

CONSTITUTION UPDATE

October 2017

Message From Chief and Council

Much has been said and written about reconciliation over the past few years. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission outlined numerous Calls to Action. Action Items 42 and 43 call upon the federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation to develop a national action plan to achieve its goals.

The UN Declaration upholds what we, as Nehethowuk, have always asserted and that is the right to self-determination. We have the right to autonomy or self-government in matters relating to our internal Nation's affairs, which includes determining the ways and means to finance our autonomous actions. Fundamental to the exercise of these rights is choosing our own political institutions for the governance of our peoples. Further, deciding how to pursue economic, social and cultural development for the benefit of our Citizens and our Nation are also fundamental rights.

As the Chief and Council, put into office by our Nation's citizens, we cannot simply wait for other levels of government to get their act together. WE must take action to achieve our own goals. We have said many times that we need economic development to provide revenues to meet the needs of our people by ensuring we have our own source revenues.

Our vision statement is to exercise sovereignty to sustain a prosperous future for the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. Study after study has shown that successful economic development does not just happen. The key to success is not simply access to lands and resources although that clearly helps. The foundation for sovereignty is stable, effective government and political institutions. It is from this foundation that we can build the operating structures to grow our economy and empower our citizens.



PREPARED FOR NCN CITIZENS

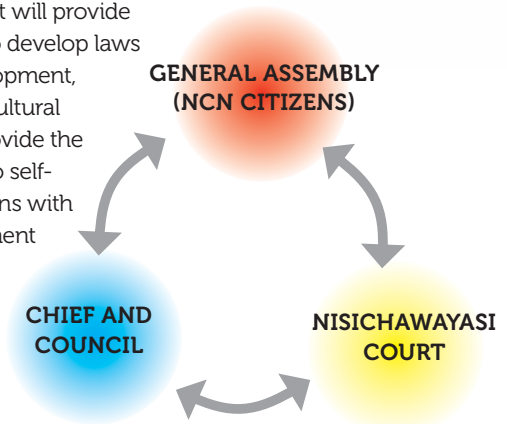


Top row (left to right): Councillors Joe Moose, Willie Moore, Patrick Linklater and Ron D. Spence. Bottom row (left to right): Councillor Shirley Linklater, Chief Marcel Moody and Councillor Bonnie M. Linklater

Good decision-making processes are essential if a Nation is to grow and thrive and not be bogged down in constant turmoil and conflict. Our experience has demonstrated this very clearly. All one has to do is look around our community today to see the many projects that are underway and that we have been involved in over the past two decades.

Good constitutions provide the framework for political action and decision-making to take place in ways that are accountable, ethical and transparent. They establish checks and balances on power by ensuring there are dispute resolution mechanisms available to resolve disputes fairly.

Approving our Othasowewin (constitution) is a crucial step in the Kwayaskonikiwin (reconciliation) journey of our Nation. It will provide the foundation for us to develop laws about economic development, education, social and cultural development. It will provide the basis for us to enter into self-government negotiations with other levels of government on a true Nation to Nation basis. It is a way for us to assert our Tipethimisowin (sovereignty).





CONSTITUTION

IT WILL HELP TO PROTECT OUR TREATY AND ABORIGINAL RIGHTS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Most importantly, a strong vote from our Citizens will demonstrate that NCN is not just going to sit back and wait for other levels of government to get their acts together and come up with a plan. History has demonstrated that when the government “does for us”, they fail to consult and accommodate our communities; with no regard for our culture, language, customs, and ways of life. By taking this step, now, at this critical time in our history and the history of Canada, we will help to shape the future of our Citizens in positive ways for generations to come. This, more than anything else, will help to establish a New Relationship with Canada.

Community Vision – It’s Your Decision YOUR VOICE YOUR VOTE

Our community consultants are there to support the people, provide explanations, and take your questions. We urge you to read the materials and attend the workshops. Above all else to come out and VOTE in Support of this critical initiative. As your Chief and Council and as Citizens of this Nation, we believe this step is fundamental for our future. We ask for your continued support as we take steps to strengthen our Nation.

Ekosani!

– NCN Chief and Council

BACKGROUND

WHAT IS A CONSTITUTION?

A Constitution provides a framework for governance. It sets out the relationship between citizens and their government (NCN Citizens and Chief and Council). Effective constitutions define who has what powers, rights and responsibilities, how laws will be developed and how disputes will be resolved.

WHY DO WE NEED A CONSTITUTION?

- In simple terms to replace the Indian Act with our own systems and authority. It allows us to strengthen our own governance systems instead of being told what to do by the Minister of Indian Affairs and bureaucrats in that department. They have told us what we can and cannot do for decades. A Constitution is an important document to reassert our sovereignty and our rights to govern ourselves.
- The Nisichawayasi Aski Pumenikewin (land code) gives NCN the authority to govern our lands instead of the Minister of Indian Affairs so a number of provisions under the Indian Act do not apply to our lands. It sets out the process to make laws about land matters that is in the draft Constitution.
- The Constitution will provide authority to pass laws in relation to other matters. The land code and the Constitution procedures are the same but the scope of the authority in the Constitution is not just limited to land matters.
- The Constitution also defines the institutions that form part of our government, the rights of our Citizens and dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Constitutions also play a critical role in supporting economic development by putting in place appropriate lines of authority between the day to day management of businesses and politics. In simple terms, good governance helps to attract investors and NCN needs its own source revenues to deliver programs and services for our Citizens.

DO ALL NATIONS HAVE CONSTITUTIONS?

- All Indigenous Nations had systems of governance that were impacted by colonization, including Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. Many of these constitutions were not written but asserted through customary protocols and Nation practices. Great Britain and the Navajo Nations are examples of nations that do not have written constitutions. They have various rules and customs that are followed.
- But, many First Nations in Canada and the United States are reasserting their authority by developing their own Constitutions. One of the most recent examples is the James Bay Cree who approved their Constitution and self-government agreement this summer.



- A number of other First Nations initially approved their land codes and are now working on the development of their own Constitutions. Other First Nations have developed their Constitutions without doing land codes.

CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SPIRITUALITY

- Sometimes it is difficult to understand the connections between our culture, our language, our traditions and the actions we are taking today.
- Our teachings tell us that everything is connected. We are connected to each other, to Mother Earth, to Grandmother Moon, the seasons and what they teach us.
- This Constitution is about change. It is about our ability to use everything we have learned in the past to make a better future for our Nation, for all of us. It is about taking positive steps to change ourselves to ensure that our children, our grandchildren and our great-grandchildren will always be proud to be the Nisichawaysi Nehetho.
- It is about taking control and responsibility for our lives by asserting our sovereignty so we do not always have to go to the Minister of Indian Affairs for approval to do the things we want to do in our community.
- As explained in past community meetings and workshops, symbolism is very important to our people. The analogy we have used is that to soar again like Grandfather Eagle, we need a strong foundation. We are trying to strengthen the twin pillars of good governance and economic development while ensuring the steps we take are spiritually sound. This foundation will help us to sustain our lands, our people and our resources.

What is Included in a Constitution?

- Purpose and Community's Beliefs
- Description of who is governed
- Outline of the rights and freedoms of Citizens
- What is governed (jurisdiction over lands, resources and peoples)
- Institutions or structures of government
- Roles and limits of authority of various governmental bodies
- How leaders and officials will be selected (elections/appointment)
- Relationship between governmental bodies, different levels of government and citizens
- Law making processes
- Dispute Resolution processes
- Mechanisms for Citizen input
- Amendment procedures

STRONG FOUNDATIONS ARE IMPORTANT: AN ANALOGY

Building a house starts with blueprints and then a foundation. The foundation needs to be strong and follow the blueprints or the house will fall down. Once the basement is built, then the walls and roof are built. Eventually people live in the house and make changes to it over time. The Constitution is like the foundation of the house. The laws are like the walls and the roof. All of it takes time and it must start with a strong foundation. A Constitution is the foundation for a strong, stable government. It supports economic development which provides resources for our Nation.



CONSTITUTION

OVERVIEW OF NCN'S DRAFT CONSTITUTION

KAKISTUSTEHK NISICHAWAYASI NEHETHOWUK OTHASOWEWIN

PREAMBLE

The preamble describes who we are as a people and an overview of our principles and beliefs. It states that we continue to exercise our inherent rights to govern ourselves.

CHAPTER 1

PURPOSE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION

This Chapter outlines the purpose of our Constitution and includes our customary law principles that our Elders committed to writing. It recognizes that we are not simply Cree people but that we are the Nehetho and our Nation is the Nisichawayasi Nehetho Nation.

Words are important and we have included as many Nehetho words as possible. We have tried to use our Elders' words but recognize that because preserving our language has been difficult in the face of colonization, our Citizens sometimes have differing views about which words to use and how they should be spelled. To preserve our language for the next seven generations, the Constitution indicates that all our laws will be printed and published in English and Nehethowewin.

Definitions and Rules of Interpretation applicable to the Constitution are set out in this Chapter also.

CHAPTER 2

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

This Chapter describes the rights and freedoms we have, as NCN Citizens, within our Nation, within Canada and within international law. It also describes the responsibility all of us have to act respectfully in exercising our rights.

CHAPTER 3

CANADIAN LAWS

This Chapter confirms that the laws of Canada and Manitoba will continue to apply to NCN Citizens unless they are replaced by a Nisichawayasi Nehetho Nation law. If a conflict exists between our laws and those of other governments, our laws will prevail unless we negotiate something different in a Nation-to-Nation agreement.

Developing our Constitution is the first step in the process since it provides the foundation for other laws to be developed. Negotiations with other levels of government will also have to take place since there are jurisdictional and financial issues to resolve. As a community, we will need to prioritize which laws we need to develop and the order they should be developed, since realistically all of this takes time and can't happen at once. The goal at the moment is to develop the following laws this year:

- Amendments to the Election Law to address the Charter challenges raised in the last Council elections as the mandatory injunction will expire shortly;
- Finance Law
- Education Law
- Citizenship Law
- Public Safety Laws
- Marital Property Laws
- Land Laws

Other laws will be developed over time.

CHAPTER 4

JURISDICTION

Our Constitution has been drafted so that NCN's Government has authority over all persons taking actions on our lands and in relation to our resources. It is not just limited to authority over NCN Citizens.

CHAPTER 5

GOVERNING STRUCTURES

This Chapter says there will be three parts to NCN's Government: – the General Assembly, Chief and Council and the Nisichawayasi Court. Some of the provisions may not take effect until we have negotiated arrangements with other levels of government. The Nisichawayasihk Court is one of those provisions. .

CHAPTER 6

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This Chapter confirms that all NCN Citizens have the right to attend General Assemblies and to participate in civil dialogue. It is proposed that General Assemblies be held at least twice every year.

There will be rules of procedure developed so that respectful interactions take place. We want to ensure that bullying behaviour is eliminated, so we, the NCN adults, act as role models to reinforce messages given to our youth about how they are to behave.

CHAPTER 7

CHIEF AND COUNCIL

This Chapter sets out the number of positions on the Chief and Council: one (1) Chief and six (6) Councillors. In earlier drafts, the term "Governing Council" was used but based on feedback we have gone back to using "Chief and Council."

This Chapter says Chief and Council must make decisions that are in the best interests of NCN and sets out rules for good governance to eliminate nepotism and Council interference in day-to-day operations of the Nation. Council will delegate authority to staff where it is responsible to do so, but will retain overall authority and leadership for the governance of the Nation. There are misunderstandings about what constitutes proper oversight by leaders and what is considered micro-management.

This Chapter also sets out a list of potential laws the Governing Council may enact. The list is broadly drafted but there will be concurrent jurisdictional issues with other levels of government that will need to be negotiated. Certain other laws enacted by other levels of government, such as the Criminal Code, will remain in effect.

CHAPTER 8

CHIEF AND COUNCIL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This Chapter sets out key functions of the Chief and the other members of Council. The Chief's primary role is to lead the Council and ensure they work together as a unified team. The Deputy Chief will perform these functions when the Chief is unable to do so.

The Chief and Council has responsibility for effectively managing the Nation's lands, resources, finances and all operations and must comply with the laws and policies of the Nation.

CHAPTER 9

CHIEF AND COUNCIL CODE OF CONDUCT

This Chapter spells out the rules Chief and Council must follow in carrying out their responsibilities as elected leaders.

They must:

- Uphold Nisichawayasi laws and policies;
- Discharge their fiduciary and other duties with integrity, honesty and ethical behaviour;
- Maintain decorum in Council meetings and not engage in disruptive behaviour that impedes the business of the Council;
- Make decisions that promote the collective interests of the Nisichawayasi Nehetho Nation, not the member individually;
- Not engage in dishonourable or illegal conduct including theft, improper use of public property, fraud, bribery, influence peddling or other corrupt practices;
- Not use confidential information obtained while holding public office for their own personal benefit, including disclosing how other members of the Governing

Council voted on sensitive issues;

- Not discriminate against any person on the basis of the person's race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, family status, disability or any other matter prohibited by law;
- Not exceed or abuse their authority;
- Not retaliate against any person who has complained that the member has violated this Constitution;
- Uphold all decisions made by Council even if the member personally opposes the decision made by the majority;
- Not take any actions that will undermine the decisions made by Council or any Nisichawayasi corporation, trust or other entity;
- Be a positive role model by carrying out the member's duties in a respectful manner;
- Respond to negative, hurtful or damaging comments or actions in the most appropriate manner required to defend themselves, their reputations and their families;
- At no time use facilities, equipment, supplies or services of the Nation for any personal election campaign or campaign related activities; and
- Act in a respectful manner towards all Citizens, employees and service providers of the Nation and at no time request them to take actions that are contrary to the decisions of the Council.

This Chapter also establishes rules for the receipt of gifts by Chief and Council or the public service to avoid gift giving being able to unduly influence decisions but recognizing that gift giving is also a long standing Nehteho cultural practice.



CHAPTER 10

GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETINGS

This Chapter sets out the rules that apply to Chief and Council Meetings, including:

- Notice requirements
- Quorum
- Attendance at meetings by members of Chief and Council and NCN Citizens
- Development of meeting Agendas
- Procedures for addressing complaints from NCN Citizens
- How decisions will be made and recorded
- When Chief and Council can deal with matters in-camera and how decisions made in-camera will be recorded.

CHAPTER 11

NCN GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

This Chapter sets out the organizational structure for NCN's Government and the relationship between its various parts including other entities established by the NCN Government. The responsibilities of Chief and Council and any board of directors and the reporting obligations of each entity to Chief and Council will be clearly spelled out in governing documents.

This Chapter confirms the use of a portfolio system for members of Council and sets out the obligations of portfolio holders to Council and NCN Citizens.

CHAPTER 12

FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

This Chapter provides the basis for establishing a Treasury Board to manage the financial affairs of the Nation and for establishing other committees for specific purposes, such as planning and priorities. It confirms that all expenditures must be made in accordance with an annual budget that will be developed and approved.

Certain functions can be delegated from Chief and Council to others only by approval of Chief and Council and any person or entity to whom such functions are delegated must act within the scope of the authority given to them.

This Chapter also establishes financial responsibility and control over staffing and hiring for all NCN Government departments, agencies, and corporate entities. All entities established will be required to comply with NCN personnel, financial, procurement and other policies and procedures.

NCN employees are to take direction from Chief and Council as a whole, not from individual members of Chief and Council, unless there has been an express delegation of authority to a single member of Chief and Council or there is an emergency that must be dealt with quickly.

CHAPTER 13

N'TUSKENAN (OUR LANDS)

This Chapter recognizes the importance of governance over our lands, including reserve lands, fee simple lands and other lands within our traditional territory. Land Laws will be developed and implemented and will conform with the principles set out in this Chapter:

- All natural resources, including rights to water on NCN Lands, shall belong to NCN unless expressly excluded in the instrument granting the interest in land;
- All contracts, instruments or agreements dealing with lands must comply with the Constitution and NCN Laws;
- Interests in NCN Lands must be created by written instrument and can include Allocations, Leaseholds, Easements, Permits, Licences and Mortgages;
- Only NCN Citizens shall be entitled to individual Allotments of Land;
- Interests in Land will not be created simply by occupation of the land;
- An NCN Citizen who receives an interest in NCN Lands following the passing of another NCN Citizen will be entitled to have the interest registered in an NCN Land Register.

CHAPTER 14

LAW MAKING PROCEDURES

This Chapter sets out the process for how NCN will make its own laws. A law can be initiated by a Resolution of Chief and Council or a Proposal signed by at least 100 NCN Citizens that is presented to the Governing Council. The next step will be for Chief and Council to direct legal advisors or the public service to prepare a draft law for consideration at a regular Council meeting within 6 months, unless extenuating circumstances prevent this.

After the Chief and Council considers the draft law, it will do one of the following:

- Refer the law to the General Assembly to obtain input from NCN Citizens within 60 days, unless workshops are to be held;
- Reject the draft law; or

- Request further work be done on the law so Chief and Council can reconsider it within 6 months.

Within 14 days of the meeting where the law is rejected, an NCN Citizen can request a written explanation of why Chief and Council rejected the draft law.

Chief and Council may decide to hold workshops about a proposed law before referring the matter to the General Assembly in which case the General Assembly must meet within 120 days of the date Chief and Council considered the law. A report about the discussions at any workshops must be presented to Chief and Council.

After these steps have been taken, the law shall again be considered at a Chief and Council meeting where Chief and Council shall decide to accept it, modify it based on the feedback received, reject it or refer the law to a special committee of NCN Citizens for further consideration.

If the law is referred to a special committee of NCN Citizens, the committee must report back to Chief and Council within 30 days with recommendations to accept the law, with or without amendments, or reject it.

Chief and Council shall then make a final decision about the law, and if it is approved, it will come into effect within 30 days unless a different effective date is set out in the law.

Chief and Council will sign all approved laws and the laws will then be filed with NCN's Chief Administrative Officer to be posted on NCN's website and in the First Nations Gazette.

Any law approved by Chief and Council may be amended in accordance with the procedures in Chapter 17 of the Constitution.

CHAPTER 15

NUSKOMOWIN

Chief and Council may decide that NCN Citizens should decide a particular matter by a special vote held for this purpose, or Chief and Council may want to obtain feedback from NCN Citizens before making a final decision on a matter. In either circumstance, Chief and Council shall direct the NCN Electoral Officer to hold a vote using the procedures in the NCN Election Code.

CHAPTER 16

NISICHAWAYASI COURT

Eventually, NCN would have its own court that would make decisions about NCN laws and disputes involving NCN Citizens, Chief and Council or other matters that may be referred to it. NCN would appoint judges with legal training and an understanding of NCN culture and traditions to this Court. Special arrangements based on an Elder approved clan system may be used to decide matters involving youth misconduct. Chief and Council will approve an annual budget for the Nisichawayasi Court.

CHAPTER 17

RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Constitution would be approved by a secret ballot vote conducted by NCN's Electoral Officer. A majority of those participating in the vote where at least 25% of NCN Citizens who are at least 18 years of age vote will decide whether or not to approve the proposed Constitution.

CHAPTER 18

AMENDING PROCEDURE

It is proposed that the Constitution can be amended in the future by a majority vote where at least by 25% of NCN Citizens who are at least 18 years of age vote.

CHAPTER 19

TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

This Chapter outlines technical provisions that indicate the current Chief and Council will be considered elected for purposes of the Constitution until the next election is held in August 2018. Existing bylaws will remain in effect until replaced by a new NCN Law passed in accordance with the Constitution.

CHAPTER 20

FORCE AND EFFECT

The Constitution would take effect on a date determined by a resolution of the Governing Council. This will help to ensure a smooth transition from the existing model of governance to the provisions under the Constitution.





CONSTITUTION

SELF-GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS

The process of negotiating what is often referred to as a "self-government" agreement is a complex process. It usually involves negotiations with the federal and provincial government and may involve municipal governments in certain circumstances. It is a process designed to reach agreement on how NCN will exercise its jurisdiction within the Canadian constitutional framework and the international laws that are also applicable such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

There are a number of matters that are addressed in self-government agreements including, but not limited to:

- Citizenship/membership;
- Culture and language and their preservation;
- Heritage and archaeology;
- Education;
- Health;
- Child and family services;
- Adoption;
- Marriage;
- Income Support;
- Wills and Estates;

- Administration of Justice;
- Land governance, administration and management;
- Resource development and management;
- Economic development including licensing, regulation and operation of businesses;
- Transportation and traffic issues;
- Public works and community infra-structure;
- Alcohol and Drugs;
- Taxation;
- Financial arrangements;
- Dispute resolution;
- Transition;
- Implementation

A number of First Nations across Canada are now engaged in negotiating such agreements. As with most types of negotiations NCN has been involved in, there are various phases involved:

- Preparatory phase;
- Negotiation and consultation;
- Ratification vote;
- Implementation planning & management

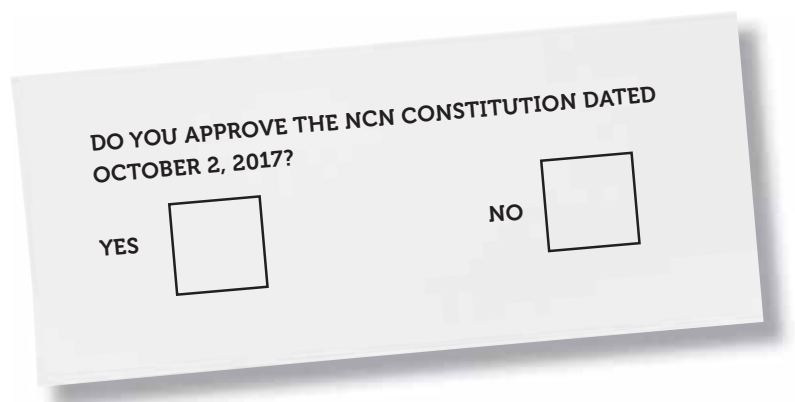
We are currently in the preparatory phase where we are developing our Constitution. Once the Constitution is approved, we will give notice to the federal and provincial governments that we wish to enter into a negotiation process with them.

We will establish a negotiation framework and identify critical issues within our community that we want to address. The other governments will do the same and we will negotiate an Agreement in Principle. All of this will be discussed regularly with our Citizens to obtain input and to inform. Once we have reached an agreement in principle we will then continue negotiations to reach an Agreement on a New Government to Government Relationship. Once we have concluded negotiations, this Agreement will then be brought to our people to be voted on.

We expect this process will take several years. In the meantime, we will exercise our authority over our lands through the Aski Pumenikewin (land code) and our Othasowewin (constitution) and the laws we will develop through consultation with our people.

BALLOT QUESTION

THE VOTE IN NOVEMBER WILL ASK NCN CITIZENS THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:



MEET YOUR COMMUNITY OTHASOWEWIN (CONSTITUTION) CONSULTANTS



VERNON ANDERSON

My grandparents were Lillian Gossfield (Flett) and Herman Edith Anderson (Moose) and Bruce. My biological parents are Bill & Minnie Anderson. I was raised by my aunt and uncle Harriet Anderson and Abraham Taite. I grew up in South Indian Lake and am a member of the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. I currently live in Winnipeg. I have been working with NCN on a casual basis, delivery letters, meeting with people. Most currently, I was one of the Land Code Consultants. I work with high school students in finding work experience placements from Grades 9-12. I believe in education. Education is the key to change.



LEANNE GRENIER

I am a proud Nisichawayasihk member and served our community for over six years as an administrator. I am pleased to serve our community once again to work on the constitution. My grandparents were Silas & Minnie McDonald. My mother is Nancy McDonald. I have two adult children and two grandchildren, all of whom are NCN members.



DWIGHT MOODY

I am from NCN and was raised by my late mother, Heather Moody, and two of my brothers. I have had the privilege of living with my grandparents, who were very traditional. My graduation was in NCN when at the time, the school was called Roland Lauze School. I was sponsored to attend Brandon University in Brandon, Manitoba, where I took Sociology and Native Studies for three years. When I went back to NCN, I worked in a few office jobs for a couple of years. It was in NCN where I ran into a couple of Journeymen Carpenters who asked me to pursue a career in Carpentry. I went for my Apprenticeship program with UCN in Thompson, and completed my apprenticeship program with a Journeyman status. I did not stop there, and I went on to continue for a management certificate, which I accomplished.

I worked for the Nisichawayasihk Housing Authority for 15 years. During that time I met Monica Linklater whom I had my son with Dwight Moody Jr., and still with her in a common-law relationship.

I was sponsored by HRDA in NCN to a Technical Vocational Teacher Education Program that I will be graduating from in January 2018. During that time, I had the opportunity to work at Keeyask with BBE (Manitoba Hydro). I took an education leave to attend Red River College in Winnipeg. My new goal has been to raise my son and teach until my retirement.



DONNA MOORE-LINKLATER

I was born in The Pas, Manitoba, raised by both my parents, Henry Linklater & Amelia Linklater (Nee Spence), in Thompson, Manitoba. I lived with my Grandmother, Esther Linklater, at 13 years old, where she lived in NCN, and have been in NCN ever since.

I have been a Consultant since The Northern Flood Agreement, CAP/CIP Process, Election Code, Treaty Land Entitlement, Future Development, Wuskwatim Implementation, and now Constitution. I really enjoy talking to all the people of NCN, and helping them understand the Consultation process, which is very important to us all, which can be both challenging and interesting.

Once again, I am very proud to be a part of the team as a Consultant for the Chief & Council, the NCN Citizens in the "Constitution" process, and listening to any questions people may have who are living on and off the reserve, i.e. Thompson, Winnipeg, Brandon, NCN.

I look forward to talking to you young and old, visiting the homes, and help you fully understand the Constitution.

If you have any questions or concerns, we are located at the Trust Office. Feel free to come down and express yourselves. There are four of us that are there to communicate with you.



KEN BRIGHTNOSE

I am a proud member of the Nisichawayasihk Asiniskaw Nethethowuk (NCN). I am very honoured and humbled to be selected to be working with Community Constitution Consultant. I will do my best to meet the expectations on the task I'm set out to do. I was part of the Land Code Consultants, and proud to say was very successful. Our team will work very hard to deliver the message on the Constitution for ratification at a later date.

So in closing, I would like to ask the NCN membership to support this document and expect a visit from one of our team members for information and handouts on the NCN Constitution.



MONICA LINKATER

I am an NCN member working in NCN and engaging with community members for over 10 years as a consultant. My dad is Leonard Linklater, and have recently worked in NCN Land Code & Wuskwatim PDA, Election Teams. I have Grade 12, Business Administration & Certificate Financial Managerial Accounting, Pre Trades.

I raised my three children in RC Point. Jerome Linklater plays midget AAA Hockey, Dwight Moody plays AA Hockey, Coral Linklater Athletics, all with Team Manitoba.

Thanks for your support for my children, and employers in NCN. Please come out and vote for this important NCN constitution. I hope to see you all soon!



HENRY WOOD, NISICHAWAYASIHK ELDER

It has been a pleasure working for NCN in some areas such as the N.E.A, Future Development, the Land Code process, and now going to NCN Citizens giving information about the NCN draft Constitution.

It needs your input. Just like the Land Code, it will need your support to pass.

ELIZABETH LINKLATER

I was named after my late Kokum Mrs. Gooses, from Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation. I am very honoured to be a part of the NCN Consultant Team, and I look forward to delivering the upcoming newsletters. I have been very busy over the years in the city of Winnipeg, working on obtaining a Bachelor of Arts degree.

I am a single mother with four children, who works passionately in what I do, promoting resiliency by getting an education. I have had the opportunity to work as a poll clerk in the last two elections. I am happy I come from a community of many leaders and role models.



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**YOUR COMMENTS
ARE IMPORTANT
TO US**

Please let us know your thoughts, concerns and feedback on these and future plans. We hope to maintain a government that will listen to you and act only in your best interest.

UPCOMING DATES:

OPEN HOUSES

- October 5 – Winnipeg
- October 11 – Leaf Rapids
- October 12 – Thompson
- October 19 – General Assembly
- October 24, 25, 26 – Small group workshops NCN

VOTING DATES ARE:

- November 1–29 – E-vote
- November 20 – Leaf Rapids
- November 21 – Thompson
- November 23 – Winnipeg
- November 28-29 – NCN

All polls will be from 12:00 to 8:00