



MCFN CONSTITUTION

WHAT IS IT?

Constitution meaning

A constitution is the supreme law of a Nation. Among other things, a constitution creates, empowers, and regulates government. It will be specific to our community.

WHAT DOES IT COVER?

What is the Constitution is based on?

The MCFN Constitution will set out the basic principles our government must conform to and the rights of our Members. It includes standard components, such as founding principles; description of government structures and offices; law-making powers; rights and freedoms of members; law-making processes; dispute resolution mechanisms; amendment clauses; and how our government will be accountable to the Members.

WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?

Foundation of a Constitution

A Constitution will usually include founding principles, description of government structures and offices, law making powers of government, rights and freedoms of membership, law making process, dispute resolution mechanism and constitutional amendment clauses. MCFN will want to reference the need for certain laws in the draft of the constitution, but details can be included in the laws or legislation of the First Nation.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR ME?

Why have a Constitution?

Having a constitution benefits the Members. It will describe MCFN and its framework for governance; outline the powers or jurisdiction of Council, as the governing authority; outline the powers or jurisdiction of the Members; describe the principles of MCFN; legitimize political authority; and protects our rights and freedoms.

MOVING FORWARD

Membership Engagement

MCFN has created a Constitution Sub Committee, as part of MCFN Governance, to develop and draft our constitution. Members will be engaged over the course of 2021, to assist in drafting the constitution and providing guidance to the Sub Committee on the principles that should be outlined. Once Council believes the Constitution is in final form, the Governance Department will have a Ratification Vote, which will ask Members to approve the Constitution, as drafted. If approved, the Constitution will become the supreme law of the MCFN and guide all future activities and governments for the next seven generations.