

Curve Lake First Nation Governance Code Project

The current federal government has, in recent years, made many modifications /adjustments to laws that affect First Nation people. Although a few may be positive to our community, many have significant impacts to the way we live our lives. With that in mind, the First Nation is taking steps to make changes that put our community in charge of important aspects of our lives. Currently, Curve Lake has elected our leadership using an archaic system that is part of the Indian Act (Section 74). We want to know if the community wants to keep the current election process in place or take control of this function by way of a **Custom Election Code**.

What is a Custom Election Code?

A Custom Election Code is, in its simplest definition, is a First Nation election that takes place and section 74 of the Indian Act does not apply. A custom election code conditions is developed by the community and would include clauses specifying the community's desires for some or all of the following areas:

- Term length of elected leaders
- Council size and make-up
- Candidate residency rules
- Candidate criminal record check
- Candidates who are First Nations' employees
- Candidates' knowledge of traditional language and culture
- Candidates' financial status
- Candidate age
- Electoral Officer impartiality
- Residency requirements for electors
- Non-resident voting procedures
- Nomination procedures
- Accepting or rejecting a nomination
- Process for launching an appeal
- Who hears and decides appeals
- Vacancies
- Other conditions that may be important or relevant to the First Nation community

We need to hear from you!

Through the tendering process, we have hired Shagi Consulting Services to facilitate this project for us. They are very experienced in First Nation electoral processes and need to gather information from the community. There will be a number of parts to the data collection process. In addition to a community survey process, they will be hosting a community meeting on February 23rd, 2013 @ 1:00pm @ the Community Centre to introduce the community to Custom Elections and to gather input from you. We need to know what may be of real importance to you concerning our electoral process. Please plan on attending. There will be draw prizes, coffee and light refreshments.

*Community Meeting: Saturday, February 23rd, 2013 – 1:00pm
Curve Lake Community Centre*