

**GWA'SALA – 'NAKWAXDA'XW NATIONS**

**April 2, 2025 Elections**

# **Candidate Information Package**

The contents of this guide are based on the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations Custom Election Code.

# Instructions for Nominees

Dear Nominee:

Congratulations on being nominated as a candidate in the elections to be held on April 2, 2025.

Now that you were nominated, if you would like to be a candidate, you need to complete a few more steps.

**DEADLINE DATE: Thursday March 13, 2025 by 8:00 PM (End of Nomination Meeting)**

- Must provide a Criminal Record Check at the Nomination Meeting or proof you have applied for a Criminal Record Check;

**DEADLINE: Within 3 days of receiving this package**

1. You must complete the candidate acceptance & declaration form. By doing so, you confirm you are an eligible candidate as per the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations Custom Election Code.
2. A 1-page biography confirming your Cultural and Professional Training, educational and professional qualifications and other experience.
3. A clearance letter from the GNN Finance Office confirming you are in Financial Good Standing.

Please send these to me by email ([ronlauferelections@gmail.com](mailto:ronlauferelections@gmail.com)). If I do not receive the above items within 3 days of providing you with this package, you will not be a candidate in this election.

Please review the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'wx Nations Custom Election Code for Candidate Eligibility and to better understand the election process you are entering into.

**Withdraw of Candidacy**

If, after accepting your nomination, you wish to withdraw, you may do so by filing with me the attached written withdrawal signed by yourself and witnessed by a commissioner for taking oaths or the electoral officer. If a withdrawal is submitted after preparation of the Ballots, any votes cast for any such Candidate shall be null and void.

If you have any questions concerning the election process, please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime.

Ron Laufer  
Electoral Officer

Email: [ronlauferelections@gmail.com](mailto:ronlauferelections@gmail.com)  
Mobile: 1-833-443-VOTE (8683)

## Eligibility Criteria for Office - Section 6 of the Gwa'sala-'Nakwaxda'xw Nations Custom Election Code

6.1 A Candidate for the office of Chief or Councillor must:

- a) Have been properly nominated to be a Candidate pursuant to this Election Code;
- b) Be the full age of 18 (eighteen) years or older on or before the day on which the Election is held;
- c) Be a registered Band Member and have been a registered Band Member for a period of at least 12 (twelve) months immediately preceding the Election;
- d) Not have outstanding criminal charges and, if convicted previously, must have completed the sentence prior to the date of the Election, unless s/he provide proof of an official pardon;
- e) Must provide a Criminal Record Check at the Nomination Meeting or demonstrate they have applied for a Criminal Record Check;
- f) Be in Good Financial Standing with GNN and GNN entities.
- g) Have signed the Candidate Acceptance and Declaration Form attached as Appendix 'D';
- h) In order to be connected to GNN Territory and not to generate significant travel expenses for GNN, live within GNN Territory or the Mount Waddington Regional District;
- i) Agree that any travel to Council meetings will be the responsibility of individual, if they live off-reserve;
- j) Have furthered their personal, Cultural and Professional Training and professional development through post-secondary studies, or other Professional Training or commit to take further training including governance, cultural and related training offered by GNN to Councillors;
- k) Be nominated for one position on Council, either Chief Councillor or Councillor, not both;
- l) Provide a one-page biographical profile confirming his or her Cultural and Professional Training, educational and professional qualifications and other experience; and
- m) Not have violated this Election Code within the last five (5) years.

6.2 A Candidate who is an existing Council Member and wishes to run for the Chief Councillor position must resign their position as a Council Member at the Nomination Meeting.

- a) In order to be fair to Council members in both parts of the staggered election terms, a Councillor who resigns their Council seat to run for Chief will be on paid leave until the election date unless they are required to vote on a specific Council matter to achieve a quorum.
- b) The seat of a Council member who resigns to run for Chief will be held open for them pending the election result.

### Employees of GNN

6.3 An individual who is an employee or contractor of GNN is eligible to be a Candidate for the office of Chief or Councillor provided that their work does not place them in a conflict with their role as Chief or Councillor if elected.

- a) A Chief or Councillor cannot be their own boss or work in a conflict of interest situation. If a Candidate is elected and risks being in a position where they are their own boss or in an employment or contracting conflict of interest, they must:
  - i. resign their elected position;
  - ii. resign or go on leave from their employment or contracting situation; or
  - iii. work with Council and administration and follow GNN policies to move or redefine their employment or contract situation to remove any potential conflicts of interest.

# CANDIDATE ACCEPTANCE & DECLARATION FORM

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration/Status #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCEPT -** I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby **ACCEPT** my nomination for the position of Councillor. I solemnly affirm that I am eligible to stand as a candidate for the office of Councillor pursuant to the Election Code.

**DECLINE -** I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby **DECLINE** my nomination for the position of Councillor.

If accepting, I want my name to appear on the ballot as (please print):

\_\_\_\_\_  
Surname

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name - (other names OPTIONAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidates Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Candidate's Withdrawal Form**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name)* *(Registry #)*

hereby withdraw my name as a candidate for Councillor for the Gwa'sala-  
'Nakwaxda'xw Nations election to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2025.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Candidate's name Printed**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Candidate**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Witnessed by:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness's name Printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The witness must be either the Electoral Officer or a commissioner for taking oaths. If the withdrawal is provided after the ballots are printed, any votes cast for the Candidate are null and void.

**BE ADVISED THAT ONCE THE ELECTORAL OFFICER RECEIVES THIS  
FORM SIGNED AND WITNESSED, YOUR WITHDRAWAL IS FINAL AND  
THEREFORE IRREVOCABLE.**