



TSAWOUT FIRST NATION

Custom Election Law Project

Community Meeting # 1 – Session A

Date: May 10, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Agenda for Today

ISC Policy Re: Conversion to a Custom Election Law

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law

- 2006 - 2015 (Woodward & Co. File Review)
- 2016 - Today

Next Steps in the STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law



Indigenous
Services
Canada
Policy

Before the
Minister
will
rescind the
s.74 order,
STAUTW
must
create its
own law
that.....

Is in a clear, written format

Addresses how:

- election appeals will be dealt with, without involvement of ISC
- amendments will be made, involving membership

Complies with:

- Principles of Fairness
- Charter of Rights and Freedoms

Is approved by electors (All Members 18+ years) in a ratification vote

- Reasonable notice of the vote to all electors
- Adequate information about the proposed Custom Election Law provided to electors in advance

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law: 2006 – 2015 (Woodward & Co. File Review)

2006

- Draft Custom Election Law from 2006 on file
- Memo indicates this was sent to AANDC for feedback
- Not clear how this version of the proposed law was developed

2010

- Process re-initiated
- Memo indicates work was done with: Election Law Committee, LMAC, Elders

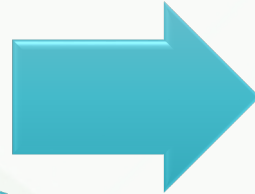
2011

- Community Questionnaires (20 completed)
- Community Open House
- Draft 2 created
- AANDC advised Tsawout FN Election Act being considered

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law: 2006 – 2015 (Woodward & Co. File Review)

2012

- January 3: Legal memo Re: FN Election Act
- June 20: Elders Mtg
- June: Drafts 2 & 5
- October 17: Legal update to Council Re project. – Recommendation that a committee be struck by Council to address outstanding issues in the current version of the proposed law



2013

- November: Drafts 6 & 7 of the Proposed Law on file
- No other information on file from this time period

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law: 2006 – 2015 (Woodward & Co. File Review)

2014

- August 1: Memo Re: What needs to be done to finalize the proposed law
- Sept – Nov: Drafts 8, 9, and Final
- December 19: Council BCR confirming voting dates, ballot question, electors list, and appointing ratification officer



2015

- January 6: Notice of Vote sent to electors
- January 22: Community meeting held to review the proposed law
- January 25: Council BCR cancelling the ratification vote for purpose of holding further community consultation

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law: 2016 - Today

2016 - 2020

STÁUTW Custom Election
Law not part of the work plan

2021

Council decision to re-initiate
Custom Election Law Work
(to be led by Community)

2022

New work plan
Hiring staff
Engaging legal counsel
Appointing Advisory
Committee
Initiate Member
Communications

- Webpage, Mail Outs, Newsletters,
Social Media, Door to Door

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law: Next Steps for 2022 and 2023

Engage Members

Advisory
Committee
Regular
Community
Meetings
Booth at
Community Events
Website / Social
Media

Topic by Topic Review and Instructions to Legal Counsel

Comparing Other
Systems
Discussing
STÁUTW
Indigenous Laws
Instructing Legal
Counsel

Drafting the Law

May be more than
one draft
Community
Reviews
ISC Review

Ratification Vote

Approve = New
Law
Not Approve = Stay
Under Indian Act

STÁUTW Path to a Custom Election Law: Topic by Topic Review and Community Meetings



Potential Topics

- Council Composition
- Term in Office
- Eligibility to be a Candidate
- Nominations and All Candidate Forums
- Voting Methods
- Election Appeals
- Council duties and responsibilities
- Council remuneration
- Resignations and By-elections
- Accountability of Council (including removal of Council Members)
- Amendment Procedures

What does discussing STÁUTW Indigenous Laws look like?

SENĆOTEN

- Words
- Phrases / Sayings
- Songs
- Stories

Deliberation / Discussion

- Oral Histories,
- Personal Memories and Experiences

Natural Laws

- Á,LENENE
Ç ŁTE
(Our Homeland)
- Natural World
- ŁŁŁÇ
(Interconnectedness)

Sacred Laws

- Teachings of XÁLS
(the Creator)
- Legend of ŁÁU,
WELNEW
- Traditions
- Ceremonies
- Spirituality

Declarations

- Past declarations made by our elders and leadership
- Rules, Codes, Teachings

Customary Laws

- Big House customs and procedures
- Customs regarding how we treat each other



The End!

For more information:

[Website: www.Tsawout.ca](http://www.Tsawout.ca)