

NOTICE OF RATIFICATION VOTE

CONFIDENTIAL: THIS AND ALL OTHER RATIFICATION DOCUMENTS ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND FOR KIASHKE ZAAGING ANISHINAABEK – GULL BAY FIRST NATION MEMBERS ONLY. Please do not distribute or circulate to non-members, or post on any publicly accessible forum.

To: Members of Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation (“KZA”)

TAKE NOTICE that a Ratification Vote will be held in accordance with the Ratification Process set out in Schedule 1 of the Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation Treaty Reserve Claim Agreement 1 (“**Agreement 1**”) to determine if Eligible Voters approve Agreement 1 and the Trust Agreement.

1.1 BALLOT QUESTION:

The following question will be asked of the Eligible Voters by ballot:

Do you approve the decision to:

- (a) agree to all of the terms and conditions of the Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation Treaty Reserve Claim Agreement 1 initialed by the negotiators for Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation and Canada and the Trust Agreement;

and

- (b) authorize and direct the Council of Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation to sign all documents and do everything necessary to give effect to the Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek – Gull Bay First Nation Treaty Reserve Claim Agreement 1 and the Trust Agreement?

1.2 ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST

To vote in the Ratification Vote you must be an Eligible Voter.

An Eligible Voter is a person:

- (a) whose name appears on the Band List of KZA, as prepared by the federal Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) Governance Office for use by the Chief Ratification Officer, or who is entitled by ISC to have their name appear on such Band List;

and

- (b) is eighteen (18) years of age or older;

on or before the date of the last Voting Day (i.e. on the date scheduled for the Main Poll).

If an Eligible Voter believes that their name or someone else's name has been omitted from the Eligible Voters List, or their name or someone else's name is incorrect on the Eligible Voters List, or their name or someone else's name should not be included on the Eligible Voters List, then the Eligible Voter may apply to the Chief Ratification Officer to have the Eligible Voters List revised accordingly.

In making an application to the Chief Ratification Officer, the Eligible Voter must complete and provide to the Chief Ratification Officer a Declaration for Application to Revise the Eligible Voters List form at APPENDIX "G" of Schedule 1 of Agreement 1 or a Declaration of Membership and Eligibility to Vote form at APPENDIX "H" of Schedule 1 of Agreement 1 and shall include relevant documentation such as those that verify the Eligible Voter is on KZA's Band List, and, is eighteen (18) years of age on or before the date of the last Voting Day of the Ratification Vote.

1.3 VOTING IN PERSON AT THE ADVANCE POLL OR AT THE MAIN POLL

Eligible Voters may vote in person at the Advance Poll or at the Main Poll as follows:

- **Advance Poll in Thunder Bay:** The first opportunity for Eligible Voters to vote in person will be at the Advance Poll on February 15, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time until 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time at the Valhalla Inn (Scandia Room), 1 Valhalla Road, Thunder Bay, ON.;

OR

- **Main Poll in Gull Bay:** The second and final opportunity for Eligible Voters to vote in person will be at the Main Poll on February 22, 2025, 9:00 a.m. Eastern Time until 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time at the KZA Rec Hall, Gull Bay, ON.

1.4 COPIES OF AGREEMENT 1 AND TRUST AGREEMENT

Copies of Agreement 1 and the Trust Agreement will be available for in-person review upon request by Members at the KZA Gull Bay First Nation Government Office, Gull Bay, ON., between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time on January 20, January 27, February 3, February 10, and February 18, 2025. No recording devices, phones or cameras will be used by those requesting review of the Agreements.

1.5 INFORMATION MEETINGS:

Information Meetings will be held to provide information to Members of KZA about Agreement 1 and the Trust Agreement, and, to respond to any questions from Members. The Chief Ratification Officer will also be available to provide information to Members of KZA about the voting processes, and, to respond to any questions about the voting process from Members. The legal counsel and financial advisor will also be available to provide information to Members of KZA about the legal issues and financial issues.

Information meetings will be held on the following dates, times, and locations:

- January 31, 2025, at the KZA Rec Hall in Gull Bay from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time; and
- January 31, 2025, at the Delta Hotel, 2240 Sleeping Giant Parkway in Thunder Bay from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time

1.6 CONTACT INFORMATION OF CHIEF RATIFICATION OFFICER:

If you have any questions about the Ratification Vote, please contact the Chief Ratification Officer at:

- (a) P.O. Box 135, Heron Bay, ON., P0T 1R0
- (b) Tel: 807-707-3747
- (c) Email: sinnedrob@gmail.com

1.7 CONTACT INFORMATION OF REVIEW OFFICER

Objections may be filed with the Review Officer in accordance with Article 12 of Schedule 1 of the Ratification Process (Schedule 1 of Agreement 1) at the following:

- (a) KZA Review Officer, c/o Buset LLP, 1121 Barton Street, Thunder Bay, ON., P7B 5N3
- (b) Tel: 807-623-2500 or 1-888-532-8738
- (c) Fax: 807-622-7808
- (d) info@busetlaw.com

1.8 MAIL-IN BALLOT PACKAGE:

A Mail-In Ballot Package containing the following materials will be sent to Eligible Voters at least twenty-one (21) days before the last scheduled Voting Day (i.e. the date of the Main Poll):

- (a) A copy of the Notice of Ratification Vote;
- (b) An instruction letter from the Chief Ratification Officer containing the following:
 - (i) Instructions on the dates, times and locations of where Members of KZA can attend at any Information Meetings; and
 - (ii) Instructions on the dates, times and locations of where Eligible Voters can vote in person at the:
 - (1) Advance Poll; or
 - (2) Main Poll;
 - (iii) Instructions on how Eligible Voters can vote by mail; and
 - (iv) A summary document that explains in plain language all of the above.
- (c) An information letter from the Chief and Council about Agreement 1 and the Trust Agreement;

- (d) A plain language summary of Agreement 1 and the Trust Agreement prepared by KZA's legal counsel;
- (e) A ballot with the initials of the Chief Ratification Officer affixed on the back;
- (f) A white ballot envelope with the Declarations of Mail-in Voter and Witness substantially in the form of APPENDIX "D" of this Ratification Process printed on it; and
- (g) A postage-paid return envelope that is pre-addressed to the Chief Ratification Officer, where the Eligible Voter is instructed to enclose the sealed white ballot envelope containing their marked ballot ("**Return Envelope**").

Members of KZA may also request a copy of the Mail-In Ballot Package from the Chief Ratification Officer at any time prior to the date of the last scheduled Voting Day (i.e. up to, but not including, the date scheduled for the Main Poll).

Copies of the Mail-In Ballot Package will also be made available for Eligible Voters:

- at the Nation's office at the Gull Bay Community (the Chief Ratification Officer will be available at the Nation's office between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time on January 20, January 27, February 3, February 10, and February 18, 2025 to facilitate providing copies to Eligible Voters of the Mail-In Ballot Package); and
- at all Information Meetings.

1.9 VOTING BY MAIL-IN BALLOT

Eligible Voters may also vote by mailing their mail-in ballot to the Chief Ratification Officer in accordance with the Chief Ratification Officer's instruction letter (the instruction letter contains all details on how to properly mark their mail-in ballot, complete the Declaration of Eligible Voter and Witness on the white envelope, and mail the mail-in ballot to the Chief Ratification Officer SO THAT THE CHIEF RATIFICATION OFFICER RECEIVES THE MAIL-IN BALLOT BEFORE THE DEADLINE SET OUT IN THE INSTRUCTION LETTER).

Dated at Thunder Bay, in the Province of Ontario, this 16th day of January, 2025.



Dennis Robinson
Chief Ratification Officer

807-707-3747
sinnedrob@gmail.com