

CODE OF WWFN MEMBERS' GENERAL AND SPECIAL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURES

Notice of question requiring a vote by members

Amendment to the Code of WWFN Members'
Deliberative Assembly Procedures

November 2025

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NEW VERSION

The WWFN is sending you the corrected version of the proposed amendments to the *Code of Deliberative Assembly Procedures*. Please refer to the paragraphs in blue, which indicate the additions made since the version dated September 17, 2025.

If you already received a version dated September 17, 2025, please note that it is not up to date. The vote must consider the current version, which includes all proposed modifications, in red and in blue.

Definitions

Members: Refers to all members of the Wolastoqiyik Wampanoag First Nation as defined in the current Wolastoqiyik Wampanoag First Nation citizenship rules.

Proposal: A statement which usually comprises a series of whereas clauses about which members take position: for or against. This debate allows the assembly to make a recommendation or come to a decision.

Resolution: A decision taken or a recommendation made by the members' assembly to the Grand Council:

- a) the proposal presented by a Wolastoqiyik, if accepted by the members, constitutes a recommendation of the members' assembly submitted to the Grand Council;
- b) the proposal presented by the Grand Council, if accepted by the members, constitutes a decision of the members' assembly.

1. GENERAL RULES

1.1 General Assembly of Members

The assembly is the Wolastoqiyik Wampanoag First Nation meeting of members, who must express themselves according to the rules established in this Code for the purpose of making decisions about the WWFN's general orientations.

It is understood that the assembly does not deal with confidential or internal business matters, such as WWFN employee files.

Assembly procedures help facilitate the deliberation process, guarantee each person's right to speak, and support debates and decision-making, in accordance with the volition of the majority of members present.

Only members who have the right to vote make up the general assembly and are admitted into the

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deliberations, in addition to personnel and any person whose services have been retained by the Council.

1.2 Notice

Any WWFN members' assembly, no matter its nature, must be called by the Grand Council, by way of a written notice indicating the date, time and location of the meeting, and including a draft agenda.

The notice of a general assembly must be sent to all WWFN members at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the assembly.

1.3 Draft General Assembly Agenda

The draft general assembly agenda includes the following items:

- 1) verification of quorum and opening of the assembly;
- 2) election of the president of the assembly;
- 3) adoption of the agenda;
- 4) approval of the last assembly's minutes;
- 5) presentation of financial statements;
- 6) report from the Grand Council;
- 7) topics that require special attention, if applicable;
- 8) presentation of proposals;
- 9) other business;
- 10) elections, if applicable.

1.4 Quorum

The general assembly's quorum is composed of fifteen percent (15%) of members with the right to vote, and decisions must be taken by a majority of members present with the right to vote.

The quorum is presumed to be maintained, but the president or a member of the assembly may question its validity.

If it is determined that quorum is no longer met, the deliberation session is ended.

Everything that has been decided before the verification of the quorum is valid.

2. PRESIDENT OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Grand Chief is the president of all WWFN assemblies, but may appoint another person to serve in this capacity.

He may not preside over an assembly during which an agenda item places him in a conflict of interest.

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When the Grand Chief appoints another person to preside over an assembly, this appointment must be approved by the majority of members present. Failing this, the General Manager presides over the assembly without further formalities.

2.1 President's Role

The president of the assembly leads the deliberations in accordance with this Code.

Specifically, he must:

- 1) facilitate the meeting process;
- 2) guide the Wolastoqiyik in applying the procedures;
- 3) remain impartial in his comments and decisions;
- 4) maintain order and decorum;
- 5) call to order any member who does not respect the procedures and decorum;
- 6) allow any member who wishes to express themselves the right to speak, and withdraw this right if necessary;
- 7) protect the freedom of expression of every Wolastoqiyik;
- 8) decide on the admissibility of a proposal, except for a main proposal, and when required, consult the Proposal Analysis Committee;
- 9) establish the amount of time allotted for interventions and deliberations.

The president may apply the penalties provided for under this Code to any person who disrupts an assembly or who does not adhere to the rules.

In the event of disorder, he may suspend or adjourn the assembly and set a date and time to resume deliberations. The president has the residual power to intervene in cases where none of the procedure rules in effect provides a solution for specific cases. The Council of Elders can be called upon to handle any dispute regarding the meeting process.

2.2 Rights and Responsibilities of Members

Any member who takes part in assembly deliberations is entitled to:

- 1) support, defend or debate any proposal presented during the assembly;
- 2) ask any pertinent question about the subject under deliberation;
- 3) intervene in the debate;
- 4) vote.

To do so, they must:

- 1) indicate to the president their intention to intervene, either by raising their hand or by walking up to the microphone;
- 2) wait for the president to give them the right to speak;
- 3) identify themselves immediately;
- 4) always speak directly to the president;

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- 5) remain on topic and bring forth new facts;
- 6) stop talking at the president's request, when a question of privilege is asked, or when a point of order is raised.

2.3 Secretary of the Assembly

The secretary of the Grand Council of the WWFN is the designated secretary for all assemblies.

The secretary is responsible for taking the minutes of the meeting and maintaining the Record of Proposals, in which all resolutions proposed during the assembly are recorded, along with the name of each proposer, seconder, and the assembly's decision or the result in the event of a vote.

3. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

3.1 Proposal Analysis Committee

No later than one hundred and twenty (120) days before the general assembly, a Proposal Analysis Committee is formed, comprised of the WWFN's legal advisor, the secretary of the Grand Council of the WWFN and a representative of the Council of Elders.

This committee remains in place until the end of the general assembly.

3.2 Proposal Submission Period

Once the Proposal Analysis Committee is formed, the proposal submission period begins. The period ends sixty (60) days before the general assembly.

3.3 Submission Method

Any voting member may submit a proposal to the Proposal Analysis Committee by email or regular mail.

3.4 Proposal Analysis Committee

The Proposal Analysis Committee receives proposals from members, performs a preliminary analysis and, after addressing them, records them in the Record of Proposals.

During the preliminary analysis, the Proposal Analysis Committee may:

- a) Accept the proposal for presentation to the assembly;
- b) Reformulate the proposal, with the agreement of the proposing member, so that it reflects the proposer's true intention or complies with Article 3.5;
- c) Reject the proposal if it is deemed inadmissible under Article 3.5.

The Proposal Analysis Committee informs each proposing member of its decision, which is final and without appeal.

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3.5 Admissibility of a Member's Proposal

3.5.1 A member's proposal must:

- a) Pertain to the WWFN's general orientations;
- b) Respect the frameworks in force within the WWFN.

3.5.2 A member's proposal must not:

- a) Be frivolous, vexatious or abusive;
- b) Have already been the subject of a proposal within the period specified in Article 3.2.

3.5.3 A member's proposal may not:

- a) Overturn a decision made by the WWFN members following a referendum process, such as a question submitted to members under the *Voting Code*;
- b) Terminate a contract or agreement in which the WWFN is involved;
- c) Put the WWFN in a concerning financial situation and/or seriously damage the WWFN's economic interests;
- d) Hinder an ongoing negotiation between the WWFN and a third party.

3.6 Proposal Delivery

Once the period specified in Article 3.2 has elapsed, the Proposal Analysis Committee will return a copy of the accepted proposal to the proposer.

The proposer is responsible for keeping the proposal accepted by the Proposal Analysis Committee until the general assembly, and for presenting it at the assembly.

3.7 Record of Proposals

The Record of Proposals includes all proposals submitted by members during the period specified in Article 3.2.

The Record comprises two sections: proposals accepted for presentation to the members' assembly and proposals rejected by the Analysis Committee.

The Record contains the proposal, the proposer's name, the date the proposal was received and the reason for rejection, if applicable.

Once the WWFN members' assembly is adjourned, the adoption or rejection of each proposal by the Wolastoqiyik is recorded.

The Record of Proposals is available for consultation on the day of the assembly.

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4. MEETING PROCESS

4.1 Members' assembly

4.1.1 Definition

The WWFN Assembly represents the collective will of the Wolastogiyik by adopting resolutions based on democratically debated proposals.

The WWFN Assembly may not deliberate on a proposal from a member if it has been duly accepted by the Proposal Analysis Committee under Article 3.4 and seconded by a member during the assembly.

The WWFN Assembly may also deliberate on a proposal submitted by the Grand Council.

4.1.2 Presentation of proposals

The Grand Council's proposals are presented first, then those accepted by the Proposal Analysis Committee are presented according to their topic. Even if they are grouped by topic, they are presented by the member proposing them and debated in turn.

Each proposer presents their proposal. For the WWFN assembly to receive and debate a proposal, it must be seconded by another member.

4.2 Types of Proposals

There are different types of proposals, based on their nature:

4.2.1 Main proposal

A main proposal is a statement about which the assembly is asked to debate and take a position in order to dispose of a topic under discussion. Once seconded, this proposal becomes the property of the assembly and it alone has the authority to dispose of it.

All main proposals are received during the submission period specified in Article 3.2.

4.2.2 Amendment proposal

An amendment proposal is aimed at modifying the content of another proposal, either by eliminating, inserting, or replacing certain words.

An amendment proposal may not contradict the general principle of the proposal it aims to amend, nor may it contradict Article 3.5.

It suspends the debate on the main proposal until the assembly disposes of it.

4.2.3 Subamendment proposal

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The purpose of a subamendment proposal is to modify an amendment proposal.

It is subject to the same rules as those governing the amendment proposal, but cannot be amended.

4.2.4 Submission proposal

The purpose of a submission proposal is to put an end to the discussion and to indefinitely postpone decision-making about the present topic or eliminate it altogether.

Debate focuses on whether or not the submission is advisable.

4.2.5 Proposal for a fixed-date postponement of a proposal

A proposal for a fixed-date postponement, or postponement to another time, is aimed at postponing the discussion of a topic to a set date deemed more appropriate.

Debate may only concern the advisability, date and timing of this postponement.

4.2.6 Proposal for referral

A proposal for referral assigns a third party the task of studying the topic under consideration. It can be referred to one of the organization's permanent committees, to the Grand Council, to the Council of Elders, to an advisory committee or to any special committee with a specific mandate and composition.

4.2.7 Proposal to suspend the debate

A proposal to suspend the debate allows the interruption of deliberations for a short period of time. Deliberations are then resumed later in the day, from the same point.

It is not subject to debate, except with regard to the length of the suspension.

4.2.8 Proposal to adjourn an assembly

A proposal to adjourn an assembly allows it to be resumed at a later date, which must be specified in the proposal.

Debate focuses on the advisability and date of the adjournment.

4.2.9 Proposal to close the assembly

A proposal to close the assembly may be made once all agenda items have been covered.

This proposal may also be made at any other time, in which case its adoption requires support from two thirds of voters.

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No debate is required.

4.3 Procedure Rules

Certain rules have been established to ensure that the assembly runs efficiently and that all participants are respected.

4.3.1 Appeal of a decision made by the president

A member who disagrees with a decision made by the president may appeal the decision before the assembly.

First, the aggrieved member explains their point of view; then the president provides the reasons for his decision.

The assembly votes without any further intervention. An appeal is upheld by a majority of the members.

4.3.2 Question of privilege

A member may raise a question of privilege when asserting that their rights or those of another member are not being respected or are threatened in a way that could cause harm to their physical or moral integrity.

This question does not require a seconder, cannot be debated and is analyzed by the president, who then renders his decision after confirming the request's validity and conformity.

4.3.3 Point of order

A participant may, at any time, raise a point of order or an objection:

- to require that procedures be respected;
- to require that order and decorum be maintained;
- to require that a speaker remain on topic;
- to correct a fact;
- to require that hurtful and offensive comments, such as sexist or racist comments, be retracted.

The president takes the point of order into consideration and renders his decision.

4.3.4 Right of reply

Before calling a vote on a proposal, the president must allow the proposer the right to speak (right of reply) a second time, so they may respond to objections and questions raised by other participants, to complete their argument and end the debate.

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4.3.5 Calling for a vote

When a member who has not intervened on the topic being discussed deems that the assembly has been sufficiently informed about the topic to reach a decision, they may, during their turn to speak, call for a vote.

At such a time, the president is required to ask the assembly if it is ready to vote. A two-thirds majority of the members present is required.

The proposer may conclude the discussion by exercising their right of reply, and the vote follows.

4.3.6 Withdrawal of a proposal

A proposer may ask the president to withdraw their proposal, before it is seconded.

4.3.7 Suspension of procedure rules

Exceptionally, and for a specified duration, an assembly may suspend its deliberation procedure rules to refer a particular situation to the Council of Elders.

4.4 How to Dispose of a Proposal

The assembly may dispose of a proposal in any of the following ways:

- by adopting it;
- by rejecting it;
- by referring it to a committee or other body;
- by postponing it to a later date.

4.5 Voting

Any member who holds voting rights according to the *Wolastoqiyik Wampanoag First Nation Voting Code* has the right to vote at general assemblies.

The vote is usually taken by a show of hands.

The vote on a proposal is taken:

- 1) when there are no more speakers and when the proposer has used their right of reply;
- 2) when the time allotted to the discussion has elapsed; in this case, the president asks the assembly if it is ready to vote. If so, the vote is taken; if not, the president sets a new timeframe;
- 3) when a member calls for a vote under Article 4.3.5.

4.5.1 Casting vote

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In the case of a tie, the president asks for a recount of the votes, inviting those who abstained from voting to exercise their right to vote.

If the tie persists, the president may grant a new discussion period if he believes that this extension could bring forth new facts or new arguments likely to break the tie in the following vote.

Otherwise, or if the tie persists, the Grand Chief ends the debate by using his casting vote.

4.5.2 Dissent

Any assembly member may request that their dissent be explicitly recorded in the minutes.

4.5.3 Vote recount

On his own initiative, or at a member's request, the president may proceed with a vote recount. This procedure causes the vote to be retaken. No seconder is required and the procedure is not debated.

5. GENERAL DISPOSITIONS

5.1 Entry into Force

This Code is adopted by the members having the right to vote in accordance with Article 2.2c) of the WWFN General By-Law.

5.2 Amendment, Repeal or Modification

Any amendment, repeal or modification of this Code must be adopted by the members having the right to vote.

A request for amendment, repeal or modification may be made by the Grand Council or by twenty percent (20%) of the members having the right to vote and who have signed a petition to this effect. A request for amendment, repeal or modification must be preceded by a notice of motion to the Grand Council and the Council of Elders at least 30 days before being submitted to the members.

The amendment, repeal or modification comes into force upon its adoption by the members having the right to vote or on any other date provided therein.

5.3 Notice of Motion

The notice of motion must be presented to the Grand Council. It must specify the substance of the requested changes, and be posted at the First Nation's head office and on the First Nation's website.

5.4 Penalties

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Failure on the part of a member to respect assembly rules and proper conduct may result in a penalty imposed on them by the president of the assembly. In ascending order of severity, these penalties are as follows:

- a call to order;
- the retraction of certain comments;
- a suspension of the right to speak for a specified duration;
- an order to leave the room;
- forcible removal.

It is understood that once a member leaves the room, they lose the right to speak and vote.

The president's decision is final and without appeal.