



ANISHINABEK NATION GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT



25 YEARS in the Making

Updated Sept 24, 2019



HISTORY OF GOVERNANCE NEGOTIATIONS

1995

- Grand Council Resolution signed by the Chiefs-in-Assembly to authorize the Governance Negotiations

1998

- Framework Agreement signed in Ojibways of Garden River First Nation

2007

- Agreement-in-Principle signed in Nipissing First Nation

2019

- The negotiations of the *Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement* are completed



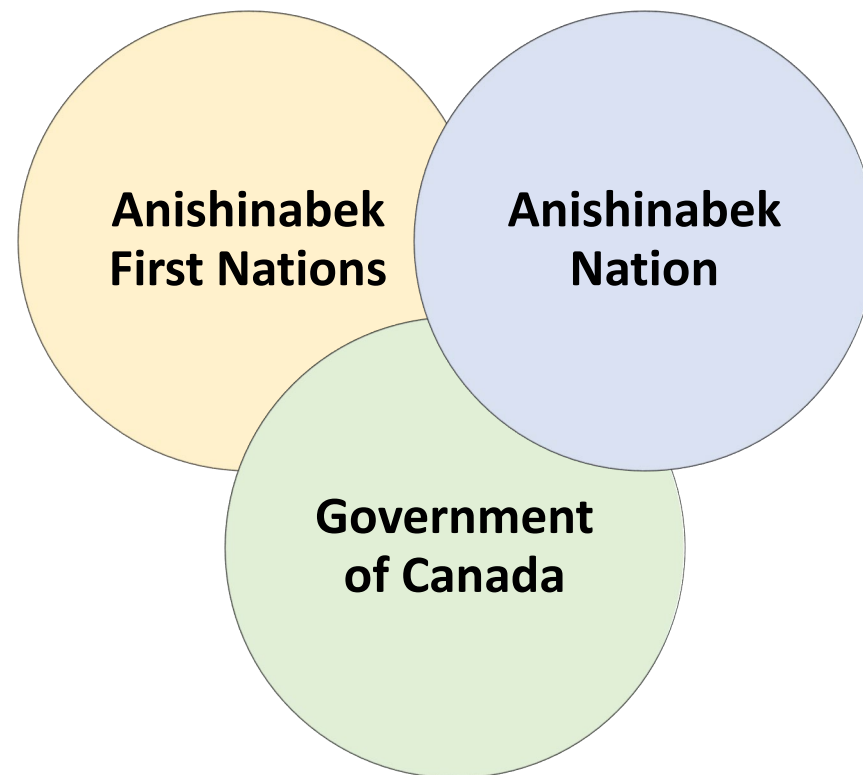
Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement



WHAT IS THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT?

It is an agreement between:

- Anishinabek First Nations
- Anishinabek Nation
- Federal Government of Canada



Anishinabek Nation Governance Agreement



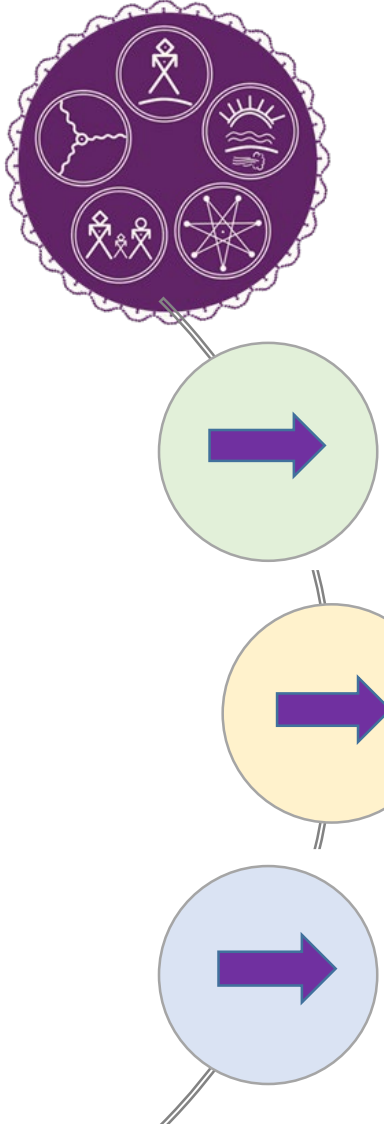
WHAT IS THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT?

This Agreement will recognize the following four (4) law-making powers for those First Nations who ratify the Agreement:

1. Language and Culture
2. Citizenship
3. Leadership Selection
4. Management and Operations



WHY HAVE A SELF-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT?



Provides formal recognition by Canada of First Nations inherent right to pass First Nation governance laws. Self-Government is an inherent right.

Provides more funding to exercise law-making powers.

Alternative recognition of laws: This means Canada can challenge First Nation Laws not passed under this Agreement and the courts may not rule in favour of the First Nations laws.





BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

1. Language and Culture Laws



- The Agreement will recognize your First Nation's authority to pass language and culture laws.
- First Nation's can restore their rightful Anishinaabe traditional ways,
- Example: could help fund Anishinaabemowin classes.





BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

2. Citizenship Laws



- This Agreement will recognized your First Nation's authority to determine who their citizens are.
- Example: the rights, privileges and responsibilities that come with that citizenship, and costs of engaging your citizens on citizenship.





BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

3. Election Laws



- This Agreement will recognize your First Nation's authority to develop its own Election Laws that reflects the way your citizens want to elect their Chief and Council.





BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

4. Management and Operations Laws



- This Agreement will recognize your First Nation's authority to pass its own *Financial administration Act*.
- No other governments will impose financial reporting requirements.
- Example: reporting of honourariums, travel expenditures, salaries and so forth.





BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

➤ New Intergovernmental Forum



- Will establish a new “Intergovernmental Forum” between Anishinabek First Nations who ratify this Agreement, and the Government of Canada.
- Provides for the establishment of a new government-to-government relationship to address matters of concern to First Nations.
- No other self-government Agreement has this provision.





BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

➤ Stable Governance Structures and Processes

- First Nations who ratify the Agreement will form the Anishinabek Nation Government.
- First Nations will decide what laws to pass at the Anishinabek Nation government level.
- First Nations will be recognized as governments with the same legal status and capacities as other governments.
- The Union of Ontario Indians will not be the government.



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BENEFITS OF THE GOVERNANCE AGREEMENT

➤ New Fiscal Framework

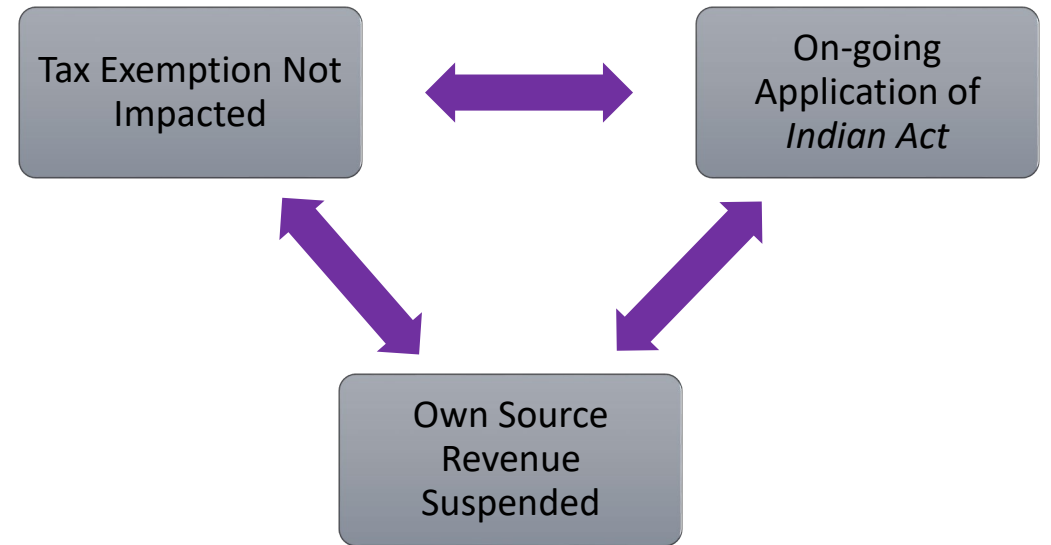
- The funding agreements related to governance will be for longer terms of 5 years with renewals.
- Will contain 7 times more funding (money) for governance functions
- Example: increased funding can be used to offset costs related to operations, elections, and citizenship laws.





IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER

- Section 87 (tax exemption) under the *Indian Act* will not be impacted by this agreement.
- *Indian Act* will still apply **except** for parts dealing with.
 - Band Lists, Elections for Chiefs and Councils, and how Band Council meetings are conducted



November 26, 2018 – Minister Bennett stated “Own Source Revenue” will be in a moratorium until further notice



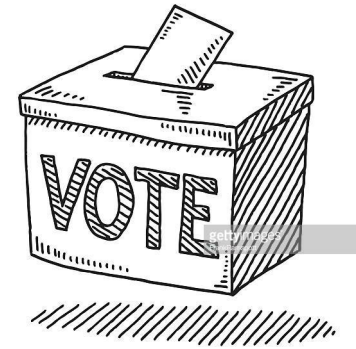


COMMUNITY APPROVAL – NEXT STEPS

Preparation for the Governance Agreement ratification vote is underway:

How does your First Nation prepare for the ratification vote?

- Each First Nation must pass a Band Council Resolution to participate in the ratification vote by October 18, 2019.
- Each First Nation must have their Constitution ratified prior to the Governance Agreement vote.
- Each First Nation must hire ratification vote staff (example: Ratification/Electoral Officer).



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COMMUNITY APPROVAL – NEXT STEPS

A Ratification Vote on the Agreement will be held from February 1, 2020 to February 29, 2020.

Voting options will include:

- electronic voting
- In person voting (Feb 25th to Feb 29th)
- Mail-in ballot voting



A vote for the Governance Agreement is a vote of the inherent right of each Anishinabek First Nation Citizen



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FIRST NATIONS AUTHORIZING A RATIFICATION VOTE

Currently, the following 20 First Nations will hold a ratification vote on the Governance Agreement

Beausoleil First Nation	Wasauksing First Nation
Curve Lake First Nation	Whitefish River First Nation
Moose Deer Point First Nation	Atikameksheng Anishnawbek
Munsee Delaware Nation	Red Rock Indian Band
Magnetawan First Nation	Michipicoten First Nation
Sheguiandah First Nation	Biigtigong Nishnaabeg
Sheshegwaning First Nation	Pic Moberg First Nation
Aundeck Omni Kaning First Nation	Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinaabek
Wahnapiatae First Nation	Mississauga #8 First Nation
Nipissing First Nation	Long Lake #58 First Nation



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QUESTIONS?

For more information on the Governance Agreement:

- www.governancevote.ca
- Toll-Free Information Line 1-833-297-9850



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