

SUMAS FIRST NATION ELECTIONS HANDBOOK AND REFERENCE

SUMAS FIRST NATION ELECTION REGULATIONS & PROCEDURES

Final Draft: Jan 22, 1998

Amended: June 15, 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	DEFINITIONS	1		
2.0	GOVERNING BODY			
3.0	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR OFFICE	2		
4.0	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO VOTE	2		
5.0	ELECTORAL OFFICERS	2		
6.0	APPEAL BOARD	3		
7.0	COUNCIL VACANCIES	3		
8.0	VOTERS' LIST			
9.0	NOTICE OF NOMINATION MEETING			
10.0	NOMINATION MEETING	5		
11.0	ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION	5		
12.0	NOTICE OF POLL	_		
13.0	PREPARING THE POLL STATION	6		
14.0	OPENING THE POLL			
15.0	PROCEDURES FOR VOTING	7		
16.0	VOTING INTEGRITY			
17.0	SPECIAL VOTING PROVISIONS	9		
18.0	CLOSING THE POLLS	_		
19.0	COUNTING BALLOTS	9		
20.0	SPECIAL POLL			
21.0	DISPOSAL OF ELECTION MATERIALS	11		
22.0	COMMENCEMENT OF TERM			
23.0	APPEAL PROCEDURE			
24.0	AMENDING PROVISION			
25.0	EXTRAORDINARY MEETING			
26.0	LIABILITY			
27.0	SEVERABILITY			
28.0	COMING INTO FORCE	13		
APPEN	DIX 1 - Mail-in Voting Procedure	14		
	APPENDIX 2 - Mail-in Ballot Instructions1			
APPEN	DIX 3 - Sample Ballots	17		
APPEN	DIX 4 - Sample Electoral Officer Statement	18		
	DIX 5 - Oath			

1.0 **DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of the Sumas Election Regulations and Procedures

- (a) "Chief" means the elected leader for the Sumas First Nation.
- (b) "Constable/ Sergeant of Arms" means a person employed by the Sumas First Nation to maintain order and peace during an election poll.
- (c) "Corrupt Practice" means an intentional act to evade the prohibitions of the law and the custom of the Sumas First Nation or an act of an official to procure some benefit for himself/herself or another person contrary to the duty and rights of others.
- (d) "Councillor" means the elected members for the Sumas First Nation Council.
- (e) "Electors" means all those individuals on the Sumas First Nation List who have reached the age of 18.
- (f) "Gross Misconduct" means theft or falsification of records, wilful destruction of the Sumas First Nation's property, or endangering the safety of any Sumas First Nation Member through incompetence or negligence.
- (g) "Scrutineer" means a person who is appointed by a candidate to observe

Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; and words importing a male person include a female person.

2.0 GOVERNING BODY

- 2.1 The Sumas First Nation Council shall consist of a minimum of four (4) members (one Chief and three Councillors).
- 2.2 The number of councillors will change as the number of Sumas First Nation Members changes. More specifically, when the Sumas First Nation membership reaches 400, one more councillor will be added, making a five member council (one Chief and four Councillors). Thereafter, the council will increase by one for every 200 new members.
- 2.3 The quorum for the Sumas First Nation will be a majority of the Sumas First Nation Council.

3.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR OFFICE

- 3.1 To hold the position of Chief or Councillor for the Sumas First Nation a person must:
 - (a) be a Sumas First Nation Member; and
 - (b) be at least 18 years of age.

4.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO VOTE

- 4.1 To be eligible to vote and be an Elector, a person must:
 - (a) be a Sumas First Nation Member; and
 - (b) be at least 18 years of age.

5.0 ELECTORAL OFFICERS

- 5.1 The Sumas First Nation Council shall appoint by a Band Council Resolution (BCR) an Electoral Officer and a Deputy Electoral Officer (Electoral Officers) to carry out the election procedure. The Officers must be appointed at least 90 days prior to the election date.
- 5.2 The Deputy Electoral Officer is authorized to carry out the duties of the Electoral Officer when directed to do so by the Electoral Officer.
- 5.3 The Electoral Officers chosen shall:
 - (a) not be Sumas First Nation Members; and
 - (b) not have a vested interest in the outcome of a Sumas First Nation election; and
 - (c) be qualified and/or trained either by the Department of Indian Affairs or Sto:lo Nation to conduct elections; and

6.0 APPEAL BOARD

- 6.1 For the purpose of resolving election appeals the Sumas Council shall appoint three (3) persons to the Appeal Board for a one year term commencing on the election day. These appointments must be made 10 days prior to the election day.
- 6.2 The Appeal Board shall:
 - (a) consist of 3 people; and
 - (b) not be Sumas First Nation Members; and
 - (c) reside in the Traditional Sto:lo territory; and
 - (d) not have a vested interest in the outcome of a Sumas First Nation election; and
 - (e) submit written or verbal acceptance to the Sumas First Nation Council prior to the election date.

7.0 COUNCIL VACANCIES

- 7.1 A Chief or Councillor position automatically becomes vacant when that person who holds office:
 - (a) resigns;
 - (b) is convicted of an indictable offence as defined within the Criminal Code of Canada;
 - (c) becomes mentally ill or incapacitated to the point where they cannot perform the required duties, in which case must be reviewed by two (2) doctors according to the *Mental Health Act*;
 - (d) fails to make the prescribed declaration as outlined in section 22.3; or
 - (e) dies.
- 7.2 A Chief or Councillor may be removed from office if it is determined that the person who holds office:
 - (a) was found guilty of gross misconduct or corrupt practice in connection with council or Sumas First Nation business; or
 - (b) missed three (3) consecutive Sumas First Nation meetings without good reason.

Ten days' notice must be given to Sumas First Nation members to attend a meeting specifically to discuss the removal of a council member. Removal of a council member must be supported by 75 % of the eligible Electors in attendance at the meeting.

7.3 Upon the event of a vacancy a bi-election shall be held within 60 days of the date of the vacancy. The bi-election shall be conducted in the same guidelines as defined in these Sumas Election Regulations and Procedures.

8.0 VOTERS' LIST

8.1 The Electoral Officer shall obtain a voters' list from the Sumas First Nation. The list shall be in alphabetical order and contain the full name of all the eligible Electors of the Sumas First Nation. The voters' list will be reviewed during the nomination meeting and any final adjustments to the list will be made at that time.

9.0 NOTICE OF NOMINATION MEETING AND ELECTION

- 9.1 At least 30 days before the day on which a nomination meeting is to be held, the Electoral Officer shall:
 - (a) post a notice of the nomination meeting and the voters list in one or more conspicuous places on the reserve; and
 - (b) send by mail and/or email to those Electors for whom the Electoral Officer has addresses:
 - (i) the notice of the nomination meeting; and
 - (ii) a nomination form which may be returned to the Electoral Officer by mail, fax or email.
- 9.2 The notice of a nomination meeting and election must contain the following information:
 - (a) the date, time, duration and location of the nomination meeting;
 - (b) the number of positions on Council to be filled;
 - (c) the date on which the election is to be held and the location and hours of operation of the polling station;
 - (d) the Electoral Officer's name, phone number, fax number, postal address and email address; and
 - (e) that nominations can be made by mail, email or fax and voting can take place in person or by mail-in ballot.

9.3 It is the responsibility of each Elector residing away from the Sumas reserve to keep the Electoral Officer informed of his or her address and any change to the address.

10.0 NOMINATION MEETING

- 10.1 The nomination meeting will take place at least 45 days before an election.
- 10.2 After declaring the nomination meeting open, the Electoral Officer will only accept nominations for the next two (2) hours.
- 10.3 During the nomination meeting the Electoral Officer shall:
 - (a) verify the voters' list with the membership in attendance;
 - (b) inform Electors that there will be no adjustments to the voters' list in the 48 hour period prior to the opening of the polls;
 - (c) read over the rules in the event of a tie;
 - (d) announce the members of the appeal board.
- 10.4 Candidates may only be nominated by an eligible Elector of the Sumas First Nation, either by having submitted the nomination form to the Electoral Officer or in person, before the close of the nomination meeting.
- 10.5 Nominated candidates must be present to accept the nomination. In the event the nominated candidate cannot be present at the meeting the mover or seconder must present a letter of acceptance on their behalf. Candidate nominations must be seconded by another eligible Elector of the Sumas First Nation.
- 10.6 The Electoral Officer shall canvass the nominees for their acceptance during the nomination meeting.
- 10.7 Candidates may decline their nomination during the meeting.
- 10.8 Any candidate wishing to withdraw after the nomination meeting must submit a signed letter to the Electoral Officer at least 35 days before the election.
- 10.9 A person may run for both the Chief and Councillor position. If a person wins in both positions, he or she must immediately decide the position he or she wishes to hold (preferably on the same day as the election poll). The vacancy will be filled by the remaining candidates, the candidate with the next highest number of votes will be declared into office. In the event there are no other candidates a bi-election will be held.

11.0 ELECTION BY ACCLAMATION

11.1 After the nomination meeting is closed, and the number of persons nominated for the position of Chief and or Councillors is less-than or equal to the number of seats available then, the Electoral Officer shall declare those persons elected. In the event that vacancies

remain in council after the nomination meeting, the Electoral Officer shall notify the Electors of another nomination meeting to fill the vacant positions.

12.0 NOTICE OF POLL

- 12.1 The Electoral Officer shall declare an election poll be held if the number of nominations exceeds the number of seats available for either the Chief or the Councillor's positions.
- 12.2 The Electoral Officer will confirm the dates, time and places where the polls will be held by posting notices on the reserve and on-line, including on the Sumas Nation website.
- 12.3 The election poll must be conducted prior to the completion of the current Council's terms of office.
- 12.4 At least 30 days prior to the election, the Electoral Officer will send out mail-in ballot packages to those Electors living away from the Sumas Reserve for whom he or she has addresses.

13.0 PREPARING THE POLL STATION

- 13.1 All polls will be conducted by secret ballot.
- 13.2 Electors may vote by mail-in ballot in accordance with the procedures contained in Appendix 1 and the mail-in ballot instructions at Appendix 2.
- 13.3 The Electoral Officer is responsible for preparing the ballots and the mail-in ballot packages. There will be two separate ballots one for the position of Chief and the other for the positions of the Councillors. The Electoral Officer shall ensure that there are sufficient

- ballots available in case of spoilage. The ballots shall be prepared as shown in the sample in Appendix 3.
- 13.4 Election statements shall be prepared by the Electoral Officer prior to the election. The statement shall be prepared in the format of the sample shown in Appendix 4.
- 13.5 The Electoral Officer must provide a ballot box which must be capable of being locked. Pencils and instructions for marking the ballots must be provided in each voting booth.
- 13.6 The Electoral Officer shall place polling booths in areas which are easily accessible and where the Electors can mark their ballots in secrecy without interference.
- 13.7 The Electoral Officer may appoint a constable or sergeant of arms to maintain order at the polling place.

14.0 OPENING THE POLL

- 14.1 Prior to the opening of the poll the Electoral Officer shall ensure that the ballot box is examined by witnesses to ensure that the box is empty.
- 14.2 The box will then be locked and signed by the witnesses for the duration of the poll.
- 14.3 The polling stations will be set up on the Sumas Reserve preferably at the Sumas First Nation Office.
- 14.4 The polling station will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

15.0 PROCEDURES FOR VOTING AT THE POLL

- (a) The Electoral Officer will verify a person's eligibility according to the voters' list.
- (b) The Electoral Officer may request photo identification if unsure of a person's identity.
- (c) Upon being satisfied of a person's eligibility to vote, the Electoral Officer shall issue an initialled ballot to the eligible Elector.
- (d) The Electoral Officer shall strike the name of the Elector from the voter's list upon casting their ballot.
- (e) Persons not on the voter's list will not be entitled to vote.
- 15.2 The Electoral Officer shall issue the ballot to the Elector in a manner that will enable secrecy. Upon issuance of the ballot to the Elector the Electoral Officer will give instructions

- for marking the ballot. The Electoral Officer shall issue the ballots in a manner that will protect confidentiality.
- 15.3 An Elector that wishes to exchange their ballot they may do so, the Electoral Officer keeps the spoiled ballot and issues a new ballot. The Electoral Officer must write the word "cancelled" on the spoiled balled and deposit it into the ballot box.
- 15.4 When a voter who received a ballot refuses to vote, or who leaves the polling place without returning his ballot, they will have been deemed to have forfeited their right to vote. When this occurs the Electoral Officer must mark the word "declined" on the voter's list beside

- that person's name. If the ballot is returned the Electoral Officer must mark it "declined" and deposit it into the ballot box.
- 15.5 After marking their ballot, the Elector shall return the folded ballot to the Electoral Officer. The Electoral Officer shall then verify that it is the same ballot issued to the voter and then shall deposit the folded ballot into the ballot box.

16.0 VOTING INTEGRITY

- 16.1 No person shall be allowed to interfere or attempt to interfere with a voter marking his or her ballot.
- 16.2 No person shall be permitted to obtain or attempt to obtain in the polling place any information as to how a person voted.
- 16.3 The Electoral officer shall keep the polling station clear of people loitering; only those people appointed as scrutineers may be present to observe the election procedure. The scrutineers are subject to all provisions outlined in section 16.

17.0 SPECIAL VOTING PROVISIONS

- 17.1 If it is determined that an eligible Elector is home ridden and unable to attend the polling station the Electoral Officer, upon request, may retrieve a vote from this Elector providing he is within the boundaries of the Sumas Reserve.
- 17.2 The Electoral Officers may assist an Elector who is unable to mark his ballot as a result of a physical disability or if the Elector cannot read.

18.0 CLOSING THE POLLS

18.1 At precisely 7:00 p.m. the polling place shall be promptly closed. Any Elector that is inside of the polling station at closing time and who has not voted, may do so.

19.0 COUNTING BALLOTS

- 19.1 At the close of the polling station, the Electoral Officer shall handle the mail-in ballots in accordance with Appendix 1 and commence the procedure to count all the ballots. The Electoral Officer shall appoint witnesses to be present during the ballot count.
- 19.2 The Electoral Officer shall open the ballot box and examine each ballot and reject those ballots that:
 - (a) have not been provided by the Electoral Officer or their Deputy; or
 - (b) have been marked with "cancelled" or "declined"; or
 - (c) select more than the maximum number of candidates that are required; or
 - (d) identifies the Elector; or

- (e) are ambiguous so that the intention of the voter cannot be determined by the Electoral Officer.
- 19.3 Ballots that select less than the number of candidates required will be accepted.
- 19.4 The Electoral Officer shall count the ballots and document the results on the Election Statement (Appendix 4). Appointed witnesses or candidates present shall sign the Election Statement with the Electoral Officer.
- 19.5 The candidates with the most votes shall be declared elected.
- 19.6 The Electoral Officer shall immediately declare the results of the poll and announce the newly elected positions. If after the ballot count there is a tie, the Electoral Officer shall announce the need for a Special Poll. (See section 20.0 "Special Poll")
- 19.7 The Electoral Officer shall prepare three (3) copies of the Election Statements, and submit one to the Department of Indian & Northern Affairs, two for the Sumas First Nation office.

20.0 SPECIAL POLL

A special poll shall take place one week from the date of the original poll. The Electoral Officer will announce the date, place and time. The duration of this Special Poll will be from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. The Electoral Officer shall carry out this Special Poll in accordance to sections 12 through to section 22 of the Sumas Election Regulations. The voters' list will not change. The ballot will contain only the names of those candidates that were tied with the highest number of votes.

20.1 In the event of a tie in the Special Poll, the Electoral Officer will break the tie. The Electoral Officer will cast a ballot for each candidate and will have their Deputy Electoral Officer draw from the ballots casted. The name drawn by the Deputy Electoral Officer will be declared into office.

21.0 DISPOSAL OF ELECTION MATERIALS

- 21.1 The Electoral Officer shall retain all of the ballots and relative documents in a secure location for 60 days. After the expiry of 60 days the Electoral Officer may dispose of the election documents.
- 21.2 In the event of an appeal the ballots shall be kept in a secured place until a decision has been rendered by the Appeal Board.

22.0 COMMENCEMENT OF TERM

- 22.1 The term of office for the Chief and Councillors will be three (3) years.
- The term of offices commences May 1 every third year, and the term of the old Council shall end at 12:59 pm on April 30 of that year.
- 22.3 Elected candidates must take an oath at the swearing in ceremony (see Appendix 5).

 Swearing in of Chief and Councillors shall take place riot later than 5 days after the election poll.

23.0 APPEAL PROCEDURE

- 23.1 Within 30 days after an election an eligible Elector may appeal the results if it is believed that:
 - (a) there was corrupt practice in connection which the election, or
 - (b) there was a violation of the Election Procedures of the Sumas First Nation that might have affected the outcome of the election, or
 - (c) a person nominated to be a candidate in the election was ineligible to be a candidate.
- 23.2 All appeals shall be in writing and forwarded to the Appeal Board. The appeal document must contain all particulars and information supporting the appeal. It is the exclusive responsibility of the appellant to provide the relevant evidence.
- 23.3 The Appeal Board shall, within seven (7) days of the receipt of an appeal, forward a copy, together with all supporting documents to:
 - (a) the Electoral Officer,
 - (b) each candidate in the election,
 - (c) the Sumas First Nation Council.
- 23.4 Candidates and the Electoral Officers, may within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the appeal forward to the Appeal Board a written response, together with any supporting documents.

- 23.5 The Appeal Board shall take such steps as are necessary to secure all pertinent facts relating to the appeal, including affidavits.
- 23.6 Within 30 days of receipt of an appeal the Appeal Board shall, render a decision on the validity of the appeal. The Appeal Board shall report the decision and or recommendations to the Electoral Officer, candidates and the Sumas First Nation Council. The decision of the Appeal Board is final.
- 23.7 Any recommendations of the Appeal Board which may involve another election shall respect the provisions of this code.
- 23.8 Any costs incurred by resolving an election appeal by the Appeal Board shall be reimbursed by the Sumas First Nation.

24.0 AMENDING PROVISION

- 24.1 Amendment proposals from Sumas Electors shall be in writing and delivered to the Sumas First Nation Council and/or Manager, and must be accompanied by a petition showing support from at least 25% of the eligible Electors of the Sumas First Nation.
- 24.2 Amendments may be proposed by Sumas First Nation Council by way of Band Council Resolution.
- 24.3 The Sumas First Nation Council and/or Manager shall commence amending procedures within 30 days of receiving the Electors' written proposal and petition or the Band Council Resolution. The Sumas Election Regulations may be amended after
 - (a) notice is given to the Sumas First Nation members that an amendment has been proposed, and
 - (b) consultation with the Sumas First Nation members specifically to discuss the amendment proposal has occurred, and
 - (c) support from 50% or more of the eligible Electors that participated in a referendum held specifically for that purpose. A referendum shall be held within 30 days of the final consultation meeting.
- 24.4 No amendments will take place 60 days prior to a Sumas election.

25.0 EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

25.1 In the event that an issue arises that is not addressed by these election regulations, the Sumas First Nation Council may, with at least 30 days' notice, call an extraordinary meeting of the Sumas First Nation membership. Support from 50% or more of those eligible Electors

voting at the extraordinary meeting is required to resolve any problems created by this specific issue.

26.0 LIABILITY

The Sumas First Nation or its members shall not be liable for any claims, losses or damages resulting from the deletion or addition of an individual's name to the Sumas Voters' List.

27.0 SEVERABILITY

27.1 If any part of these rules is declared to be invalid or unenforceable by any court, such invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other part of these election regulations.

28.0 COMING INTO FORCE

28.1 These rules came into force on or about the 22nd day of January, 1998, upon ratification by a simple of majority of those Sumas First Nation members who have reached the age of 18 and are residents on the Sumas Reserve.

APPENDIX 1 - Mail-in Voting Procedure

Requesting the mail-in ballot package

- 1. No later than 30 days before the day on which the election is to be held, the Electoral Officer shall mail to every Elector living away from the Sumas reserve for who he or she has a mailing address, a mail-in ballot package consisting of:
 - (a) a ballot, initialed on the back by the Electoral officer or deputy Electoral officer;
 - (b) an outer return envelope that is pre-addressed to the Electoral Officer and if the Elector's address is in Canada, is postage-paid;
 - (c) an inner envelope marked "Ballot" for insertion of the completed ballot:
 - (d) a voter declaration form; and
 - (e) instructions for voting by mail-in ballot (see Appendix 2).
- 2. A mail-in ballot must be returned to the Electoral Officer along with the signed and witnessed voter declaration form, before the close of the polls.
- 3. An Elector may request a mail-in ballot package from the Electoral Officer up to 15 days before the election.

Returning the mail-in ballot package

- 4. A mail-in ballot is void if the mail-in ballot package is not received by the Electoral Officer or deputy Electoral Officer before the time at which the polls close.
- 5. The Electoral Officer shall indicate on the voters list, those Electors to whom a mail-in ballot package was sent, and keep a record of the date on which, and the address to which, each package was sent.
- 6. The Electoral Officer shall ensure the safekeeping of the mail-in ballot packages upon receipt, by placing them into a locked box kept stored in a secure location until the date of the election.
- 7. An Elector who received a mail-in ballot package may obtain a ballot and vote in person at the polling station if the Elector
 - (a) returns the unused mail-in ballot to the Electoral officer; or
 - (b) provides the Electoral Officer with a declaration stating that they have lost their mail-in ballot.

Electoral Officer's handling of the mail-in ballots

- 8. Upon the closing of the polling station, the Electoral Officer shall, in the presence of everyone present, unlocked the box for mail-in ballots and open each envelope containing a mail-in ballot that was received before the close of the polls and, without unfolding the ballot, check to ensure that
 - (a) the ballot is accompanied by a signed and witnessed voter declaration form,
 - (b) the Elector whose name is on the voter declaration form appears on the voters list, and
 - (c) the Elector whose name is on the voter declaration form did not already vote in person.
- 9. In the Electoral Officer's discretion, if s. 8(a), (b) and (c) are satisfied, he or she shall mark on the voter's list that the Elector whose name is on the voter declaration form as having voted and deposit the ballot into the ballot box.
- 10. If the Electoral Officer determines that a mail-in ballot does not satisfy the requirements of s. 8 (a), (b) and (c), it shall be rejected, not placed in the ballot box and not counted.
- 11. After the mail-in ballots have been deposited in the ballot box, the Electoral Officer must, in the presence of everyone present, open the ballot box and count the ballots in accordance with the procedure set out in the Regulations.

APPENDIX 2 - Mail-in Ballot Instructions

- 1. Mark the ballot with an X, V or other mark that clearly indicates the Elector's choice of candidate(s), but does not identify the Elector;
- 2. Fold the ballot to conceal the candidates' names and marks on the ballot without hiding the Electoral Officer's initials on the back;
- 3. Place the ballot in the inner envelope and seal that envelope;
- 4. Complete and sign the voter declaration form in the presence of a witness who must also sign the form where indicated;
- 5. Place the inner envelope and the completed voter declaration form in the outer mailing envelope; and
- 6. Mail or otherwise deliver the mail-in ballot package to the Electoral Officer or Deputy Electoral Officer before the time the polls close.

APPENDIX 3 - Sample Ballots

BALLOT FOR CHIEF							
Election Poll held for Sumas First Nation							
Held on,,							
at the 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.							
Mark ballot by placing an "X" in the box opposite the name of candidate for whom you choose to vote. There is only one (1) Chief to be elected.							
Please mark only one (1) box.							
☐ Name of Candidate							
☐ Name of Candidate							
BALLOT FOR COUNCILLOR							
Election Poll held for Sumas First Nation							
Held on,							
at the 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.							
Mark ballot by placing an "X" in the box opposite the name of candidate for whom you choose to vote. There are Councillors to be elected							
Please mark only boxes.							
☐ Name of Candidate							
☐ Name of Candidate							
☐ Name of Candidate							
☐ Name of Candidate							

APPENDIX 4 - Sample Electoral Officer Statement

SAMPLE STATEMENT

SUMAS ELECTION STATEMENT

DATE:					
Number of eligible Electors:					
Number of Electors who voted in person:					
Number of Electors who voted by mail-in ballot:					
Number of ballots prepared:					
Number of spoiled ballots:					
Number of rejected ballots:					
Number of rejected mail-in ballots:					
Number of ballots leftover:					
Ballots cast in favour of:					
For Chief:	For Councillors:				
Name of Candidate	Name of Candidate				
Name of Candidate	Name of Candidate				
Term of office is effective	to				
Verified correct by:					
Electoral Officer	Witness/Candidate				

Witness/Candidate

APPENDIX 5 - Oath

OATH FOR CHIEF AND COUNCILLORS

A person who has been elected Chief or Councillor shall, before officially taking office, make the following declaration before the Chief's Representative of Sto:lo Nation a Notary Public or a duly appointed Commissioner for Taking of Oaths and file with the Sumas First Nation Manager. Below is a sample of the oath for both the Chief and Councillors of the Sumas First Nation.

SUMAS FIRST NATION

Oath of Chief/Councillor

I, (name of candidate), elected Chief/Councillor of the Sumas First Nation, do declare as follows:

- 1. I am a member of the Sumas First Nation and as such am ready and willing to serve on the Council as Chief/Councillor for the Sumas First Nation.
- 2. To the best of my knowledge I am qualified to serve as Chief/Councillor of the Sumas First Nation pursuant to the Sumas Election Regulations and Procedures.
- 3. That I will faithfully perform the duties of my office and will not allow my private interest to influence my conduct in public matters.
- 4. That I will protect the laws of our First Nation, in order to preserve our culture and heritage; to faithfully discharge my duties in a fair and equitable manner and to involve all willing Sumas Members to participate in a common effort to improve our lives.
- 5. That I will co-operate with every First Nation throughout British Columbia and Canada for the following goals and objectives: a just settlement of land claims, to overcome racism and discrimination against all people, to achieve for our people our right to self-determination and self-reliance and a level of economic opportunity, education, health and housing equal to that of other members of Canadian society; and I will extend the hand of friendship and co-operation to all like-minded Canadians in pursuit of these goals.
- 6. That I have not, directly or indirectly committed any bribery, corruption or intimidation during my election campaign.

Chief/Councillor Signature			
at	this	day of	
Chief's Representative Sto:lo Nation, Commissioner of Oaths or Notary Public			