



October 28, 2022

Ta newyáp siiyááh, siiyáy, n7sekw'í7tel.

(Dear respected people, relatives, and family.)

You are all invited to attend the Squamish Nation's 2022 Annual General Assembly! This event is an important governance event required by the Squamish Nation Election & Referendum Law. The Annual General Assembly is on Saturday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at Chief Joe Mathias Centre, Totem Hall, and Online.

**The purpose of the Annual General Assembly is to give our people an opportunity to provide direction to the Squamish Nation government.** The process used at the Annual General Assembly is for our people to submit the recommendation through a draft resolution and our people vote to approve or oppose a vote after a discussion on the draft resolution. In our traditions and history as the Squamish People, our people would come together at these types of community meetings to work together in a good way to move our Nation forward on important topics.

This year, we have received resolutions covering important topics ranging from developing a Squamish Nation Constitution, Revision of the Membership Code, Equitable Housing Policies, and raising of Annual Distribution Payments. We will begin the day and the good work with drumming and song and open the floor for the community to adopt the agenda, including these resolutions from community members. **Please review the attached draft resolutions submitted by community members and reviewed by technical staff to provide helpful advice to improve the clarity of the recommendations.**

**The Annual General Assembly can only happen if a quorum is achieved.** A quorum is **the minimum number of people needed to hold meetings or make decisions.** For example, the quorum required to have a Council Meeting is four (4) Councillors and the Chairperson out of the eight (8) members of the Council.

**The quorum for the Annual General Assembly is 12% of the eligible voter population.** This means **379 Squamish Nation members of voting age must be present by 10:45 am on**



**Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**November 26<sup>th</sup> to meet the quorum requirements for** the Annual General Assembly. This is a rule set by our People in the Election & Referendum Law – Chapter 6. This rule can only be changed through a referendum of eligible voters to amend the Election & Referendum Law.

Our team will have more information to share as we draw closer to November 26<sup>th</sup>, but please do not hesitate to contact our Council Administration Services team if you have any questions about this process.

We look forward to seeing you there and working together to build our Nation.

**Khelsilem**

**Council Chairperson**

Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh Úxwumixw



**Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #1**

**SUBJECT: Squamish Nation Constitutional Working Group**

*Submitted by Paitsmauk – Dave Jacobs*

*Seconded by Syetáxtn – Chris Lewis*

**WHEREAS,**

1. There has been a desire expressed by Squamish Nation citizens that the time has come for the Squamish Nation to develop a constitution;
2. The development of a constitution should be guided by the history, traditions, language, and culture of the Squamish people;
3. The development of a constitution should contain provisions that define who qualifies to be a citizen of the Squamish Nation;
4. The development of a constitution should contain provisions that declare and assert our aboriginal rights and the title to the lands within our traditional territory;
5. The development of the constitution should contain provisions that reflect an accountable and transparent government structure that is responsive to the collective and the individual rights of the citizens of the Squamish Nation;
6. The development of a constitution should contain provisions that speak to the system of electing the Squamish Nation representatives who form the Government of our Nation;
7. The development of a constitution should contain provisions that establish an accountability framework the Government of our Nation will follow in doing its Work;
8. The development of a constitution could contain provisions that prescribe:
  - a. fundamental principles of the Skwxwú7meshulh and how it is to be governed



- b. Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7mesh-ulh system of government, including specific responsibilities on the Squamish Nation government (ie. executive, legislative, and judicial powers)
  - c. The Aboriginal, Indigenous, civil and human rights and responsibilities of those who are citizens of Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7mesh-ulh and non-citizens in Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7meshulh
  - d. mechanisms for protection of the interests of Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7mesh Stélmexw
  - e. rights and responsibilities of Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7mesh Stélmexw
  - f. the rights of the lands, waters, and environment of the Sḵw̓x̓w̓ú7mesh territory
  - g. procedures and process that speak to the management of our territory, including our reserve lands, and such provisions should define the requirements for consultations with the citizens of the Squamish Nation when decisions are made on the use of those lands
  - h. amending formula for the constitution
  - i. Any other matters as determined by a working group focused on the development of a constitution; and
9. The development of a constitution should contain a Financial Administration Law that will prescribe policies and procedures that speak to the management of our funds and lay out the roles & responsibilities of Nation Management, Nation Council and Nation Citizens in decisions made on the use of those funds.

### **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Citizens of the Squamish Nation request that Council strike a constitutional working group (“the Constitutional Working Group”) made up of Citizens of the Nation, Council members and Nation staff whose goal it will be to bring forward a draft constitution for consideration and a vote by referendum by the end of the 2021-2025 term of Council.
2. The Citizens of the Squamish Nation request that Council sends a notice to all Citizens of the Nation advising them of the intention to create the Constitutional Working Group made up of elders, youth, citizens on reserve, citizens off reserve, Nation staff and Council. Citizens interested in serving on the working group



**Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

should indicate in writing their willingness to participate to the Nation through an established process.

3. The Citizens of the Squamish Nation request that the necessary administrative support be provided by the Nation to support the work of the Constitutional Working Group pursuant to a budget prepared and approved by Council.
4. The Citizens of the Squamish Nation request that a work plan, budget and process map for the Constitutional Working Group be prepared for the 2022-2023 fiscal year and presented for consideration by Council and our citizens at a special purpose general meeting to be called for a time in 2023.

*THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK*



**Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #2**

**SUBJECT: Review and Membership Feedback on Squamish Nation Governance Policy and Election & Referendum Law**

*Submitted by Anjeanette Dawson*

*Seconded by Marcie Baker*

**WHEREAS,**

- A. Members have voiced concerns about the existing Squamish Nation Governance Policy; and
- B. Members have requested an inclusive and transparent review of the Governance Policy with a desire for it to reflect Membership's authentic feedback and recommendations.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Membership requests that Council undertake a review of the Governance Policy and seek feedback and incorporate recommendations from Membership through community engagement.
2. Membership requests that the findings of this review be presented back to Membership at the next People's Assembly.

*THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK*



**Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #3**

**SUBJECT: Review of Squamish Nation Policies Regarding Remuneration for Cultural Work**

*Submitted by Anjeanette Dawson*

*Seconded by Marcie Baker*

**WHEREAS,**

- A. Section 6.22 of the Squamish Nation Governance Policy states "Council members shall not accept a personal gift, fee, honorarium, or a personal benefit that is connected with the Council member's duties from any outside party";
- B. Members are concerned that Section 6.22 is not being properly implemented or enforced; and
- C. There is a lack of clarity as to how elected officials and staff of the Squamish Nation are remunerated for cultural work that they engage in as a part of/or during their work.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. Membership requests that Council instruct Nation staff to review any policy where Squamish Nation elected officials and staff can accept gifts or money for themselves, including cultural work while being paid as an elected official or staff member.
2. Membership requests that the relevant policies include a mechanism to implement, monitor and enforce the above to ensure open and transparent operations of Council, and to ensure no real or perceived conflict of interest.

*THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK*



**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #4**

**SUBJECT: Financial Equity for On and Off-reserve**

*MOVER: Anjeanette Dawson*

*SECONDER: Valerie Newbreast*

**WHEREAS,**

- A. Members have raised concerns regarding a perceived inequity of services between Members who live on and off-reserve;
- B. For the purpose of this resolution, off-reserve Members include all Members living outside of Squamish Nation reserves;
- C. Members have raised concerns regarding the funding, renovations, access to new appliances, access to programs, the provision of services including water, sewage and garbage pickup for every home located on reserve, regardless of whether the resident is a Nation Member or not with off-reserve members not receiving similar benefits; and
- D. Members have raised concerns that the Nation's budgets do not include a budget for off-reserve Members.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- 1. Membership requests that Council instruct Nation staff to undertake a review of the Nation's Own-Source Revenue (OSR) budget to create a budget that is solely for off-reserve Members.
- 2. The requested budget should provide equitable services and amenities to off-reserve Members as provided to on-reserve Members.
- 3. The requested budget should include a process that is not invasive or lengthy, does not require the filling out of numerous forms, and one that does not discourage off-reserve Members to apply for funding and services being made available to on-reserve Members.
- 4. Membership requests that Council shares the Nation's budget review with Membership at the next People's Assembly.





**Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #5**

**SUBJECT: Equitable Housing Policies for all Squamish Nation Members**

*MOVER: Anjeanette Dawson*

*SECONDER: Jackie Williams*

**WHEREAS,**

- A. Members have expressed concerns about the Nation's housing policies, allocation process and the charging of fees to Members who reside in certain housing units;
- B. Members have raised concerns that this has been an ongoing issue, that houses are not being allocated or built every year, and the housing lists are not being followed; and
- C. Members have raised concerns about Members who have an interest in a house and lot on reserve doing such acts as: renting out their house, selling the house, building a house but not moving in, having another family move in, or having two homes.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- 1. Membership requests that clear Nation housing policies are created, implemented and enforced.
- 2. Members request that these policies are acknowledged and presented at the next People's Assembly.
- 3. Membership requests that a consistent policy be created that a fee be charged to every house on-reserve and not just charged to those residing in a townhouse or condo.

*THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK*



**Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #6**

**SUBJECT: Revisions to the Membership Code**

*MOVER: Anjeanette Dawson*

*SECONDER: Marcie Baker*

**WHEREAS,**

- A. The federal government (Indigenous Services Canada) has the jurisdiction to define the status of an individual, effectively taking control away from the Squamish Nation to determine their Membership;
- B. Members have raised concerns that the current Membership Code and process is too restrictive, slow and leaves our grandchildren unable to gain Membership;
- C. This has been discussed by Membership in the past; and
- D. Members have expressed the desire for the current Membership Code to be updated.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- 1. Membership requests that Council instruct Nation staff to undertake a review of the Membership Code and process.
- 2. Membership requests that the Membership Code and process is revised to allow our children and grandchildren to attain membership with our Nation.
- 3. Membership requests that Council directs Nation staff to review the transferring of jurisdiction regarding the defining of status from the federal government to the Squamish Nation.

*THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK*



**Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw**

Squamish Nation

**SQUAMISH NATION NOVEMBER 2022 PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (AGM)**

**RESOLUTION #7**

**SUBJECT: Raising Membership's Distribution**

*MOVER: Anjeanette Dawson*

*SECONDER: Marcie Dawson*

**WHEREAS,**

- A. Members have identified the need to raise the annual distribution to Members;
- B. The last time Membership Distribution was raised for Members was in 1998; and
- C. The cost of living has increased significantly over the past few years.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- 1. Membership requests that Council instruct Nation staff to undertake an analysis of the feasibility of increasing the annual distribution paid to members and report back to Membership at the next People's Assembly.
- 2. This analysis should include an analysis of the frequency of increasing the annual distribution taking into account factors such as cost of living and other inflationary factors.
- 3. Membership requests that Council instruct Nation staff to develop an engagement plan with Members as part of the feasibility study.

*THE REST OF THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK*