



Lands Management Advisory Committee

SUMMARY OF THE COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS

The Community Ratification Process (CRP) document sets out the rules and procedures that the Ratification Officer must follow in the conduct of the Land Code Vote. The Ratification Officer is an impartial, independent contractor, with no affiliation with or to the Metlakatla First Nation. The Ratification Officer takes their directions from the Community Ratification Process document, not from the Chief or Council, or the Metlakatla Lands Department.

The Community Ratification Process sets out how an eligible voter can vote. An eligible voter is a Member of the Metlakatla First Nation who is 18 years of age or older on the Voting Day on which that Member votes. It outlines the ways in which you can vote: 1) by mail-in ballot, 2) in person at a polling station, or 3) electronically.

The Ratification Officer will send a mail-in ballot package to every eligible voter that he has an address for. The ballot package will also contain instructions for voting electronically. Voters, who receive a mail-in ballot package but would rather attend a poll station and vote in person, may do so. Newspaper ads with the Notice of Vote will be published in various newspapers so that off-reserve voters for whom we do not have addresses for will then know who to contact to receive information and mail-in ballot packages.

The processing of the mail-in ballots, electronic votes and then the opening up of all of the polling stations ballot boxes and counting of the ballots will be done at the Prince Rupert (Coastal Training Centre) poll station immediately after the close of the poll on the final day of voting (October 15th at 8pm). This process is open to the public and all Metlakatla First Nation members are invited to attend to watch the count.

Any questions that you might have related to voting procedures are to be directed to the Ratification Officer, Lawrence Lewis. His toll free phone number is 1-855-458-5888, cell phone/text is (250) 889-1582 and email is lewis.l@telus.net.

Objections to the voting process may be made in accordance with the CRP. An Eligible Voter or the representative of Canada appointed under clause 8.2 of the *Framework Agreement* may file an objection with the Verifier if the Eligible Voter or representative has reasonable grounds for believing that there was a violation of, or irregularity in, this Ratification Process; and that the final result of the Ratification Vote might have been different but for the violation or irregularity.

Any objections must be received, in writing, by the Verifier (Al Gross – agross@telus.net or 250-808-0449) within five (5) days of the last Voting Day (October 15th, 2016) and include the following information:

- Identify the name address & telephone number of Eligible Voters or representative of Canada making the objection
- Summarize the grounds for the objection, and
- Be accompanied by a statutory declaration setting out the grounds for the objection.

The full copy of the Community Ratification Process can be found online at: www.metlakatla.ca/mfn-government/draft-land-code or by contacting Philip Clement, Director of Lands at 250-628-3234 Ext 2013 or lands@metlakatla.ca.