



NunatuKavut Inuit Election Law

*NunatuKavutiup Inungit
annigusunik maligatsanga*

NUNATUKAVUT INUIT ELECTION LAW

Table of Contents

<i>NUNATUKAVUT INUIT ELECTION LAW</i>	1
<i>PART 1: PRELIMINARY MATTERS</i>	3
<i>PART 2: COMPOSITION AND TERM OF COUNCIL</i>	5
COMPOSITION	5
ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE	5
TERM OF OFFICE	6
VACANCY ON COUNCIL	6
<i>PART 3: RETURNING OFFICER</i>	7
APPOINTMENT AND TERM	7
MANDATE OF RETURNING OFFICER.....	7
ELIGIBILITY.....	8
DUTIES	8
<i>PART 4: CALLING OF ELECTIONS</i>	9
CALLING ELECTIONS	9
<i>PART 5: NOTICE OF ELECTIONS</i>	10
ELECTION NOTICE	10
<i>PART 6: ELECTORS</i>	10
ELECTORS	10
<i>PART 7: NOMINATIONS AND LIST OF CANDIDATES</i>	10
NOMINATIONS	10
WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDATES	11
<i>PART 8: CAMPAIGNING</i>	12
CAMPAIGNING RULES	12
<i>PART 9: METHOD OF ELECTION</i>	12
ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION	12
ELECTION BY VOTE	12
<i>PART 10: POLLS</i>	13
HOURS OF THE GENERAL POLL.....	13
CONDUCT AT POLL.....	13

PART 11: VOTING..... 13

RIGHT TO VOTE..... 13

VOTING AT A POLLING STATION 13

E-VOTING 14

PART 12: POSTPONING AND CHANGING DATES AND TIMES..... 14

POSTPONEMENT OF POLLS OR NOMINATION PERIOD..... 14

EXTENDING POLLING HOURS..... 14

PART 13: COUNTING OF THE BALLOTS..... 14

SCRUTINEERS..... 14

COUNTING BALLOTS 15

PART 14: ELECTION RESULTS..... 15

DETERMINATION OF RESULTS FOR PRESIDENT 15

DETERMINATION OF RESULTS FOR COUNCILLORS FOR ELECTORAL AREAS..... 15

DETERMINATION OF RESULTS FOR COUNCILLOR REPRESENTING NUNATUKAVUT INUIT YOUTH 15

APPOINTMENT OF ELDER COUNCILLOR..... 15

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENT 15

RUN-OFF ELECTION IN THE EVENT OF A TIE-VOTE..... 16

RECORDING AND CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS..... 16

RECOUNT 17

CONTESTING ELECTION RESULTS 17

PART 15: SWEARING IN AND DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST..... 17

SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS 17

PART 16: FINAL PROVISIONS..... 18

ELECTION PROCEDURES 18

REPEAL OF PRIOR BY-LAW..... 18

COMING INTO FORCE 18

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the NunatuKavut Inuit (pronounced “Noo-na-too-ha-vut”) are the Inuit of Southern and Central Labrador;

WHEREAS the rights of the NunatuKavut Inuit are inherent and are recognized under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and various Nation-to-Nation treaties and agreements, such as the British-Inuit Treaty of 1765;

WHEREAS the NunatuKavut Community Council is the representative governing body for the NunatuKavut Inuit;

WHEREAS the NunatuKavut Community Council has the jurisdiction to make its own law respecting the election and term of office of its Council;

WHEREAS Council has reviewed this Election Law and consider it an appropriate tool to guide the electoral process for its Council;

WHEREAS subsequent to its approval by the NunatuKavut Community Council, this Election Law will be submitted for review at the Annual General Assembly;

WHEREAS, as a tool to allow the NunatuKavut Community Council to fully implement this Election Law, Council will also adopt Election Procedures under this Election Law, which may be adopted and amended by Council;

NOW THEREFORE the NunatuKavut Community Council, on June 9, 2024, hereby, approves the NunatuKavut Community Council Election Law as follows:

PART 1: PRELIMINARY MATTERS

DEFINITIONS

1.1 For the purposes of this Law,

“Assistant Returning Officer” means the person appointed in accordance with section 3.10 and with the powers and duties in accordance with Part 3 of this Law;

“Candidate” means the Elector nominated and endorsed to participate in an election for a Council position in accordance with this Law;

“Chief Administration Officer” means the Chief Administration Officer of NCC;

“Council member” includes the President, Vice President, and any Councillor of NCC holding office pursuant to this Law;

“Council member” means any member of the NunatuKavut Community Council duly elected or

appointed, including the President and Vice President;

“Council” means the duly elected NunatuKavut Community Council, made up of the President, Vice President and councillors;

“Election Procedures” means the NCC Election Procedures made in accordance with section 16.1;

“Elector” means any NunatuKavut citizen pursuant to the *Citizenship Law* who is sixteen (16) years of age or older and has not been legally declared mentally incompetent pursuant to the laws of Newfoundland and Labrador;

“Electoral Areas” means the areas made up of the communities and surrounding areas set out in **Schedule A**;

“Electoral List” means the list containing the names of Electors, which sets out the name, citizenship number, and date of birth of each Elector;

“e-voting” means voting by internet in accordance with section 11.5 of this Law;

“immediate family member” means the spouse, sibling, child or parent of a person;

“Non-Resident Elector” means an Elector who is not a resident of Labrador;

“NunatuKavut Inuit” means the historical and present-day collectivity of the NunatuKavut Inuit;

“NunatuKavut” means the traditional territory of the NunatuKavut Inuit described in the Constitution of the NunatuKavut Inuit;

“Resident Elector” means an Elector who is a resident of Labrador;

“Returning Officer” means the person appointed in accordance with section 3.1 and with the powers and duties in accordance with Part 3 of this Law;

“Staff” means a person appointed by the Returning Officer to assist the Returning Officer and Assistant Returning Officer; and

“Treasurer” means the treasurer of the NCC

GENERAL

1.2 This Law applies to Council elections, as well as any by-elections for individual members of Council.

PART 2: COMPOSITION AND TERM OF COUNCIL

COMPOSITION

2.1 The Council of the NCC shall consist of the following twelve (12) members elected or appointed pursuant to this Law:

- a) President;
- b) Vice-President appointed from among the Councillors;
- c) 1 Councillor representing the area of the Straits;
- d) 1 Councillor representing the area of Battle Harbour;
- e) 2 Councillors representing the area of Bolsters Rock to Spear Point;
- f) 1 Councillor representing the area of Sandwich Bay and Island of Ponds;
- g) 2 Councillors representing the area of Central and Northern Labrador;
- h) 1 Councillor representing the area of Western Labrador;
- i) 1 Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit residing outside of Labrador;
- j) 1 Councillor who is a NunatuKavut Inuit elder appointed by Council; and
- k) 1 Councillor representing the NunatuKavut Inuit youth.

2.2 The Electoral Areas for individual Councillors set out in section 2.1 include the communities and surrounding areas set out in **Schedule A**.

ELIGIBILITY FOR OFFICE

2.3 To be eligible to be elected to Council, an individual must:

- a) Be an Elector;
- b) Be at least nineteen (19) years of age by the start of nomination period, with the exception of the Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit youth (see section 2.8);
- c) Reside within Labrador, with the exception of Electors wishing to run for the position of Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit outside of Labrador; and
- d) Not be the Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officer, or other Staff in respect of the election for that office.

- 2.4 To be eligible to run for Councillor representing a specific area of NunatuKavut set out in **Schedule A**, the individual must reside within that area.
- 2.5 To be eligible to run for President representing all NunatuKavut Inuit, the individual must be a Full Member Resident of Labrador.
- 2.6 To be eligible to run for Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit outside of Labrador (Non-Residents), the individual must be a Full Member and reside anywhere in Canada outside of Labrador.
- 2.7 To be eligible to be the Councillor appointed by Council as a NunatuKavut Inuit elder, the individual must be accepted in their community as a valued NunatuKavut Inuit knowledge holder.
- 2.8 To be eligible to run for Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit youth, the individual must be a Full-Member Resident of NunatuKavut, and be between the age of sixteen (16) and thirty (30) at the time of their nomination.
- 2.9 All eligible employees of the NCC and its subsidiaries are eligible to run for Council under this Law, but must comply with the following:
- a) they must not use NCC resources during the campaign;
 - b) take a leave of absence without pay as of their nomination; and
 - a) upon election to office, they must resign from their position with the NCC.

TERM OF OFFICE

- 2.10 All members of Council shall be appointed for a term of four (4) years from the date of their election. Notwithstanding expiry of the term of office, members of Council shall continue to hold office until the election or acclamation and subsequent swearing-in of their replacements in accordance with this Law.
- 2.11 Continuation of office beyond the expiry of four (4) years shall occur only when approved by Council in the event of serious unforeseen or special circumstances as set out in section 12.1.

VACANCY ON COUNCIL

- 2.12 Apart from general elections to be held in accordance with this Law, a Council member position becomes vacant immediately on the occurrence of one (1) of the following events:
- a) the election of the office-holder is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction;
 - b) the office-holder:
 - (i) passes away;
 - (ii) submits their resignation in writing to the Council;
 - (iii) is no longer a NunatuKavut citizen;

(iv) is declared mentally incompetent in accordance with the laws of Newfoundland and Labrador;

(v) is convicted of an indictable offence; or

(vi) no longer meets eligibility requirements for that position on Council set out in this Law;

c) the Council member's term of office expired; or

d) the office is declared vacant pursuant to section 2.12 of this Law.

2.13 Where a Council member has, without permission from the Council, been absent from more than fifty percent (50%) of duly called Council meetings in one (1) year, that Council member shall be asked to resign following a vote of Council.

2.14 Where a position on Council becomes vacant:

a) more than two and a half (2.5) years before the expiration of the term of that Council member, NCC shall without delay hold a by-election for that position;

b) less than one and a half (1.5) years before the expiration of the term of that Council member, Council may appoint an eligible elector as Council member to fill the vacant position for the remainder of the term, provided they meet the eligibility requirements of this Law.

c) Any elections held pursuant to section 2.13 shall be carried out in accordance with this Law with modifications as necessary.

2.15 A Council member appointed pursuant to section 2.13 remains in office for the balance of the term in respect of which the vacancy occurred.

PART 3: RETURNING OFFICER

APPOINTMENT AND TERM

3.1 Council shall appoint a Returning Officer for each election by Council resolution or vote of Council at least eight (8) weeks prior to the general poll.

3.2 Council shall give preference to qualified NunatuKavut citizens and adhere to NCC's Human Resource Policies and Procedures when appointing a Returning Officer.

3.3 The term of appointment of any Assistant Returning Officer and additional Staff will be from the date of their appointment until the release of the Certification of Election Results for the election for which they were appointed, pursuant to Part 14.

MANDATE OF RETURNING OFFICER

3.4 The mandate of the Returning Officer is to oversee all Council elections, including by-elections.

3.5 The Returning Officer operates independently and shall be non-partisan at all times, whether or not they

are directly carrying out their duties under this Law.

3.6 The main responsibilities of the Returning Officer shall be to:

- a) oversee the enforcement and administration of this Law and the Election Procedures;
- b) ensure fairness and impartiality throughout all election processes;
- c) ensure the appointment and training of election personnel;
- d) appoint, as necessary, an Assistant Returning Officer and other staff giving preference to qualified NunatuKavut citizens and adhere to NCC's Human Resource Policies and Procedures;
- e) inform and expand awareness of the public on election procedures and election rights;
- f) maintain an updated Electoral List during the course of an election;
- g) encourage voter turnout;
- h) ensure the proper supervision of the casting of ballots;
- i) report election results;
- j) recommend to Council any changes to the Election Procedures and this Law and any other procedures related to elections for consideration, as appropriate;
- k) make operational improvements to internal processes to ensure effective and proper implementation of this Law and the Election Procedures; and
- l) carry out any further duties as required under this Law and the Election Procedures.

ELIGIBILITY

3.7 The Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officer, and other staff, if any, must, at all times during their terms of office:

- a) be nineteen (19) years of age or older;
- b) not be a Council member; and
- c) not be a candidate in that election.

3.8 The Returning Officer ceases to hold office if they:

- a) resign;
- b) are declared mentally incompetent pursuant to the laws of Newfoundland and Labrador;
- c) are removed from office by Council resolution or vote of Council;
- d) no longer satisfy the criteria set out in section 3.7; or
- e) pass away.

3.9 The Assistant Returning Officer, and other staff, if any, cease to hold office if that person is removed from that office by the Returning Officer.

DUTIES

3.10 Prior to an election, the Returning Officer shall appoint an Assistant Returning Officer and may appoint as many staff as are necessary to assist the Returning Officer in the performance of their duties under this Law and the Election Procedures, following the budgetary parameters provided by the Chief Administration Officer.

3.11 If the Returning Officer is absent or incapacitated or the office becomes vacant, then the Assistant Returning Officer will exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the Returning Officer.

3.12 Duties to be carried out by the Returning Officer under this Law and the Election Procedures may be performed by the Assistant Returning Officer, with the exception of the certification of election results, which may only be done by the Assistant Returning Officer in the event the Returning Officer is unable to act.

3.13 The Returning Officer, Assistant Returning Officer, and staff, if any, must perform their duties impartially and avoid any situation that may result in an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

3.14 The Returning Officer may take any measures they deem necessary to ensure the fairness and good conduct of the elections and the effective administration of this Law and the Election Procedures.

PART 4: CALLING OF ELECTIONS

CALLING ELECTIONS

4.1 Elections must be called by Council resolution or vote of Council and an Election Notice posted that sets out:

- a) the positions for which elections are being held;
- b) the commencement date and duration of the nomination period;
- c) details around the general polls and the advance or other polls, if any;
- d) information on methods of voting, voting procedures, and requirements; and
- e) the name, contact information, and office address of the Returning Officer.

4.2 Council shall call a general election every four (4) years as follows:

- a) the **election notice** shall be posted a maximum of 2 months prior to the general poll date;
- b) the **nomination period** opens on the day set out in the election notice and shall close two (2) weeks later at 5:00pm;

- c) an **advance poll**, if held, will be held seven to ten (7-10) days prior to the general poll;
- d) the **general poll** shall be held between three (3) and four (4) weeks following the close of the nominations unless modifications to the dates are required in accordance with section 12.1.

4.3 The election period commences on the day the nomination period opens and ends on the day of the general poll.

PART 5: NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

ELECTION NOTICE

5.1 Immediately upon receiving the Council resolution or vote of Council calling for an election, the Returning Officer must prepare an election notice to be posted a maximum of 2 months prior to the general poll which states:

- a) the positions for which elections are being held;
- b) the commencement date and duration of the nomination period;
- c) details around the general polls and the advance or other polls, if any;
- d) information on methods of voting, voting procedures, and requirements; and
- e) the name, contact information, and office address of the Returning Officer.

5.2 The election notice must be posted at the offices of the NCC and at one (1) or more conspicuous public places in each Electoral Area and must also be further publicized on the website of NCC and on social media.

5.3 A copy of this Law must be appended to the election notice.

PART 6: ELECTORS

ELECTORS

6.1 Every Resident Elector has a right to vote for the position of President, the Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit youth, and the Councillor representing the Electoral Area in which the Elector resides.

6.2 Every Non-Resident Elector has a right to vote for the position of President, the Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit youth, and the Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit outside of NunatuKavut.

6.3 All Electors must be listed on the Electoral List.

6.4 The Returning Officer may update the Electoral List in accordance with the Election Procedures.

PART 7: NOMINATIONS AND LIST OF CANDIDATES

NOMINATIONS

- 7.1 The nomination period will commence from the date set out in the election notice and shall close two (2) weeks later at 5:00pm, unless extended by the Returning Officer in accordance with section 12.1.
- 7.2 The nomination of candidates for the positions for which elections are to be held shall be accepted during the nomination period.
- 7.3 An Elector may be nominated for only one (1) Council position for which elections are to be held.
- 7.4 An Elector may only nominate Councillors representing a specific area if the Elector is a Resident of that area.
- 7.5 An Elector may not nominate themselves for a Council position.
- 7.6 Nominations shall be:
- a) submitted to the Returning Officer; and
 - b) confirmed or rejected by the Returning Officer,
 - c) in accordance with the procedures set out in the Election Procedures.
- 7.7 If, at the close of the nomination period, the Returning Officer has not received at least one (1) nomination for each Council position for which elections are to be held, the Election will proceed, and the newly formed Council will determine the appointment process for the electoral area without representation.

WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDATES

- 7.8 A candidate may withdraw up to forty-eight (48) hours prior to the date of the general poll by filing with the Returning Officer a statement to that effect, signed by the candidate.
- 7.9 The death, incapacity or ineligibility of a candidate has the same effect as withdrawal.
- 7.10 The Returning Officer shall make reasonable efforts to ensure the name of any candidate who has withdrawn does not appear on the ballots.
- 7.11 If, after the withdrawal of a candidate, there remains only one (1) candidate for that Council position, or if the remaining number of candidates is equal to the remaining number of vacant Council positions, then the candidate(s) will be declared to be elected by acclamation.
- 7.12 No poll will be held in respect of a Council position filled by acclamation and the Returning Officer will post the notice required in accordance with the Election Procedures.

7.13 If a candidate withdraws, any votes cast for that candidate in the election, for example during an advance poll or through e-voting, are void.

PART 8: CAMPAIGNING

CAMPAIGNING RULES

8.1 A candidate may begin campaigning when the list of candidates is posted.

8.2 In the course of their campaign, a candidate may:

- a) distribute literature or other materials;
- b) display or post signs;
- c) telephone Citizens
- d) go door-to-door to residences;
- e) make television or radio appearances;
- f) participate in public debates or events organized by the NCC or other organizations;
- g) hold special events; and
- h) make announcements on social media.

8.3 No candidate or person shall use bribery, undue influence or other corrupt practices during the election campaign and shall not remove the signs of other candidates or otherwise prevent other candidates from campaigning.

8.4 Candidates may not campaign in any form as of 12:00 am (midnight) on the general polling day.

8.5 Within two (2) days following the closing of the general poll, candidates must remove all signs, posters or other materials from all public places.

PART 9: METHOD OF ELECTION

ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION

9.1 If, at the close of the nomination period, there is only one (1) candidate for any of the Council positions for which elections are to be held, or if the number of candidates is equal to the remaining number of vacant Council positions, then the Returning Officer shall declare the candidate(s) to be elected by acclamation, and the notice requirements in the Election Procedures shall apply.

9.2 No poll will be held in respect of a Council position that is filled by acclamation.

ELECTION BY VOTE

9.3 Any Council position not filled by acclamation pursuant to section 9.1 must be elected pursuant to a vote via polls held on the date and at the hours and place set out in the election notice, unless there is a change of date pursuant to Part 12.

9.4 The elections for all Council members shall be held concurrently.

PART 10: POLLS

HOURS OF THE GENERAL POLL

10.1 The general poll shall be kept open during the period specified in the election notice, provided that such period extends for at least ten (10) continuous hours between the hours of 8:00am and 8:00pm.

CONDUCT AT POLL

10.2 Voting is by secret ballot and every person present at the polling station or the counting of the ballots must maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the vote.

10.3 The requirements regarding ballots, ballot boxes, and polling stations shall be set out in the Election Procedures.

10.4 Every person present at a polling station must refrain from:

- a) interfering or attempting to interfere with an Elector who is in a voting compartment;
- b) interrupting any Elector while that Elector is in a voting compartment; or
- c) obtaining or attempting to obtain from any Elector at a polling station information as to how the Elector intends to vote,

subject to assistance given to an Elector in accordance with the Election Procedures.

PART 11: VOTING

RIGHT TO VOTE

11.1 An Elector may vote:

- a) in person at the polling station on the day of the general poll;
- b) in person at an advance poll, if any,
- c) by e-voting; or
- d) by telephone

11.2 In the event of a serious health or other emergency in the community, which would make in-person voting unsafe, Council may, by Council resolution or vote of Council, change the method of voting to

make it accessible and safe for all, such as the use of e-voting or mail-in ballots, if any, for all Electors.

VOTING AT A POLLING STATION

11.3 Every Elector who is inside the polling station at the time fixed for closing the poll will be entitled to vote before the poll is closed.

11.4 The requirements regarding the process of voting shall be set out in the Election Procedures.

E-VOTING

11.5 E-voting shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements set out in the Election Procedures.

PART 12: POSTPONING AND CHANGING DATES AND TIMES

POSTPONEMENT OF POLLS OR NOMINATION PERIOD

12.1 Council may order that the dates for the nomination period or polls be postponed or extended and fix a new date as soon as possible in the following circumstances:

- a) in the event of an unexpected event or *act of God*, such as a natural disaster, that has or is likely to have a direct impact on the conduct of the elections or the nomination process; or
- b) for any other reason considered necessary to ensure the fairness, good conduct and secrecy of the vote, or the health and safety of the community.

12.2 In the event of a postponement of the elections or nomination period, the Returning Officer must make reasonable efforts to immediately inform the Electors of such postponement and any resulting changes to the election procedure by posting notices in one (1) or more conspicuous public places, making announcements on the local radio and the official NCC website and social media pages.

EXTENDING POLLING HOURS

12.3 In the case of a natural disaster, an electrical blackout or other extraordinary circumstance, the Returning Officer may:

- a) extend the closing of the poll for up to two (2) hours; and
- b) interrupt the poll and resume the poll within forty-eight (48) hours.

12.4 Where a poll is interrupted or hours are extended pursuant to section 12.3, the Returning Officer shall:

- a) take all reasonably necessary measures to inform the Electors of the time and place the poll will resume; and
- b) take all necessary measures to ensure that ballot boxes remain sealed and secured until such time as the poll can be completed, as applicable.

PART 13: COUNTING OF THE BALLOTS

SCRUTINEERS

- 13.1 Any candidate may appoint one (1) scrutineer to act as representative at each polling station during the conduct of the poll, and one (1) scrutineer to act as representative during the counting of the votes.
- 13.2 Any scrutineer must respect the secrecy of the vote and must not disclose any election results until these have been certified and made public by the Returning Officer.
- 13.3 During the counting of the votes, a scrutineer may not touch or otherwise participate in the counting of the vote but, as an observer, may challenge a decision of the Returning Officer or Deputy Returning Officer with respect to a ballot.
- 13.4 Any person over nineteen (19) years of age may be appointed as a scrutineer.

COUNTING BALLOTS

- 13.5 Ballots shall be counted in accordance with requirements set out in the Election Procedures.
- 13.6 Upon completion, a Statement of Election Results in the form set out in the Election Procedures must be signed by the Returning Officer, the Deputy Returning Officers at each polling station, and by one (1) witness, and by any candidates, or their scrutineers, who are present.

PART 14: ELECTION RESULTS

DETERMINATION OF RESULTS FOR PRESIDENT

- 14.1 The candidate for the office of President that receives the most votes of all valid votes cast for the position of President shall be elected President.

DETERMINATION OF RESULTS FOR COUNCILLORS FOR ELECTORAL AREAS

- 14.2 For each Electoral Area, the candidate for that office receiving the highest number of valid votes cast in respect of that office shall be elected the Councillor for that Electoral Area.

DETERMINATION OF RESULTS FOR COUNCILLOR REPRESENTING NUNATUKAVUT INUIT YOUTH

- 14.3 The candidate for the office of Councillor representing NunatuKavut Inuit youth receiving the highest number of valid votes cast in respect of that office shall be elected to that office.

APPOINTMENT OF ELDER COUNCILLOR

- 14.4 As soon as possible following a general election or following the vacancy of the position of

Councillor set aside for a NunatuKavut Inuit elder, and if required following a general call for interest, the Council shall appoint an individual as Councillor who is accepted in their community as a valued NunatuKavut Inuit knowledge holder.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENT

14.5 At the first Council meeting following a general election or following the vacancy of the position of Vice-President, the Council shall appoint a Vice-President from among the Councillors representing the Electoral Areas.

RUN-OFF ELECTION IN THE EVENT OF A TIE-VOTE

14.6 In the case of a tie vote for the candidates of any position on Council, the Returning Officer shall call a run-off election in respect of that position within seven (7) days of the general poll at a time and date determined by the Returning Officer.

14.7 Only the candidates being the subjects of a tie-vote shall be candidates in a run-off election and the provisions of this Law shall apply to the run-off election with such modifications as the circumstances require.

RECORDING AND CERTIFICATION OF RESULTS

14.8 The Returning Officer shall record the results for each position of Council on the Statement of Election Results in the form set out in the Election Procedures.

14.9 Immediately after the votes have been counted and the Statement of Election Results has been completed, the Returning Officer must publicly declare:

- a) the candidate or candidates who, in accordance with sections 14.1-14.3, have been elected;
- b) the candidate or candidates, if any, who are subject to a recount in accordance with sections 14.13-14.15; and
- c) the candidates or candidate, if any, who are subject to a run-off election in accordance with sections 14.6-14.7.

14.10 The Returning Officer must prepare, within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the Statement of Election Results, or, if a recount is required in accordance with sections 14.13-14.15, within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of Statement of Election Results following the recount, a Certification of Election Results in the form set out in the Election Procedures, indicating:

- a) the name of the persons elected, their position, whether they were elected by acclamation or by ballot and the date the persons were elected;
- b) the names of any candidates for a Council position who received an equal number of votes;
- c) the number of votes cast for each candidate listed in this section; and

d) any run-off elections to be held, and the date and time of the poll for the run-off election.

14.11 The Certification of Election Results must be signed by the Returning Officer and a witness.

14.12 The Returning Officer must, without delay, transmit the Certification of Election Results to the Chief Administration Officer and must post a copy of the Statement of Election Results at the offices of the NCC and must also be further publicized on the website of the NCC and on social media.

RECOUNT

14.13 The Returning Officer must recount the votes for a position to be filled at an election where:

- a) two or more candidates have received an equal number of votes for the last remaining Council position to be filled; or
- b) within two (2) clear days following the close of the general poll, the Returning Officer receives an application in writing from a candidate to the election, if there is less than a two percent (2%) difference in the number of ballots cast for that candidate and another candidate.

14.14 The Returning Officer will carry out the recount within twenty-four (24) hours of the completion of the first Statement of Election Results or within twenty-four (24) hours of the application under section 14.13(b), as applicable.

14.15 The Returning Officer will carry out the recount in the presence of the candidate and any other candidates, scrutineers or Electors present and section 13 shall apply with such modifications as the circumstances may require.

CONTESTING ELECTION RESULTS

14.16 If the election results are contested in a court of competent jurisdiction, the Council member whose election is contested is entitled to remain in office until such time as the court declares the election invalid.

14.17 If the election of a Council member is declared invalid, then the Returning Officer must, without delay, hold an election in respect of that Council position or positions and the provisions of this Law respecting the conduct of the elections will apply with such modifications as the circumstances may require.

PART 15: SWEARING IN AND DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

15.1 Following the certification of the election results, the elected candidates shall sign an oath of office, code of conduct, and disclosure of interest acknowledgement in the forms attached to the Governance Law within thirty (30) business days following the general poll.

15.2 If, following final election results, an electoral area remains unrepresented, the newly formed Council will determine the appointment process for representation of that electoral area.

PART 16: FINAL PROVISIONS

ELECTION PROCEDURES

16.1 Council may approve Election Procedures in conformity with this Law to support the proper implementation of this Law.

REPEAL OF PRIOR BY-LAW

16.2 This Law shall, on the date of its coming into force, repeal and replace all preceding NunatuKavut Election Manuals to this date, including November 30, 2019.

COMING INTO FORCE

16.3 This Law, including any amendments, shall come into force on the date it is approved by Council.

16.4 At the Annual General Assembly immediately following the approval of this Law, including any amendments, this Law shall be brought to the electors for their review. Any suggested amendments will subsequently be considered by Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Law is signed in Happy Valley-Goose Bay this October 9th, 2024.



Todd Russell
President



Alyssa Paul
Chief Administrative Officer

SCHEDULE A: Electoral Areas

Designated Area	Current Communities
Area 1 (Straits)	L'anse au Loup, L'anse au Clair, Forteau, Red Bay, West St. Modeste, Capstan Island, Pinware, L'Anse Amour
Area 2 (Battle Harbour)	Lodge Bay, Mary's Harbour, St. Lewis
Area 3 (Bolsters Rock to Spear Point)	Port Hope Simpson, Charlottetown, Norman Bay, Pinsent's Arm & William's Harbour
Area 4 (Sandwich Bay/Island of Ponds)	Cartwright, Paradise River & Black Tickle/Domino
Area 5 (Central/ Northern Labrador)	Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Northwest River, Mud Lake
Area 6 (Western Labrador)	Labrador City, Wabush & Churchill Falls
Area 7 (Non-Resident)	All communities represented outside Labrador

Note: For the purposes of determining citizenship, attachment to traditional/historical communities such as seasonal homes and relocated communities within the designated area, will also be considered.