

Tłegóhtł Got'ine Government

“The Government of the People Where the Oil Is”

Why Self-Government

Moving forward while keeping what you have
under the Land Claim and Indian Act.

What is a Self-Government

- A clearer representation of who you are: Tłegohłı Got'ıne
 - This is in addition to being one of five Dene/Metis Sahtu Communities
- The right to make your own laws under the FSGA, for yourself
- A Government that represents you to Canada, GNWT and to Industries
- The land claim has remained static; but it contemplated self-government. Self-government is the next chapter to enforce your Indigenous Rights.
- There was no replacement or elimination of rights, just an additional way to protect and enforce your rights.

Self-Government vs. Land Claim

Self-Government	Land Claim
Direct Representation to Canada and GNWT	Representation through the SSI
Create your own laws under the FSGA; as well as operate under the land claim	Doing and not doing only what Canadian corporate law allows; as well as operating under the land claim
You have your own Constitution: it can evolve as and when you want it to	Comply with the rules under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act and Canadian corporate law
Government Operation Funded by Canada: Financial Stability	Government Program Contribution Agreements, when available and when successfully applied for covering government operations: Financial Instability

How will your Self-Government Work

- Before you have a self-government, you will need to ratify FSGA and Constitution
- After you successfully ratify the FSGA and Constitution, there will be a 1-year transition from a not-for-profit corporation to a self-government.
 - During this 1-year transition we will, along with many other things, create a starter kit-of-laws.
 - These laws will be a starting point. That means, if you don't like these laws or even the Constitution, you can change it.
 - These laws, and your Constitution may require future amendments as they may not be perfect. But you can change them without Canada or GNWT consent. You can change them to reflect what you want.

- After 1 year, April 1 2026 – you will have a functioning self-government.
- Then within 2 years, there will need to be an election
 - These elections will re-create the current system of staggered elections every two years.

What kind/type of Self-Government will you be voting for

- A mix of republic and “Northern” system.
 - You will directly vote for the President and each Councillor position
- The Legislative Council can make appointments to non-elected positions
- Under the Constitution the President must be resident in Norman Wells
- But, up to 4 of the 8 other members of the Legislative Council can be non-resident of Norman Wells.

Why not have a perfect self-government from the start

- Everyone has a different conceptualization of what a perfect government is
 - We need to have a starting point. This is the starting point.
- As time progresses, you can amend your Constitution without Canada and the GNWT agreeing.
- As time progresses, with Canada and GNWT agreeing, you can also amend the FSGA.
- To start, your self-government will be small and relatively simple dealing only with the betterment of the Tłegohłj Got'ineę and the protection of your rights.
- As time progresses, your government may grow as it adjusts to better accommodate and protect your and your rights.

Examples of time and society driven change

- Financial and Administration
- Election
- Disclosure and Transparency
- Privacy Protection
- Appointments

How Can I directly participate in the Self-Government?

- Regardless where you live in Canada, you can vote directly for the President and the 8 other members of your Legislative Council
- Regardless where you live in Canada, under the proposed Constitution, you can run for a seat on your Legislative Council
- Regardless where you live in Canada, you may be the best candidate for appointment to the Institutions that the Legislative Council may establish to provide programs or services or to represent your Self-Government in negotiations with other governments.

- Having a self-government that can represent you at the table with Canada, a government that you elect directly will benefit you and the generations after you.
- Ratifying the Final Self-Government Agreement negotiated over the last 17 years will be the next step in the treaty process.
- Self-Government for the Sahtu Dene and Metis of Norman Wells, the Tłegóhłı Got'ıne, will fill in one of the outstanding gaps left by the Land Claim Agreement.
- In the future your Self-Government will, as a “government within the constitutional framework of Canada”, be in a position to advocate for and protect your Inherent Rights directly to other Canadian governments.

What will I be voting on? Two Things

- **The Final Self-Government Agreement for the Tłegóhłı Got'îné**
 - Like the Land Claim Agreement it will be a constitutionally protected treaty
 - See the Summary of the Final Self-Government Agreement
 - Can only be amended by agreement between you and Canada and the Government of the Northwest Territories
- **The Tłegóhłı Got'îné Government Constitution**
 - This is your Self-Government's Constitution governing how your Self-Government will exercise the jurisdictions and authorities set out in the Final Self-Government Agreement
 - You can amend the Constitution without asking or requiring the consent of Canada or the Government of the Northwest Territories

Both Documents must be Approved by you in the Ratification Vote.

50% plus 1 of you must vote and of the votes cast, 50% plus 1 must be in favour of both documents.

Ratification Process

- The ratification vote will take place on March 31, 2025
- Canada, through a contribution agreement, is funding the entire ratification process through The Tłegóhłı Got'ınê Government Incorporated, paying for:
 - A Ratification Committee to oversee meetings and the voting process
 - Independent legal advice for the Ratification Committee
 - And independent Chief Ratification Officer and support staff to run the ratification vote
 - All communication and travel costs for holding information meetings before the ratification vote
 - Office and administration

When and How Can I Vote

Ratification Day: March 31, 2025

- Voting Polls: Norman Wells
Yellowknife
Edmonton – Deputy Ratification Officer: Terry Hodgkinson
- Advance Polls: Mid-March in Yellowknife and Norman Wells
- Mail-in Ballots: Every Member will receive a mail-in ballot
- Information Sessions: Vancouver - January 11
Norman Wells- January 19
- Appeals of Preliminary Voting List closes January 13.
- News will be updated on the website: TGGVote.ca
- My job: To make this work in a fair and impartial manner

Questions:

- On the Final Self-Government Agreement?
- On the Tłegohłj Got'jne Government Constitution?
- On the Ratification Process?