candidate or a nominator.

- Section 38 of the Local Authorities Elections Act gives the Returning Officer the authority to 1) question the eligibility of the candidate to hold office or 2) question the voter eligibility of the nominators.
- The candidate must be informed in writing of any issues arising with their nomination without delay. The Returning Officer must refuse to accept a nomination unless the candidate provides further declaration as to his or her eligibility, before the close of nominations.
- Nominations forms are public documents and must be presented if a voter demands to view them.





Election Calendar

April 25	April 26	April 27	Арті 20	April 29	Арттах	
Nominations Open by today						
May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6	May 7 DEADLINE FOR POSTING VOTERS LIST	
May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	May 14	
Nominations Close @ 3p.m.	<u>Fax.or</u> em ail candidates list to CMEO: (867) 873- 0584 /	Lastday to withdraw as a candidate (until 3pm)	-Last day for voters to challenge candidates -Post notice of advance vote/election day			
May 16 Final day for nominations if insufficient candidates – 3pm deadline	May 17	May 18	Мау 19	May 20	May 21	
May 23 Victoria Dayl Earliest date for Advance Vote* (Moves to May 24)	May 24 Earliest date for Advance Vote*	May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	
May 30 Latest date for Advance Vote*	May 31	June 1 Final day to submit. Proxy Application Forms at 3pm	June 2	June3	June 4	
June 6 ELECTION DAY	 Send results to Chief M 	·Capy of Election Results Munifipal Electoral Officer (CM	may create add11 Officer. MEO)	' Council may decide to hold an Advance Vote and . If approved by bylaw, may create add to rail voting opportunities in the Office of the Returning Officer. I Statutory Holiday – dead lines move to the next day that is not a holiday		

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Important Dates:

25-Apr	Nominations Open		
25-Apr	Calling for Nominations		
	- Nominations open from April 25 to May 9 at 3pm		
	- Radio announcement must happen on 3 separate days		
	- Public Notice must be posted in 5 locations		
29-Apr	Reminder that proxy applications are available		
06-May	Reminder that Nominations close		
07-May	Deadline for Posting Voters List		
09-May	Nominations Close at 3pm		
09-May	Publicly Post names of Nominees		
09-May	Reminder - May 12 is the last day to Challenge Candidates		
12-May	Post Notice of Advance Poll (if applicable) and Election Date		
12-May	Last day to Challenge a Candidate		
	Advance Poll (To be confirmed – if applicable)		
30-May	Reminder Proxy Applications end June 01		
30-May	Information about Election Day		
	- Polling hours and locations		
01-Jun	Final Day to submit proxy application to Returning Officer		
06-Jun	Election Day		

Joint Leadership Council

The Charter Community, First Nation and Land Corporation have decided to keep their councils in place until Effective Date: September 01, 2016. On that day, the DGG will begin operating and the other organizations will no longer exist.

- Between June 06, 2016, and September 01, 2016, the leaders of the existing organizations and the leaders of the new government will sit together to make decisions as a Joint Leadership Council.
- The Joint Leadership Council is the final stage of decision-making and orientation for all leaders. It is the last step before the DGG starts operating, and the community becomes selfgoverning.





Joint Leadership Council Role

- Review laws, regulations and policies: leaders will have to understand these and make recommendations for any changes so they can be finalized and then passed on Effective Date;
- Review the proposed first year budget and make decisions about allocating resources;
- Approve employment offers and appointment of officials to the DGG;
- Recommend DGGR appointments to be approved on Effective Date;
- Request the Elders appoint a representative that will sit on the council as of Effective Date;
- Approve Effective Date celebrations;
- Decide what decisions can wait until after Effective Date and what decisions must be made before Effective Date.



Summer Expectations

There will be a lot of work over the summer to prepare for transition.

We estimate that we will need two weeks of meetings in June, one week of meetings in July, and one or two weeks of meetings in August.







Questions?



Mahsi!

