



April 2020

Attention: Selkirk First Nation Electors

RE: Selkirk First Nation 2020 General Election Information

Voting will be by **MAIL-IN BALLOTS ONLY**

Due to the public health emergency declared in Yukon in response to COVID-19, certain changes will be made to the standard election procedure to comply with physical distancing requirements and to keep people and the community safe.

Election Day

SFN Election has been postponed until Wednesday, May 6th, 2020.

After speaking to the Chief Medical Officer and the SFN Election Legal Advisor, it was decided to extend the election process and provide MAIL-IN BALLOTS only. The count of the votes will take place on Wednesday, May 6th, 2020.

Mail-In Ballots

Mail-in ballots will be sent to every Citizen on the voters list. This method of voting is usually for Citizens who reside outside of Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse, since there are normally polling stations in those two communities.

The Election Committee and Chief Returning Officer are working to confirm addresses for Citizens living in Pelly Crossing and Whitehorse. This is to make sure that the ballots are sent to the right address and reach the person the ballots are intended for.

The mail-in ballots will contain the following information:

1. Instructions on how to cast your vote and what all the envelopes are for;
2. 4 ballots – one for Chief, one for Youth, one for Crow, and one for Wolf;
3. An envelope to put the ballots in;
4. A witness envelope (make sure you and a witness sign this envelope); and
5. A self-addressed stamped envelope to send to the Chief Returning Officer.

Put an **X** or **✓** beside the person you want to vote for on each ballot (on the Crow and Wolf ballot you can mark **two** names since there are 2 Councillor positions for each Clan)

If you require assistance, there will be instructions on Facebook and on the Selkirk First Nation Website OR you can call the Chief Returning Officer at (867) 334-1385 or sfn2020election@gmail.com.

THE BALLOTS ARE VALID even if it is written Wednesday, April 1st, 2020 on them. As mentioned earlier, SFN election day was postponed until Wednesday, May 6th, 2020.

The Chief Returning Officer must receive your mail-in ballot no later than Wednesday, May 6th, 2020. Ballots that have already been mailed are valid and will be counted on Wednesday, May 6th, 2020 (day of the Election).

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Public Meeting

As per Section 70 of the Election Act 2016 (page 19), it states:

“Commencing at noon on the day following the election, the Election Committee, with the Chief Returning Officer in attendance, shall hold a public meeting in Pelly Crossing at which time any question about the election will be received and any candidate may request a recount of the vote for the candidates for the office for which he or she was a candidate by delivering in writing to the Election Committee at that meeting his or her signed request for a recount.”

Because of COVID-19 and the risks involved in gatherings/meetings. We will **NOT** hold a public meeting on May 7th to answer questions about the election or any candidate’s request for a recount. However, an elector may submit a question and a candidate may request a recount by contacting the Chief Returning Officer at the number or email provided below before noon on Thursday, May 7th, 2020.

Swearing in Ceremony

As per Section 79 of the Election Act 2016 (page 21), it states:

“Each candidate who is elected shall swear or affirm their oath of office in writing signed before a person competent to receive their oath in a public Northern Tutchone ceremony called and presided over by the Election Committee. The ceremony shall be held within 7 days after the date their election is declared.”

The Swearing in Ceremony will be done keeping in mind the directions of the Chief Medical Officer and in a way that will keep everyone safe. A Swearing in Ceremony will occur on Monday, May 11th, 2020 by way of a live broadcast. A larger gathering can be arranged at a later date when it is safe to do so.

Contact Chief Returning Officer: Tanya Silverfox: (867) 334-1385 or email sfn2020election@gmail.com