



COMMUNITY NOTICE

For Immediate Release:

Ohiarikhkó:wa/July 25, 2025

UPDATE ON THE AKWESASNE ELECTION LAW AMENDMENT

DRAFT ACCEPTED BY COUNCIL IN PRINCIPLE, MOVING INTO PHASE III: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION.

The Akwesasne Election Law (AEL) Working Task Group (WTG) has been leading the amendment process for Section 16.2 of the AEL, following its introduction by community petition at a General Meeting held on February 27, 2025. In accordance with the Akwesasne Legislative Enactment Procedural Regulation (ALEPR), the WTG has completed the following steps to date:

The community comment period outlined in Phase I ran from May 8 to May 23, during which feedback from community members helped guide the WTG in developing the proposed amendments. Following this, the draft was submitted for legal review to obtain counsel's advice on the proposed changes. After considering the legal recommendations, the WTG presented the revised language for the Section 16.2 amendment—along with a summary of the work completed to date—at the June 2025 General Meeting with the Community and Council.

On July 21, 2025, Council voted to accept the Draft Akwesasne Election Law Amendment in principle, in accordance with Section 5.0 of the Akwesasne Legislative Enactment Procedural Regulation (ALEPR), titled "Phase II: Acceptance in Principle of an Akwesasne Law." The law will now proceed to Phase III: Community Consultation.

To promote transparency, community consultation sessions will be held in each district, including one in the Southern Portion. All community members are encouraged to attend and share their views on the proposed changes to Section 16.2. To ensure broad participation, the schedule will be shared through a news release on the MCA website and social media, announced on local radio station 97.3 FM, and distributed as a mailer to every household in the northern portion of the territory. The mailer will include the time and location of each session, the proposed amendment, and the current version of Section 16.2 for comparison.

If you have any questions for your Community District Representatives on the Oversight Committee, or general inquiries, please contact Legislative Services Manager Alyson Thompson at alyson.thompson@akwesasne.ca.