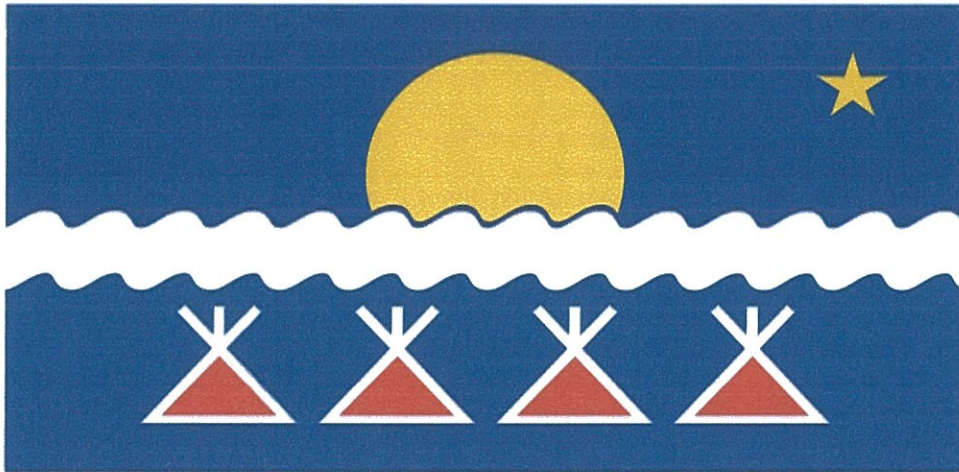


Tł̥ch̥ Government



Tł̥ch̥ Assembly

Rules of Order

Approved February 19, 2015

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Preamble

The Tłıchq are a united people and believe in collective responsibility. Tłıchq unity is based on preserving, protecting and promoting the Tłıchq language culture and way of life. Consensus decision-making process is the Traditional Tłıchq governance system and the Tłıchq Government shall abide by this tradition. All Tłıchq leaders are role models and leaders must act in the most respectful manner. Tłıchq leaders shall follow the principles of the Tłıchq Constitution, Tłıchq Agreement and Tłıchq Laws.

PART 1 – DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION

1. In these Rules:

“Assembly” has the same meaning as in the Tjchq Constitution.

“Chiefs Executive Council” has the same meaning as in the Tjchq Constitution.

“Speaker” has the same meaning as in the Tjchq Constitution.

“Tjchq Government” means the Tjchq Government and its institutions as defined in the Tjchq Constitution.

2. These rules are subject to Tjchq laws, Tjchq Constitution and Tjchq Agreement.
3. The proceedings of the Tjchq Assembly shall be conducted according to these rules.
4. If a matter or procedure is not provided for in these rules, the matter or the procedural issue under question will be referred to the Proceedings Committee for review and recommendation to the Assembly.
5. The official language of the Tjchq Nation is Tjchq and English. Every reasonable effort shall be made by the Assembly members to speak Tjchq at all sessions.

PART 2 – OATH OF OFFICE AND REGISTER OF MEMBERS

6. Each member shall take an oath of office or an affirmation.
7. Upon taking oath of office or an affirmation, the member shall sign the registry.
8. The Laws Guardian shall keep a permanent registry and the registry shall include the following:

- a) Name of the member
- b) Signature of member
- c) Date of swearing in
- d) Date member cease to be a member
- e) Witness signature

PART 3 – SESSIONS

Regular Sessions

9. The time and place of regular session is as follows:
- a) There shall be at least five regular sessions per year and one of which shall be held during the annual gathering.
 - b) The Assembly may have additional regular sessions as deem necessary.
 - c) There shall be a ten (10) day public notice.
 - d) Regular sessions shall be held on a rotational basis among the four ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ communities and in the following order: Behchokò, Whatì, Gamètì and Wekweètì. This section is subject to the scheduled annual gatherings.
 - e) There shall be an Assembly caucus on the first day of each regular session starting at 10:00 am and regular session shall start at 1:00 pm.
 - f) There may be additional caucus as deemed necessary by the Assembly.
 - g) Regular sessions shall be called to order by the Speaker at 10:00 am other than the first day.
 - h) Regular sessions shall be adjourned by the Speaker at 5:00 pm
 - i) Speaker may vary the times of the regular session when necessary.

Order of business at Special or Emergency Sessions

16. The order of business at special or emergency session shall be as follows:
 - a) Call to order
 - b) Opening drumming and prayer
 - c) Opening comments by Grand Chief
 - d) Opening comments by host Chief
 - e) Agenda shall be restricted to purpose of the session
 - f) TłıchŦ Government business including enactment of TłıchŦ laws
 - g) Closing comments Grand Chief
 - h) Closing prayer and drumming
17. In the event that the Grand Chief cannot continue in office, a designated Chief will provide opening comments under section 16 c).
18. In the event that a TłıchŦ law is to be considered at the special or emergency session, the proposed TłıchŦ law shall be circulated to the members in advance of the session.

Annual Gatherings

19. The Speaker shall chair the Annual Gathering and the TłıchŦ Assembly session during the Annual Gathering.
20. The Speaker has full authority and discretion to preserve order and decorum of the Annual Gathering and TłıchŦ Assembly Session at the Annual Gathering.
21. Any person under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs will be not allowed in the session.
22. All cellular phones and other transmitting devices must be on mute.
23. VHF mobile radiophones must be turned off before they can be brought into the session.

- f) ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ
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- i) ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ

Treaty Medal

- 31. The Treaty Medal from 1921 (or its replica) shall be prominently displayed at all sessions of the Assembly.

Quorum

- 32. A quorum of all sessions shall be nine (9) members and shall include the Grand Chief.
- 33. The Speaker shall call quorum.
- 34. In the event there is no quorum on the first day of session, the Speaker shall adjourn the session to the second day.
- 35. In the event there is no quorum on the second day of session, the Speaker shall adjourn the session to a later date.

Attendance of Members and Speaker at Sessions

- 36. Unless the members or Speaker have reasonable excuse, the members and Speaker must attend all sessions.
- 37. Reasonable excuse may include:
 - a) Household domestic emergency;
 - b) Illness;
 - c) Death in immediate family;
 - d) Transportation problems;
 - e) Serious community emergency; or
 - f) Employment commitments.
- 38. In the event the Speaker cannot attend a session, the Speaker shall make every reasonable effort to provide notice in advance.

Opening and Closing of Sessions

49. Each session will start and end with drumming.
50. Each day of the session will begin with an opening prayer and end with a closing prayer.

Recordings

51. All sessions of the ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ shall be audio recorded.
52. Recorded sessions may be transcribed.
53. All regular sessions may be broadcast.

Carry Over of Agenda Items

54. Any unfinished business or matters tabled by the ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ and carried to the next Assembly, prior to the general election of the Grand Chief, shall be considered to have expired on that agenda.

PART 4– SPEAKING AT SESSIONS

Members of the Assembly

55. Each member has the right to speak.
56. A member can only speak once recognized by the Speaker.
57. Members should not speak longer than necessary.
58. The Speaker may determine the length of time the member is allowed to speak.
59. Members shall speak to the matter that is on the agenda.
60. The member's comments should relate to the matter within the responsibility of the ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ and not related to matters;

- a) that is pending in a court or before a judge;
 - b) matters being contemplated for judicial action by Tłıchq Government; or
 - c) before any quasi-judicial body or investigative body.
61. The member's comments should be factual, not based on hearsay or second hand information.
62. Members can ask question to the appropriate persons on matters before the Assembly.
63. Questions by members should be specific and relating to the matter before the Assembly.
64. The members should refrain from referring to persons or single out persons.
65. The Speaker may determine the matter has been dealt with in sufficient matter and move to the next matter on the agenda.
66. The Speaker may request that an issue of urgent public importance or emergency be dealt with by the Assembly.
67. An urgent public importance or emergency may be considered only if the circumstances involved;
- a) could not practicably be brought to the Assembly;
 - b) threaten the well-being of the Tłıchq Nation as a whole, the Tłıchq community; or
 - c) is so grave that it would be imprudent or impractical to delay the matter.

Inviting others to Speak

68. The Speaker may invite the following persons to give oral report, table a written report or other document, or address the Assembly at any time during the Session.
- a) Tłıchq Executive Officer;

- b) Laws Guardian;
- c) Department Director;
- d) Legal Counsel;
- e) A member of the ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ' Advisory Council;
- f) Representative of ᑕᑭᑭᑭ ᑕᑭᑭᑭ Institution; or
- g) Any other persons as determined by the Speaker whose participation may assist the Assembly.

Inviting dignitaries or visitors to speak

- 69. With the consent of the members, the Speaker may invite a visiting dignitary to address the Assembly.
- 70. The members shall show respect by remaining seated and refrain from talking, making noise or causing disturbance during the address.
- 71. Should it be necessary, the Speaker may allow members to ask questions.

PART 5 – CONSENSUS AND VOTING

- 72. Only members shall consent or vote in the Assembly.
- 73. The Speaker shall seek consensus on matters before the Assembly by allowing members to provide affirmative comments on an individual basis.
- 74. In the event of no consensus, the Speaker shall declare that the matter will be dealt with by a vote.
- 75. The Speaker shall call for a vote.
- 76. Speaker shall announce final result of the vote.
- 77. If a member abstains on a vote, the member is considered to have not voted on the matter.
- 78. If the vote results in a tie, the vote is defeated.

82. The Assembly may post a proposed ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ law in the ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ communities in order for ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ citizens to provide comments or input on that proposed ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ law.
83. The Assembly shall determine the duration for the posting of the proposed ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ law.

Approval of Directive

84. A decision of the ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ Assembly, other than the consideration of ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ law, shall be by way of a directive.
85. The process for the approval of a directive by consent or a vote is as follows:
 - a) Items on an approved agenda requiring action and decision by the ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ Assembly shall be considered.
 - b) Items approved will be consolidated as a directive.
 - c) The Assembly will review and approve the directive by consensus or vote.
 - d) Grand Chief shall sign the approved directive.

Approval for Regulations

86. A regulation under any ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ law has been enacted when:
 - a) the Assembly has approved by consensus or vote to accept the regulation; and
 - b) the regulation has been signed by the Grand Chief.
87. In a ᑕᑭᑕᑕᑕ law, a power to enact regulations includes, for the purpose of carrying out the law according to its intent, the authority;

- a) to enact regulations that are ancillary to it and not inconsistent with it;
- b) to provide for administrative and procedural matters for which no express, or only partial provision has been made;
- c) to limit the application of a regulation in time or place or both;
- d) to prescribe the amount of a fee authorized by the law;
- e) to provide that a contravention is an offence;
- f) to provide that a person is guilty of an offence; or
- g) to repeal or amend the regulation, or make others in place of it.

Public Registry of ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ Laws

88. The Laws Guardian must deposit in the Register,
- a) the original copy of each ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ law enacted by the Assembly, as soon as it has been signed by the Grand Chief; or
 - b) the original copy of any other document required or authorized under a ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ law to be deposited in the register.
89. The Laws Guardian shall attached to the approved ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ law a certified cover page with the following:
- a) Date and result of the vote of the Assembly;
 - b) That the Grand Chief signed the approved ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ law;
 - d) Disposition of the ᑕᑭᑭᑭᑭ Law; and
 - e) Signature of the Laws Guardian.

PART 8 – COMMITTEES

90. The Assembly shall approve terms of reference for the committees.
91. When in attendance, the chair shall preside over the meetings.
92. If the chair is absent, a member chosen by committee members shall chair that particular meeting.
93. The chair or another member that is presiding over that meeting can vote and take part in proceedings of the committee.
94. A quorum of the Committee shall be majority of the members.
95. The committee shall make decisions by consensus or majority vote.
96. The committee shall keep a summary of its proceedings.
97. Subject to Tłıchq laws and these rules, the committee may determine its own procedures.
98. The committee shall report to the Assembly as required.

PART 9 – AMENDMENT

99. A member may propose an amendment or amendments to these rules to the Assembly.
100. The Assembly may consider the proposed amendment or amendments and refer the proposed amendment or amendments to the proceedings committee.
101. The proceedings committee shall consider the proposed amendment or amendments.
102. The proceedings committee shall make recommendation to the Assembly.

- d) Member must adhere to standard of behaviour that demonstrates the respect for all members.
- e) Members shall shake hands after each session.

Order

107. The Speaker may call to order any member whose conduct in the Assembly contravenes these rules.
108. Every member shall comply with the Speaker's orders.

Suspension of Member

109. The Speaker may suspend a member if the Speaker is of the opinion the member;
- a) disregards the authority of the Speaker;
 - b) refuses to comply with the orders of the Speaker;
 - c) persistently and willfully obstructs the business of the Assembly;
 - d) abuses the rules; or
 - e) fails to adhere to the rules.
110. If the Speaker suspends a member, the member shall
- a) leave the session immediately;
 - b) if member does not leave, Speaker can order the member's removal;
 - c) must not attend the session or participate in any proceedings or committees during the suspension; and
 - d) must apologize to the Assembly upon re-entering the session after the suspension period.

111. A member suspended for first time shall be suspended for the remainder of the day.
112. A member suspended for the second time shall be suspended for the remainder of the session
113. A member suspended for the third time shall be dealt with in the following manner:
 - a) matter shall be referred to the proceedings committee;
 - b) the proceedings committee may call upon the member to appear before the committee; and
 - c) the proceedings committee shall meet and make recommendation to the Assembly on the appropriate disciplinary actions or remediation and may include reduced or suspension of pay.
114. At the next Session, the Assembly shall consider the recommendations of the proceedings committee.

PART 11 – CONFLICT OF INTEREST

115. Member shall declare conflict of interest on a matter before the Assembly if that member has a direct or indirect financial interest.
116. A member may request that the Speaker call upon a member to declare conflict.
117. Notwithstanding sections 115 and 116, a member is entitled to vote on indemnities, expenses, allowances and salaries of members payable by ThĪchq Government.