



**FIRST NATIONS RELATIONS COMMITTEE  
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**PREAMBLE**

The District of North Cowichan spans the traditional territories of 6 First Nations. The First Nations Relations Committee is a standing committee established by North Cowichan that supports Council in building strong government-to-government relationships with First Nations, providing advice and direction to Council on matters that directly or indirectly affect those relationships.

The Committee's official name is to be:

First Nations Relations Standing Committee

**1.0 PURPOSE**

- a) The mandate of the Committee includes providing advice and making recommendations to Council regarding the following functions relating to First Nation governments:
  - i. Seek means to improve communications and initiate and engage in programs and activities that foster, maintain and strengthen relationships with local First Nations;
  - ii. Understand and provide advice to Council on the implications of the BC Treaty process where it intersects with local government interests;
  - iii. Make recommendations to Council on participation of First Nation governments on matters of Council interest;
  - iv. Engage with senior levels of government and provide representation on an intergovernmental working group, as required;

**2.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY**

- a) The Committee will make recommendations to Council; and,
- b) [Deleted Nov 4, 2020]

### **3.0 COMPOSITION**

- a) Committee members will consist of Councillors and will be appointed by the Mayor.

### **4.0 PROCEDURES**

- a) The Committee shall meet quarterly and hold special meetings as required;
- b) The agenda shall be finalized in consultation between staff and the Committee Chair and any Committee member may request that a matter be placed on the agenda;
- c) With the approval of the Committee Chair and Mayor committee matters of an urgent or time sensitive nature may be forwarded directly to Council for considerations;
- d) A quorum is a majority of the Committee members and is required to conduct Committee business.

### **5.0 RESOURCES AND SUPPORT**

- a) The Chief Administrative Officer will provide strategic support and serve as the principal point of contact for Committee members.
- b) Minutes and agendas are prepared and distributed by Legislative Services.