

BEARSPAW NATION
COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Chronological No: 2025-BFN-07
File Reference:

THE COUNCIL OF THE STONEY TRIBE BEARSPAW NATION			
TERRITORY	TREATY NUMBER SEVEN SOUTHERN ALBERTA		
PLACE	CALGARY, ALBERTA		
DATE	22	October	2025
	DAY	MONTH	YEAR

WHEREAS the Chief and Council of the Bearspaw Nation wish to outline the Custom Election Regulations governing the forthcoming 2025 Bearspaw Nation Council Nominations and Election;

WHEREAS the current Chief and Council of the Bearspaw Nation were elected on November 26, 2022 by way of Bearspaw Nation practice and custom;

WHEREAS this election will use electronic voting at the polls;

WHEREAS the electronic voting shall be conducted in accordance with the Electronic Voting Procedure annexed hereto as Schedule “A”;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That these Custom Election Regulations governing the **2025 BEARSPAW NATION COUNCIL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION** for Chief and Councillors shall be as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS:

1.1 The Bearspaw Nation Council

For the purposes of these Custom Election Regulations, the Bearspaw Nation Council consists of one (1) Chief and four (4) Councillors.

2. POSITIONS AND TERM OF OFFICE OF THE BEARSPAW NATION COUNCIL

2.1 Positions

The Bearspaw Nation Council shall consist of one (1) Chief and four (4) Councillors as follows:

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| One (1) | Chief |
| Two (2) | Councillors – Mînî Thnî |
| Two (2) | Councillors – Eden Valley |

2.2 Term of Office

- (a) The term of office of the Chief and each Councillor shall be for a term of three (3) years.
- (b) A person who is either elected to the Council in a By-election or appointed by the Bearspaw Nation Council to fill a vacancy caused by death, resignation or disqualification from office of a Chief or Councillor in accordance with paragraph 19 shall hold that office for the remainder of the term of office of that Chief or Councillor.

3. APPOINTMENTS

3.1 Chief Electoral Officer

For the purposes of the **2025 BEARSPAW NATION COUNCIL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION**, the Chief Electoral Officer shall be **MARVIN YELLOWHORN**.

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3.2 Deputy Electoral Officers

For the purposes of the **2025 BEARSPAW NATION COUNCIL NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION**, the Deputy Electoral Officers and their respective Polling Stations as established in section 6 shall be as follows:

- (a) RENEE CANTIN – Big Horn (Big Horn Medical Centre), Mînî Thnî (Bears paw Youth Center)
- (b) VANESSA BULL – Eden Valley (Eden Valley Multipurpose Building)

3.3 Scrutineers

The Bears paw Nation Council shall appoint the Scrutineers for each Polling Station. All Scrutineers will be required to take an Oath of Secrecy and execute a Statutory Declaration in the form attached as Schedule “B” hereto.

4. DATES AND NOTICES OF NOMINATION MEETINGS

4.1 Notices

The Chief Electoral Officer shall immediately post Notices of Nomination Meetings at the Mînî Thnî, Eden Valley and Big Horn Reserves specifying the places, dates and times for nominations of the candidates for the positions of the Chiefs and Councillors.

4.2 Dates

The following dates shall apply:

NOMINATIONS DATE:	FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 7, 2025
WITHDRAWAL DATE:	MONDAY	NOVEMBER 10, 2025
VERIFICATION DATE:	TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 11, 2025
PROTEST DATE:	WEDNESDAY	NOVEMBER 12, 2025
PROTEST HEARING:	THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 13, 2025
POSTING OF FINAL LIST:	FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 14, 2025
ADVANCE POLLS:	TUESDAY	NOVEMBER 25, 2025
ELECTION DATE:	FRIDAY	NOVEMBER 28, 2025
APPEAL DEADLINE:	FRIDAY	DECEMBER 12, 2025

5. ELECTORAL RESERVES

5.1 Mînî Thnî, Big Horn and Eden Valley

The Electoral Reserves shall consist of all of the Stoney Indian Reserve Numbers 142, 143 and 144 at Mînî Thnî, 142B at Rabbit Lake, 144A at Big Horn, 216 at Eden Valley, and any other properties owned by the Stoney Tribe.

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5.2 **Properties Included**

For the purposes of these Custom Election Regulations:

- (a) Mîni Thnî shall be deemed to include Mîni Thnî, Rabbit Lake, the Beggs Ranch, the Two Rivers Ranch, the Copithorne Ranch, the Coppock Ranch, the Crawford Ranch, the Potts Ranch, and the Scott Lake property;
- (b) Big Horn shall be deemed to include Big Horn, the Big Horn Cultural Area, and the Caroline Ranch; and
- (c) Eden Valley shall be deemed to include Eden Valley, the Hughes Ranch, and the Cartwright Ranch.

6. **POLLING STATIONS**

6.1 Polling Stations for the **Nominations** shall be held at the following locations:

- (a) Big Horn – Big Horn Medical Centre
- (b) Eden Valley – Eden Valley Multipurpose Building
- (c) Mîni Thnî – Bearspaw Youth Center

6.2 Polling Stations for the **Advance Polls** shall be held at the following locations:

- (a) Big Horn – Big Horn Medical Centre
- (b) Eden Valley – Eden Valley Multipurpose Building
- (c) Mîni Thnî – Bearspaw Youth Center

6.3 Polling Stations for the **Election** shall be held at the following locations:

- (a) Eden Valley – Eden Valley Multipurpose Building
- (b) Mîni Thnî – Bearspaw Youth Center

6.4 Polling Stations for the **Nominations** shall be open from **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** on the Nomination Date, as established in paragraph 4.2.

6.5 Polling Stations for the **Advance Polls** shall be open from **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** on the Advance Polls Date, as established in paragraph 4.2.

6.6. Polling Stations for the **Election** shall be open from **9:00 AM to 6:00 PM** on the Election Date, as established in paragraph 4.2.

7. **ELIGIBILITY**

7.1 **To be Nominated**

In order to be nominated for any position as Chief or Councillor a person must:

- (a) be a registered Bearspaw Nation member in accordance with the Stoney Tribe Membership Code;
- (b) be twenty-one (21) years of age on or before the Nominations Date, as established in paragraph 4.2;

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- (c) meet the Residency Requirements as defined in section 8;
- (d) have not been convicted of an Indictable Criminal Offence¹ within the ten (10) year period on or before the Nominations Date, as established in paragraph 4.2;
- (e) have been properly nominated and seconded by a person meeting the requirements of paragraph 7.2;
- (f) have not been disqualified by all or any parts of these regulations;
- (g) provide to the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, no later than 4:00 PM on the Withdrawal Date, as established in paragraph 4.2:
 - i. a non-refundable nomination fee² of two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) for the position of Chief and one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for the position of Councillor, such non-refundable nomination fee to be paid by cash or certified cheque only. Failure to pay the nomination fee in the prescribed manner and time limit will disqualify the candidate from eligibility; and
 - ii. an executed Statutory Declaration in the form attached hereto as Schedule "B".
- (h) notwithstanding that a person may be nominated to run for the position of Chief or Councillor at more than one of the electoral Reserves. No person shall be obliged to pay more than one nomination fee to run for either the position of Chief or position of Councillor;
- (i) payment of the nomination fee and delivery of the required Statutory Declaration may be made to either the Chief Electoral Officer or any of the Deputy Electoral Officers by 4:00 PM on the Nominations date, as established in paragraph 4.2, at any of the Polling Stations as herein defined; and
- (j) any payment of either of the nomination fee or delivery of the required Statutory Declaration made after 4:00 PM on the Nominations Date but no later than 4:00 PM on the Withdrawal Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, shall be made to the Chief Electoral Officer or his designate at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer located in the Stoney Tribal Administration Building in Mîni Thnî, Alberta.

7.2 **To Nominate**

In order to be eligible to nominate another person for the position of Chief or Councillor, a person must;

- (a) be an Eligible Voter as defined in paragraph 7.3(a), (b) and (c);
- (b) meet the Residency Requirements as defined in section 8; and
- (c) comply with the requirements of these regulations as described in paragraphs 7.5 and 9.1.

¹ Indictable Criminal Offence means: homicide, sexual assault, breaking and entering, robbery, aggravated assault, weapons offences, arson, embezzlement, sexual offences involving children, or fraud all as defined in the *Criminal Code* or drug trafficking as defined in the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*.

² Nomination fees will cover costs of the Election.

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7.3 **To Vote**

In order to qualify as an Eligible Voter, a person must be:

- (a) twenty-one (21) years of age on or before the Election Date, as established in paragraph 4.2;
- (b) a registered Bearspaw Nation member in accordance with the Stoney Tribe Membership Code; and
- (c) present in person.

7.4 **Number of Votes**

Each Eligible Voter, as defined herein, is entitled to one (1) vote for Chief and four (4) votes for Councillors of the Bearspaw Nation in accordance with the positions described in paragraph 2.1. That is, an Eligible Voter may vote for up to two (2) Councillors at Mînî Thnî and up to two (2) Councillors at Eden Valley.

7.5 **Number of Nominations**

A person who is eligible to nominate may nominate or second the nomination of one person for the position of Chief. He or she may also nominate or second the nomination of one person for the position of Councillor. For greater certainty:

- (a) If a person nominates or seconds the nomination of one person for the position of Chief, then that person is no longer qualified to nominate or second the nomination of any other person for the position of Chief; and
- (b) If a person nominates or seconds the nomination of one person for the position of Councillor, then that person is no longer qualified to nominate or second the nomination of any other person for the position of Councillor.

8. **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS**

8. 1 Candidates, nominators and seconders for the positions of Chiefs or Councillors must meet the following residency requirements:

- (a) Chief – A person must be a registered Bearspaw Nation member in accordance with the Stoney Tribe Membership Code to be a candidate, nominator or seconder for this position and must have been resident on one of the Electoral Reserves for at least six (6) months immediately prior to the Nominations Date, as established in paragraph 4.2. The Chief of the Bearspaw Band Council must reside at Mînî Thnî after the Election.
- (b) Councillors (Mînî Thnî) – A person must be registered Bearspaw Nation member in accordance with the Stoney Tribe Membership Code and must have been resident at Mînî Thnî for at least six (6) months immediately prior to the Nominations Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, in order to be a candidate, nominator or seconder for these positions. These Councillors of the Bearspaw Nation Council must reside at Mînî Thnî after the Election; and
- (c) Councillors (Eden Valley) – A person must be a registered Bearspaw Nation member in accordance with the Stoney Tribe Membership Code and must have been a resident at Eden Valley for at least six (6) months immediately prior to the Nominations Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, in order to be

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a candidate, nominator or seconder for these positions. These Councillors of the Bearspaw Nation Council must reside at Eden Valley after the Election.

9. **VERIFICATION**

9.1 On the Verification Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, the Chief Electoral Officer and the Bearspaw Nation Council shall verify the eligibility of the candidates, nominators and seconders, and those persons who do not meet the eligibility requirements shall be disqualified. A list of all eligible candidates, nominators and seconders shall be posted immediately following the verification by the Chief Electoral Officer and the Bearspaw Nation Council.

10. **PROTESTS AND PROTEST HEARING**

10.1 All protests concerning the nominations must be made in writing to the Chief Electoral Officer no later than 4:00 PM on the Protest Date, as established in paragraph 4.2.

10.2 The Chief Electoral Officer shall refer all such protests to the Bearspaw Nation Council. The Bearspaw Nation Council shall hear and consider the protests and make determinations on the Protest Hearing Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, and the decision shall be final and binding.

11. **ADVANCE POLLS**

11.1 Advance polls shall be held on the date specified in paragraph 4.2.

11.2 Notwithstanding paragraph 7.3(c), advance polls shall be held at the locations specified by paragraph 6.2 for those persons who are Eligible Voters but may not be present to vote on Election Day including:

- (a) those who are attending educational institutions;
- (b) those who are employed away from the Electoral Reserves;
- (c) those who wish to vote in advance; or
- (d) those who reside at the Electoral Reserve of Big Horn.

11.3 **Hospitals**

Notwithstanding paragraph 7.3(c), an Eligible Voter who is hospitalized may request the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, as the case may be, to attend at a Hospital, nursing home or extended care facility to permit him or her to vote, provided the request is made within the time limit set by the Bearspaw Nation Council. The Bearspaw Nation Council shall appoint a Scrutineer to accompany the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, as the case may be and the Scrutineer will be required to take an Oath of Secrecy and execute a Statutory Declaration in the form attached as Schedule “B” hereto.

12. **BAND MEMBERSHIP**

12.1 Band membership shall be conclusively determined by the Band membership lists prepared by the Membership Department of the Stoney Tribal Administration.

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13. **NEW ELECTIONS**

13. 1 If no person is nominated for a position or there are fewer nominees than there are positions to be filled, then the Bearspaw Nation Council will set a new Nominations Date and Election Date for the vacant position or positions, for that designated area only, and the present office holder(s) from that area will continue to hold office until the new Election can be held.

14. **POSTING OF NOMINEES**

- 14.1 As soon as possible after the Verification of the candidates, nominators and seconders by the Chief Electoral Officer and the Bearspaw Nation Council, the Chief Electoral Officer shall post or cause to be posted in public places in and about the Electoral Reserves the names of the verified candidates nominated for the positions.

15. **WITHDRAWAL OF NOMINEES**

15. 1 **Notice**

Any person nominated may withdraw his or her name from nomination by giving notice in writing to the Chief Electoral Officer no later than 4:00 PM on the Withdrawal Date, as established in paragraph 4.2.

15.2 **Notice for Chief or Councillor**

Any Nation member who is nominated for both Chief and Councillor positions, but does not decline one or the other of the nominations by giving notice in writing to the Chief Electoral Officer of the withdrawal of his or her name on or before 4:00 PM on the Withdrawal Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, will automatically be disqualified as a candidate from both nominations.

15.3 **Final List**

After verification of the candidates, nominators and seconders and the determination of all protests under paragraph 10.2, and subsequent to the date for the withdrawal of nominees, the Chief Electoral Officer shall post or cause to be posted in public places in and about the Electoral Reserves the final list of the names of the nominated candidates.

16. **STONEY TRIBAL AND BEARSPAW NATION EMPLOYEES**

- 16.1 A Stoney Tribal or Bearspaw Nation employee may be nominated for a position and run for office. If elected to the Bearspaw Nation Council, that person’s employment with Stoney Tribal or Bearspaw Nation will automatically terminate, subject to the provisions of Section 2.4 of the Stoney Nation Human Resources Policy.

17. **DISQUALIFICATION FROM OFFICE**

17. 1 **Disqualification**

Disqualification from office shall occur in the following circumstances:

- (a) Any Bearspaw Nation Council member who is convicted of an indictable criminal offence while in office shall cease to hold that office;
- (b) Any Bearspaw Nation Council member who has been absent from meetings of the Stoney Tribal Council for three (3) consecutive meetings, without valid

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reason or authorization as determined by the Stoney Tribal Council in its sole discretion, shall cease to hold that office; and

- (c) Any Bearspaw Nation Council member who is found to have abused drugs, alcohol, or both during his or her term of office, without valid reason or authorization as determined by the Stoney Tribal Council in its sole discretion, shall cease to hold that office.

18. RUN-OFF ELECTIONS

- 18.1 In the case of a tie-vote for the position of Chief or the last position for either the Mîni Thnî Councillor or the Eden Valley Councillor, a run-off Election will be held within two (2) weeks of the Election Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, and only those persons who were tied in the original voting will be eligible to run in this run-off Election.

19. VACANCY

- 19.1 Subject to paragraph 19.2, should a vacancy occur as a result of death, resignation or disqualification from office, the Bearspaw Nation Council shall hold a by-election to fill the vacant office for the remainder of the term of that office.
- 19.2 If a position becomes vacant less than four (4) months before the date when another election would ordinarily be held, the Bearspaw Nation Council, in its sole discretion, may either appoint a replacement or decide to leave the position vacant.

20. CONDUCT AT POLLING STATIONS

- 20.1 Any person who, in the sole opinion of the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, appears to be intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or both will not be allowed in the Polling Station during Nominations Day or Election Day. Upon it appearing to any Peace Officer that a person is intoxicated or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or both then the Peace Officer shall remove the person from the Polling Station.

21. PROCEDURES FOR CLOSING THE POLL AND COUNTING THE BALLOTS

- 21.1 Immediately at the Close of the Polls on the Election Date, as established in paragraph 4.2, the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, as the case may be, shall publicly declare the poll closed.
- 21.2 The Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, as the case may be, shall tabulate the votes in accordance with Section 8 of the Bearspaw Nation Electronic Voting Procedure attached as Schedule "A" hereto.
- 21.3 A written statement of results, giving full particulars of the Election, shall be prepared and signed by the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, as the case may be.
- 21.4 All election materials shall be secured and maintained by the Chief Electoral Officer for a period of thirty (30) days or the conclusion of any appeals, whichever is the longer period of time.
- 21.5 In the event that a Deputy Electoral Officer is unable or unwilling, for whatsoever reason, to act in his or her capacity on Election Day, the Chief Electoral Officer may designate a replacement for the Deputy Electoral Officer.

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22. DECLARATION OF RESULT

22. 1 Declaration

Immediately after the completion of the counting of the ballots, the Chief Electoral Officer or the Deputy Electoral Officer, as the case may be, shall publicly declare elected the candidate or candidates having the highest number of votes for Chief and Councillors for the Bearspaw Nation Council in accordance with these Custom Election Regulations.

22.2 Posting

The Chief Electoral Officer shall post or cause to be posted the written statement of results signed by him or her in public places in and about the Electoral Reserves, showing the number of voters that voted, the number of ballots cast and the number of votes cast for each candidate.

23. APPEALS

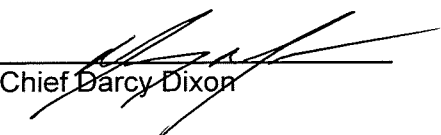
Any Eligible Voter has the right to appeal. All appeals concerning the Bearspaw Nation Council Elections must be submitted in writing to the Chief Electoral Officer with a \$1,000 administrative fee on or before the date established in paragraph 4.2 (December 12, 2025). The Chief Electoral Officer shall refer all such appeals to the Stoney Tribal Council whose decision shall be final and binding. Until such time as an appeal is decided, an appeal will not serve to invalidate the Election results and/or the operations of the newly elected Bearspaw Nation Council.

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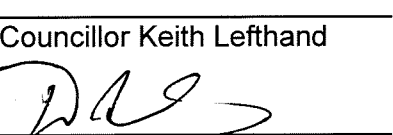
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Quorum: Three (3)




Chief Darcy Dixon




Councillor Keith Lefthand



Councillor Dacster Amos



Councillor Rod Hunter



Councillor Pierre Lefthand