**EPA Amendment Ballot Information Guide**

**Amendments to the “Whereas” Section**

* Expanded from three (3) paragraphs to seven (7) paragraphs.
	+ Includes language about the importance of the Cree Language and the connection between the people and the land. Also adds additional language on sovereignty and accountability.

**Candidate requirements Amendments**

* Sections 4.3 – 4.12, Schedule E (Cree Language learning agreement), Schedule A, Nomination form.
	+ Expands the candidate requirements, which includes: Cree language requirements; no criminal convictions for 5 years; no pending charges; cannot be on the Child or Adult abuse registry, increase to 3 nominators (one must 60 years of age or over); $100 filling dues to run; and residency requirements.

**Electronic Voting Amendments**

* Section 6.6 – 6.11
	+ These sections outline the rules around when and how Electronic Voting can be used.

**Appeal Committee Amendments**

* Sections 1.1(b), 5.15, 5.18, 6.10,
* Section 7 (all) – Appeal and Ethics Commission
* Section 8 (all) – Remuneration of Electoral Officer and Commission
* Section 9 (all) – Vacancy, Removal and Suspension of Office
* Section 10 (all) – Duties and Responsibilities of Chief and Council
	+ These amendments include any changes to the previous “Appeal Committee”, including all amendments related to oversight of Chief and Council.
	+ Without the creation of the “Appeal and Ethics Committee” and their expanded role, there is no language in the current EPA to enforce any of the additional amendments increasing oversight or adding additional roles and responsibilities for Chief and Council.

**Amendments to the Amendment Procedure**

* Sections 11.1 – 11.4.
	+ These amendments include the following:
		- introduces two amendment initiation processes – Council initiated amendments and amendments proposed by NHCN members; and
		- Changes the current EPA so that once amendments are passed by the people the Chief and Council must accept and ratify the amendments.

**Remaining Amendments**

* These Amendments include the following:
	+ Overall amendments to the grammar and clarity of the entire EPA.
	+ Additional definitions – Blackout Period, Corrupt Practice, General Band Meeting, Malfeasance.
	+ Amendments clarifying use of pronouns and the use of headings.
	+ Amendments that a person can only run for Chief or Councillor, not both.
	+ Amendments on recounts, Oath of Office, Appointment of Deputy Chief and exceptional circumstances.
	+ Amendments on advance voting in Winnipeg.
* Amendments to the grammar, clarity and formatting in the following Schedules:
	+ Schedule A – Nomination Forms
	+ Schedule B – Ballot and Absentee Forms
	+ Schedule C – Instructions for Ballot Forms
* Amendments creating the following:
	+ Schedule D – Blackout Period Guidelines
	+ Schedule F – Oath of Office for the Chief and Councillors
* Amendments to grammar, clarity and updating of the Appendix – History of the NHCN EPA. If these amendments pass, they will include a final paragraph detailing the result of the vote.
* Removal of the list of changes/amendments made in 2005.