

Resolution of the Dene Nation Assembly

Resolution # 8

Re: Constitutional Reform - Amending and Interpreting the Constitution and By-Law

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 an amended Constitution and By-law for the Dene Nation; and

Whereas the provisions of the proposed amended 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 The following provisions of the existing Constitution and By-law are hereby repealed:

9.0 CHANGES IS CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

9.1 These By-Laws and the Constitution of the Dene Nation shall not be altered, varied, or rescinded in whole or in part except by a Special Resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-quarters (75%) of the Voting Delegates who are present in person or by proxy at a meeting of the National Assembly provided that repeal or amendment of such By-Laws shall not be enforced or acted upon until the approval of the Minister of Industry has been obtained.

9.2 The Notice required in paragraphs 2.8 and 2.9 of these By-Laws shall be sufficient for the purpose of amending these By-Laws or the Constitution.

10.0 INTERPRETATION OF THE BY-LAWS

10.1 Nothing in the Constitution or By-Laws of the Dene Nation shall be interpreted in a manner that interferes with or may have adverse effect upon the Treaty or Aboriginal Rights and interest of Dene Citizens, Dene Territories, or Dene Communities.

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 In place of the repealed provisions, the following provisions of the proposed amended Constitution are hereby approved:

15.0 AMENDING THIS CONSTITUTION

15.1 The Constitution of the Dene Nation shall not be altered, varied, or rescinded in whole or in part except by a Special Resolution as set out in the By-laws.

15.2 The Notice required in the By-laws shall be sufficient for the purpose of amending the Constitution.

16.0 INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

16.1 Nothing in the Constitution or By-Laws of the Dene Nation shall be interpreted in a way that interferes with or may have any adverse effects upon the Treaty or Aboriginal Rights, title and interests of Dene Citizens, Dene Territories, or Dene Communities, including rights or jurisdictions recognized in a Comprehensive Land Claim or self-government agreement.

16.2 In situations where this Constitution or the By-laws are silent, the Dene Nation shall be governed by Dene Laws, traditions and customs.

3. And the following provisions of the amended Organizational By-law are hereby approved:

N/A

Moved: Chief Daniel Masazumi

Seconded: Levi MacDonald

Date: April 15, 2021; Inuvik