



ANNOUNCING CHANGES TO OUR SHXWELMÉXWELH/CONSTITUTION

We heard you! At the latest Leadership meeting, our leaders agreed to the following changes to the Stó:lō Xwexwílmexw Shxwelméxwelh.

CHANGES ARE BEING MADE BASED ON OUR COMMUNITY INPUT.



XWEXWÍLMEXWÓ:LLH LÁLÉM - YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Amend the age of youth in the Stó:lō Xwexwílmexw Shxwelméxwelh (section 8.4.1) to age 14 to age 25 (rather than age 14 to 21).
- Make a provision that no representative can hold more than one position. If a Youth representative gets elected or otherwise appointed to a Village Government, then they would resign as Youth representative.
- Amend section 8.4.2 to allow for the appointment of alternates.

SÍ:YÓLEXWE LÁLÉM - ELDERS ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Amend section 8.2 to set four years as a standard term for Village Representatives on the Elders Advisory Council.
- Amend Section 8.2.1 to allow for the appointment of alternates.
- Continue using the word Sí:yólexwe but amend the meaning in the definitions section to state that for the purposes of this Constitution the word means 'Wisdom of the Elders'.

SI:YÓ:MELH LÁLÉM - GRAND CHIEFS ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Strike the Grand Chiefs Advisory Council and allow village leadership to choose to consult with them or not.
- The title of Grand Chief carries no voting privileges or salary; it is an honorific for long service. There are no set criteria for who can become a Grand Chief and it is possible to maintain a connection to current and future Grand Chiefs through the Elders Advisory Council.

DECISION MAKING

- Section 5.2.1 of the Stó:lō Xwexwílmexw Shxwelméxwelh will read as follows: "The Yewá:l Si:yá:m Lálém (National Government) is the national government of Stó:lō Xwexwílmexw and shall make decisions by consensus or according to a voting formula as the Yewá:l Si:yá:m Lálém may enact from time to time."
- To address concerns around representation of our varied communities at the National Government table, leadership has decided to aim for consensus or use another process that will become part of the Governance Act. This act will be one of the first laws our new nation will create once we are self-governing.
- Section 3.2.1 will read as follows: "The purpose of the Stó:lō Xwexwílmexw Híkw Lálém (Government) will be to act in the best interests and the well-being of the Stó:lō Xwexwílmexw."

TREATY NEGOTIATING TEAM (TNT) REVIEW

- In addition to the changes made based on Community Input, the TNT have corrected some grammar, Halq'eméylem spellings and clarified some definitions. The Village Shxwelméxwelh (Appendix B) and Appendix C:3 have also been updated for legal reasons.

Please visit
www.sxta.bc.ca/constitution
to see a copy of the
Shxwelméxwelh/Constitution and
the Community Input Report.