

BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION GOVERNANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire is focussed on, whether we should have our own Election Code. As well, there are some general governance questions.

An Election Code, if we decide to go in this direction, means we get to design our own Code for voting style elections. If at some point in the future, we decide to have Anishinabek governance we still have the option to pursue that in a self-government process.

This survey is open to all interested Band Members. It allows membership to provide input into the design and development of Batchewana First Nation Band Custom Election Leadership Code.

ELECTION CODE QUESTIONS

1. Are you a Batchewana First Nation Band member?
Yes _____ No _____

2. Do you think we should have an election code?
Yes _____ No _____

3. In which form should voting occur? (select any that you think should apply) ?
 - a. Electronic voting _____
 - b. In person Ballot _____
 - c. Advanced polling stations _____
 - d. Mail In Ballots _____
 - e. ALL of the above _____

 - f. Other - Please Explain

4. Should candidates for Chief & Council have some education and/or life experience ?
Yes _____ No _____

Please explain

5. Currently under the *Indian Act* candidates do not need to accept their nomination. What can happen is people could be nominated and not know it. Should candidates be required to confirm or accept their Nomination?
Yes _____ No _____

6. Should candidates be a certain age? If so what minimum age would you suggest?
Yes _____ No _____ Minimum Age _____

7. Should BFN request bid for the Electoral Officer ?
Yes _____ No _____

8. Could the Electoral Officer be a BFN member?
Yes _____ No _____

9. Should there be more than one polling Station on Election Day (ie Rankin, Goulais, Obadjiwan)?
Yes _____ No _____

Other polling stations _____

10. Should there be a limit on the number of Terms allowed for an individual to hold a seat/serve on Chief & Council? (1 term = 2yrs)
Yes _____ No _____

If you chose "YES" select one of the following number of terms:

2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____ Other _____

11. Should there be an Candidates Forum prior to the election ?
Yes _____ No _____

12. Should we continue with the Election Candidates News Letter?
Yes _____ No _____

a. How do we ensure it gets to electors before they have to vote (especially off reserve electors)

13. Under the present Indian Act election system the position of Chief does not need to be a Band member. Should the Chief and Councillor positions all be held by Band Members?
Yes _____ No _____

14. Should Employees/Administration staff be eligible to be candidates for Chief & Council?
Yes _____ No _____ If yes should;

a. They be allowed to hold their job with pay and function as leadership?
Yes _____ No _____

b. Should they have to resign their position _____
Yes _____ No _____

c. Should take a leave from their position ; Yes /or/ No
Once nominated _____
Once Elected _____
Non of the Above _____

15. Should elected officials swear an Oath of Office once elected?
Yes _____ No _____

16. The Election Code process requires an appeal process, that excludes INAC. Should the appeal process have an Election Appeal Committee?
Yes _____ No _____

17. The current term of office for Chief and Council is 2 years. How long do you think this term should be?
2yrs _____ 3yrs _____ 4yrs _____ Other: _____

18. Council presently consists of 8 councillors. How many councillors should be elected to represent BFN?
3, _____ 4, _____, 5 _____, 6, _____, 7, _____ 8, _____ 9, _____ 10, _____ 11, _____ 12, _____ Other _____

19. Presently a candidate can run for both the position of Chief and Councillor. What positions should a person be able to run for. (Choose 1) :

Both Chief & Council _____
Chief (only) _____
Council (only) _____

20. Should there be a refundable deposit for those running for Chief and Council?
Yes _____ No _____ If yes suggested amount _____

21. Should there be a position described as Head Councillor or Vice-Chief?
Yes _____ No _____

- a. If Yes
 - i. Should it be highest number of votes for Councillor?
Yes _____ No _____
 - ii. Should the position be filled by a Councillor, appointed by Council?
Yes _____ No _____
 - iii. Should it be a separate position voted on by the membership?
 - iv. Other

GENERAL GOVERNANCE QUESTIONS

22. Should general membership meetings be mandatory ?
Yes _____ No _____
23. How often would you like to see general membership meetings happen?
monthly _____ ; every 3 months _____ ; every six months _____ ; Other _____
24. Presently the Chief is not allowed to vote on issues at meetings that are before the Council, unless it is to break a tie. (Old style INAC rules)
a. Do you think the Chief should be able to vote on matters before Council?
Yes _____ No _____
25. Should there be a position described as Head Councillor or Vice-Chief?
Yes _____ No _____
- a. If Yes
- i. Should it be highest number of votes for Councillor?
Yes _____ No _____
- ii. Should the position be filled by a Councillor, appointed by Council?
Yes _____ No _____
- iii. Should it be a separate position voted on by the membership?
- iv. Other _____

26. Should there be more financial reporting of all Band entities and departments, including for example, Band Administration, Blue Heron Industrial Park, Rankin Arena, Bingo Hall and all entities we own fully, partially or are partners in?
Yes _____ No _____
- a. If yes should;
- i. budgets be presented and
- ii. Operating statements showing all expenses - including
- iii. Other: _____

Comments/Suggestions:

Thank You for Your Input