

## Terms of Reference

*onihcikiskwapowin* – Saddle Lake Cree Nation

Elections Eligibility Panel (“Eligibility Panel”)<sup>1</sup>

### 1. Introduction

The peoples of the *onihcikiskwapowin* – Saddle Lake Cree Nation (SLCN), have the Inherent Right to determine the governance of our Tribes in accordance with the traditions, customs and values as *iyiniwak* of Treaty No. 6; as a Nation *onihcikiskwapowinak* also have by consensus, the support of the peoples of the Tribe, the ability to establish and support good governance in accordance with the *onihcikiskwapowin* – Tribal Custom Elections Code; and

Reflecting that in Election year 2019, an updated Tribal Custom Elections Code has been enacted and will hereafter include a panel of *onihcikiskwapowinak* to ensure a strengthened process for achieving stable, reliable and capable leadership within *onihcikiskwapowin* – Saddle Lake Cree Nation.

### 2. Purpose

To provide support to the Chief Electoral Officer to successfully complete a procedurally fair and strengthened nominations process, in accordance with the amended *onihcikiskwapowin* – Tribal Customs Elections Code.

The *onihcikiskwapowin* – Saddle Lake Cree Nation Elections Eligibility Panel will ensure that the nominators and the individuals the nominators are supporting as candidates will undertake to fully comply with the eligibility criteria as articulated in the amended SLCN Tribal Customs Elections Code.

### 3. Composition of the Eligibility Panel

1. One (1) Individual chosen by the peoples of the *onihcikiskwapowin* at a duly held band membership/information meeting;  
One (1) Individual chosen by the Tribal Administrator of the *onihcikiskwapowin* – Saddle Lake Cree Nation;  
One (1) Individual chosen by the Treaty Governance – Elders’ Advisory Committee.

### 4. Panel Selection Process

The panel will be selected within two (2) weeks of the selection of a Chief Electoral Officer.

- i. The panel members will adhere to the same eligibility requirements as both potential candidates and appeal committee membership.
- ii. An oath of confidentiality will be sworn in front of the Elders Advisory Committee by all members of the panel.

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<sup>1</sup> Hereafter incorporated into the *onihcikiskwapowin* – Tribal Custom Election Code – Motion dated:

### **iii. Eligibility Panel – Oversight Process**

After nominations are announced, the panel will interview each nominator and potential candidate to ensure the list of eligibility requirements are in compliance.

The eligibility criteria will be in accordance with the Tribal Customs Elections Code (amended version 2019)

An interview will be held between the panel and the nominator at a location selected by the Tribal Administrator in consultation with the Chief Electoral Officer.

A checklist form will be provided to the eligibility panel for usage in ensuring the evidence and information provided has been reviewed.

The panel will support the discussions held at a duly held candidates meeting where resume and platform are provided to the membership in written format. The information provided will be posted on the Saddle Lake Cree Nation website.

### **iv. Costs**

The costs associated with supporting a panel for interviews/meeting venues and the all-candidates forum will be taken from the nominator/nominee fees.

1. RCMP Certified Criminal Record Check

2. Nomination fees for nominator and nominee

Mover/secondder = \$50.00

Candidate for Council = \$500.00

Candidate for Chief = \$500.00

3. Resume and Platform (documentation showing the principle goals detailing the plans and objectives in seeking election)

4. Proof of residency (utility bills, etc)

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## Appendix 2 - Potential Questions for Nominator/Nominee<sup>2</sup>

1. How will the potential candidate go about upholding the principles of Treaty No. 6?
2. What does the potential candidate know about the current issues affecting the Inherent and Treaty rights of the peoples of *onihcikiskwapowin*?
3. How many people live in Saddle Lake and Whitefish Lake?
4. What is the Indian Act and how specifically does it affect the peoples of *onihcikiskwapowin*?
5. What is the relationship between the Federal and Provincial governments as it relates to Saddle Lake Cree Nation?
6. What is the nature of the funding relationship between the Government of Canada and Saddle Lake Cree Nation?
7. What experience does the candidate have in dealing with industry and the components of consultation?
8. What does free, prior and informed consent mean?
9. What are the most pressing issues affecting Saddle Lake Cree Nation members in 2019?
10. What will the potential candidate bring forward as practical solutions for the issues affecting the people. Please provide at least two examples.
11. What is the history of Saddle Lake?
12. What is the role of a Chief?
13. What is the role of a Council?
14. What are the roles of Elders in the nation?
15. What are the roles of women in the nation?
16. How will you bring youth into the decision making process?
17. What is your view on the difference between program management and political leadership?
18. What experience does the potential candidate have in relation to funding agreements, policy development, community planning and strategic planning?
19. What is the relationship between the Indigenous advocacy organizations in Ottawa and Edmonton and the Saddle Lake Cree Nation?
20. What does the potential candidate reasonably expect to complete in terms of goals within the three years in office? Please explain why.

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<sup>2</sup> For use at any all-candidates meetings