



NEZAADIKAANG FIRST NATION

COUNCIL OF ELDERS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Elders and Seniors of Nezaadiikaang represent the Cultural and Territorial integrity of the Anishinaabe.

DEFINITIONS

“Elder” means a man or woman of age recognized by the Community as knowledgeable, wise and experienced in the life ways of the people and from whom guidance and advice is sought.

“Senior” means any member of the Nezaadiikaang 55 years of age and older.

“Governing Council” means the Chief and Council in quorum.

“Elders In Assembly” means the gathering of Elders and Seniors of Nezaadiikaang,

“Council of Elders” means the senior citizens (60 plus years of age) selected by the Elders In Assembly.

“Nezaadiikaang” also refers to the Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation

1. ELDERS IN ASSEMBLY

1.1 The Elders In Assembly may adopt its own procedures consistent with traditional and non-traditional procedures.

2. THE COUNCIL OF ELDERS

- 2.1 The Council of Elders shall advise the Governing Council.
- 2.2 Attend all meetings and functions as requested by the Governing Council
- 2.3 Assist on all traditional and non-traditional matters.
- 2.4 Provide advice on history, language, traditional life ways and governance.
- 2.5 Open and close meetings.
- 2.6 Provide an annual report at the General Membership Meeting.

3. COMPOSITION AND TENURE

- 3.1 There will be six Elders, with a quorum of four, selected to sit on the Council of Elders for a 3 year term.
- 3.2 The six Elders will sit together as one representing unity and harmony.
- 3.2 An Elder may be selected for any number of terms.

4. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE

- 4.1 Members of the Elders Council will be respected and of good character.
- 4.2 The Elders Council is subject to the policies and procedures of the First Nation.

5. VACANCIES

- 5.1 The Elders may fill any vacancy on the Elders Council with the Elder who placed fifth at the preceding selection of the Elders Council.

6. SELECTION PROCESS

- 6.1 Appoint Chair.
- 6.2 Chair calls for nominations.
- 6.3 Chair confirms acceptance of nominations.
- 6.4 Nominees to enter circle.
- 6.5 Each Senior shall stand behind the nominee of his/her choice.
- 6.6 The Elder receiving the least number of supporting Seniors shall withdraw from future consideration in this selection.
- 6.7 The final selection of Elders will be confirmed by a declaration of consensus by the Elders In Assembly.
- 6.8 The Chair shall submit the consensus decision of the Elders In Assembly to the Governing Council.

7. INDUCTION FEAST AND CEREMONY

- 7.1 Induction of the Elders Council will take place at a Community Feast of Honour.
- 7.2 The sitting Elders shall conduct an induction ceremony for newly appointed Elders.

8. ORIENTATION

- 8.1 All Elders Council members will be given an orientation session after induction, on the State of Affairs of the First Nation, at a time designated by the Chief.

9. REMUNERATION

9.1 The Governing Council may fix a rate of honorarium, remuneration and other financial considerations for the members of the Elders Council for the performance of functions set out herein.

10. EFFECTIVE DATE AND AMENDMENTS

10.1 The Governing Council along with the Elders Council may make amendments to this document and those amendments will be brought to a Gathering of Elders of the First Nation for discussion and decision.

10.2 All amendments shall supersede previous provisions on the effective date of such amendments.

Note: Annexes to be attached from time to time as approved by the Elders in Assembly.

This Elders Council Terms of Reference is ratified by a majority vote of the Elders In Assembly this 18th day of April, 2009, Thunder Bay, Ontario.

Signatures:

Carol Peters	H. Peters
Ray Peters	Bill Chapman
Shirley Churchill	Wesley Chapman
Kenia Hernandez	L. Chapman
Ally McNeil	Maerahn
Dock Tompania	Ann S. Wolf
_____	Marion Sanders
Bruno Labrie	Julia Meadus
Sharon Churchill	Herold Silliker
	Frances Shekubkome
	Eddy Boucher

Jack Boushkin
Shirley Shelobman
Ruby Ignace

Julie Kusmak

James P. Lee
Alice Chicago.

Bill Boucher +
Hermel Chicago

Jama Churchill
Evelyn Chicago

Jose Cho

Fred Chymer

Frances May
Jane Peters

Vakui Ma

Margaret Savoff