

Resolution of the Dene Nation Assembly

Resolution #2

Re: Constitutional Reform - Membership of the Dene Nation

Whereas the Dene National Chief was elected on a mandate to reform the Constitution and By-laws of the Dene Nation; and

Whereas the Dene National Chief appointed a Constitutional Reform Commission (CRC), which includes both a Chiefs Working Group and a technical group; and

Whereas the CRC conducted consultations with Dene leaders and communities while developing a new Constitution and By-law for the Dene Nation; and

Whereas the provisions of the proposed new Constitution and By-laws represent a better and more accurate description of the mandate, objectives and structure of the Dene Nation,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The following provisions of the existing Dene Nation By-law are hereby repealed:

1. MEMBERSHIP

1.1 Each of the five (5) Dene Territories shall be a Member of the Dene Nation, namely: Gwich'in, Sahtú, Deh Cho Territory Government, Tłı̨chǫ Government, and Akaitcho Territory Government,

1.1(a) In these By-laws the expression "Dene Territories" is interchangeable with and has the same meaning as the expression "Dene Regions," in the singular or the plural, as the circumstances may require.

1.2 The Dene Territories shall be made up of the Dene Communities, as follows:

Gwich'in: Inuvik, Aklavik, Tsiigehtchic, and Teetl'it Zeh (Fort McPherson)

Sahtú: K'áhbamítúé (Colville Lake), Tulít'a, Rádeyìlìkóé (Fort Good Hope), and Délı̨ne

De Cho Territory Government: Chi Ta Gotine (Tulít'a), Pedzéh Kí (Wrigley), Lı́ı̨dlı̨ Kųę Fort Simpson), Tthets'ek'ehdeli Koe (Jean Marie River), Zahti Koe (Fort Providence), Tthenáágó (Nahanni Butte), Echaot'ıe Kųę (Fort Liard),

K'aagee Tu (Kakisa Lake), Sambaa K'e (Trout Lake), Katl'o Dehe (Hay River Dene Reserve), and Ts'ueh Nda (West Point)

Tłıchǫ Government: Behchokǫ (Rae-Edzo), Whatı (Lac La Martre), Gamèti (Rae Lakes), and Wekweèti (Snare Lake)

Akaičho Territory Government: Deninu K-ue (Fort Resolution), Salt River (Fort Smith), Łutsël K'é, Smiths Landing (Fort Fitzgerald), T'èʔehda (Dettah), Ndiłǫ and Tadoule Lake (Manitoba).

- 1.3 Each Member of the Dene Nation shall be self-governing and determine and administer its own membership, including who may be a “Dene Citizen”, and its representation in the Dene Nation.
- 1.4 A Member may withdraw from the Dene Nation by notice in writing given to the Executive and the withdrawal shall take effect thirty (30) days thereafter.
- 1.5 New Members of the Dene Nation and new Dene communities shall be added by resolution of the Dene National Assembly.
- 1.6 Reinstatement of a Member shall occur by resolution of the Dene National Assembly.

2. In place of the repealed provisions, the following Membership provisions of the proposed new Constitution are hereby approved:

3.0 MEMBERSHIP OF THE DENE NATION

- 3.1 The Members of the Dene Nation are the five Dene Territories or Regions, namely the Gwich'in, Sahtú, Dehcho Territory Government, Tłıchǫ Government and Akaičho Territorial Government.
- 3.2 In addition to the five Dene Territories or Regions, Dene Communities which are not affiliated with any of the five Regions or Territories, known as Independent Dene Communities, are Members of the Dene Nation.
- 3.3 Each Dene Community and Dene Territory or Region will determine and administer its own membership, including who is a “Citizen” for the purposes of their respective Territories, Regions and communities.

3. And in place of the repealed provisions, the following Membership provisions of the proposed new Organizational By-law are hereby approved:

2.0 MEMBERSHIP OF THE DENE NATION

2.1 The Members of the Dene Nation are the Dene Territories and the Independent Dene Communities.

2.2 New Members shall be added by resolution of the National Assembly.

2.3 A Member may withdraw by notice in writing given to the Executive and the withdrawal shall take effect thirty (30) days thereafter.

2.4 Reinstatement of a Member shall occur by resolution of the National Assembly.

Moved: Chief Robert Charlie

Seconded: Chief Stanley Sanguetz, JMR

Date: March 17, 2021, Yellowknife