



January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Kwantlen First Nation Band Council Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Chairperson: Kwantlen Band Council Member Brandon Gabriel

Attendee: Kwantlen Band Council Member Victor Back

Absent: Kwantlen Band Council Member Christopher Thomas

Quorum: YES

Topic: Kwantlen Referendum Update

This council tasked Band Council admin with holding a Referendum of the Kwantlen People to give their voice again on the outcome of the November 27th General Assembly.

However, numerous obstacles have appeared due to the former chief's refusal to vacate her office per the orders of the General Assembly. These have raised the cost significantly beyond the means of this Band Council.

It is the opinion of this council that the November 27th vote is unambiguous and is a true reflection of Kwantlen customary law. It is enforceable, and the refusal to recognize the vote is the gravest offense against our nation. The Kwantlen people need the opportunity to speak again, and make it clear to the former chief that her time holding our nation back is over.

Therefore, we propose:

1. Moving this vote entirely online;
2. Seeking debt spending approval for an amount under \$500 to hire the services of a professional online voting agency, to process ballots and manage security;
3. Setting the voting period as from February 7th to February 14<sup>th</sup>;
4. This vote will not be a binding Referendum for the purposes of our Referendum Regulations, but instead will be an advisory vote to direct the decision makers of the nation, and to make our voice clear to the outside world.

The ballot questions would be (please note that these have been vetted by legal counsel, and so any change to them, would require us to return them to legal counsel for review, and then bring them back to Band Council for another approval - delaying things by up to 1 week):

**Question 1: Do you agree that the General Assembly (staneq) held on the McMillan Island Reserve on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 was done in accordance with the customs of the Kwantlen people, which gives members the ultimate authority to hold meetings where decisions can be made about issues facing the Nation?**

**Question 2: Do you agree with Resolution 1 from the November 27, 2022 General Assembly: A Resolution to remove Marilyn Gabriel from the Kwantlen First Nation Indian Act Band Council from their positions on Council?**

**Question 3: Do you agree with Resolution 2 from the November 27, 2022 General Assembly: A Resolution to order the Kwantlen First Nation Indian Act Band Council to bring a new Governance Code to a vote of the people within 90 days of the General Assembly?**

**Question 4: Do you agree with Resolution 3 from the November 27, 2022 General Assembly: A Resolution to temporarily expand the Kwantlen First Nation Band Council from 3 to 5 members until a new Governance Code and governance framework can be ratified by the Kwantlen members?**

**Question 5: Do you agree with Resolution 4 from the November 27, 2022 General Assembly: A Resolution to recognize the Whonnock Reserve Local Authority?**

**Question: 6: Do you support Marilyn Gabriel, Tumia Knott, and Les Antone, in their refusal to be bound by the decisions of the General Assembly held on November 27th?**

Questions for Council:

1. Does council support the suggestions of this report? YES, but in the future we would like to revisit the time frame that voting is allowed to stay open, as we feel it is overly generous in the length of time that it is left open.
2. Does council approve the ballot questions, as written? YES

DECISION:

Kwantlen Band Council Member Brandon Gabriel: APPROVED

Kwantlen Band Council Member Victor Back: APPROVED

Kwantlen Band Council Approved This Document at 7:49pm