

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION



## Summary of the WWFN Code of Practice for Traditional Activities – PROPOSAL

WWFN members will be asked to vote on the proposed WWFN *Code of Practice for Traditional Activities* at the general meeting on June 6, 2026. Please refer to the full text for further details.

If you have any questions about this, please contact: **Me Noémie Cimon**, lawyer at Cain Lamarre at **418-275-2472** or by email at **noemie.cimon@cainlamarre.ca**.

### What is a traditional activity?

This term covers all activities related to the occupation and use of the Wolastokuk and the Wolastoqey identity. For example, harvesting wildlife and plants, such as hunting and fishing, gathering and processing products of the territory, building shelters or camps, observation activities and land use planning, as well as all necessary accessory practices.

### What is the purpose of this Code?

- **Affirming the ancestral and treaty rights of the WWFN over the Wolastokuk**
- **Protecting** the Wolastokuk
- **Preserving our culture, knowledge, and tradition**
- **Promoting the values** of respect, sustainable management, sharing, harmonious coexistence, and safety
- **Clarifying** the individual exercise of the WWFN's collective rights and obligations with respect to the traditional activities of the Wolastoqiyik

### What does it include?

- **The main objectives, principles, and values** regarding the exercise of traditional activities
- **Scope of application:** What? Where? To whom?
- **The adoption of rules of practice** governing certain activities by the Grand Council, in consultation with the Wolastokuk Traditional Activities and Occupation Committee (WTAOC)
- **A unified procedure for** managing non-compliance with the rules of practice, from reporting to sanctioning the Wolastoqiyik

## To whom does the Code apply?

- To Wolastoqiyik Wahsipekuk citizens!

### **NOTE – The Code does not apply to “associated citizens.”**

Associated citizens and anyone other than Wolastoqiyik Wahsipekuk citizens do not enjoy the privileges and obligations that arise from the Code. They must comply with provincial or federal obligations, even on the Wolastokuk.

- **Accompanying persons** are members of a citizen’s immediate family, unless there are exceptional circumstances, who accompany them while they are engaged in a traditional activity. Accompanying persons are not permitted to hunt, fish, etc., under the collective rights of the WWFN.

## Where does the Code apply?

- On the part of the Wolastokuk located in Quebec
- It is prohibited to carry out traditional activities on private property without clear authorization!

**Note that the WWFN does not consider the land on which Club Appalaches is located to be private property.**

## What is the process when a Wolastoqiyik does not follow the rules of practice?

Depending on the rules of practice specific to each activity, sanctions may apply. For example, the WWFN currently applies sanctions when the rules for packages are not followed. The Code provides for a process applicable to all sanctions:

1. **Whistleblowing** via the confidential hotline administered by a third party or by contacting the WWFN directly.
2. **Admissibility analysis** by the WTAOC.
3. **Notice to the Wolastoqiyik** concerned, opportunity to provide written comments (30 days).
4. **Hearing** possible at the member’s request.
5. **Analysis and recommendation by the WTAOC** to the Grand Council.
6. **Final decision** of the Grand Council, communicated within a maximum of 90 days after the initial notice.

Anonymity is preserved except in the event of a request for a hearing.

## Rules of Practice

The Code confirms that the WWFN Grand Council may adopt specific rules for certain activities, for example to ensure the conservation of a species. The Lobster Fishing Code of Practice is an example of specific rules in force at the WWFN. Upon recommendation by the WTAOC, the Grand Council may adopt rules of practice covering the following topics:

- territory of application;
- harvesting periods;
- beneficiaries;
- authorized harvesting;
- authorized equipment and boats;
- issuance of permits, including associated fees;
- declaration of harvesting;
- public health and safety;
- respect for users, resources, and activities;
- nuisance control;
- sanctions for non-compliance.

### **Member support**

The WWFN will provide support, assistance, and guidance to members in order to ensure that the WWFN's collective rights are respected, to the extent that the *WWFN's Code of Practice for Traditional Activities and rules of practice* are respected by the Wolastoqiyik.

