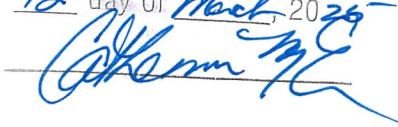


This is Exhibit "2" referred to in the
Affidavit of A.J. (A1) Gross
sworn before me at Kelowna, British
Columbia this 12th day of March 2025.



Catherine McGowan
Barrister & Solicitor
113 - 1890 Cooper Road
Kelowna BC V1Y 8B7

Certified a true copy this
12th day of March, 2025


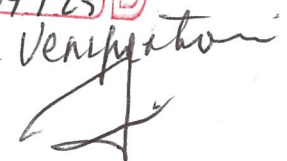
Catherine McGowan
Barrister & Solicitor
113 - 1890 Cooper Road
Kelowna BC V1Y 8B7

**SEMIAHMOO FIRST NATION
COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS 2025**

-In accordance with -

The Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management

Dated for reference: March 4, 2025

RECEIVED
03/04/25
For Verification


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WHEREAS the Semiahmoo First Nation has occupied and benefitted from these lands and resources since time immemorial, with current Aboriginal Rights and Title, and have a profound connection to their Ancestors as well as responsibility to future generations as stewards of the land;

WHEREAS the Council, as the elected government of the Semiahmoo First Nation, has jurisdiction and responsibility for land and resource laws;

WHEREAS the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* ("Framework Agreement") provides the option to First Nations of withdrawing their reserve land from the land management provisions of the *Indian Act* in order to exercise control over their land and resources for the use and benefit of their members;

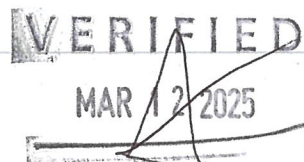
WHEREAS under the *Framework Agreement*, Canada recognizes that First Nations have a unique connection to and constitutionally protected interest in their lands, including decision-making, governance, jurisdiction, legal traditions, and fiscal relations associated with those lands;

WHEREAS under the *Framework Agreement*, Canada has committed to implementing the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* in a manner consistent with the Canadian Constitution and the *Framework Agreement* acknowledges that Canada's special relationship with First Nations will continue;

WHEREAS Semiahmoo First Nation became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* and wishes to govern Lands under the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*;

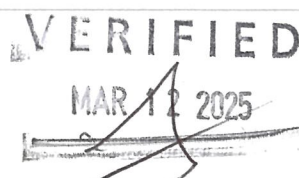
AND WHEREAS the *Framework Agreement* is ratified by Semiahmoo First Nation through community approval of the *Land Code*;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of Semiahmoo First Nation adopts the following:



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PART I: PURPOSE

1.0 TITLE AND PURPOSE

1.1 The title of this document is the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*.

1.2 The purpose of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* is to set out the voting rules and procedures that Semiahmoo First Nation must follow when seeking community approval of the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* as required by the *Framework Agreement*.

PART II: DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2.0 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2.1 Any words or terms used in this *Community Ratification Process* which are defined in the *Framework Agreement* have the same meaning as in the *Framework Agreement*, unless the context otherwise requires.

2.2 In this *Community Ratification Process*:

“*Canada*” means the Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada or Indigenous Services Canada, or its designate(s);

“*Community Ratification Process*” means this *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*;

“*Council*” means the Chief and Councillors of Semiahmoo First Nation;

“*Deputy Ratification Officer*” is the person appointed by the Ratification Officer to carry out the duties and responsibilities contained in the *Community Ratification Process*;

“*Eligible Voter*” means a Member of Semiahmoo First Nation who is 18 years of age or older on the Official Voting Day;

“*Eligible Voters List*” means a list of Members who are eligible to vote;

“*Electronic Ballot*” means the digital version of a paper ballot used to cast a vote by Electronic Voting;

“*Electronic Voting*” means casting an Electronic Ballot through the identified electronic voting system provide by an electronic voting service provider;

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“*Framework Agreement*” means the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, entered into between Canada and the signatory First Nations on February 12, 1996, as amended from time to time;

“*Individual Agreement*” means the *Individual Agreement* made between Semiahmoo First Nation and His Majesty the King in right of Canada in accordance with clause 6.1 of the *Framework Agreement*;

“*Land Code*” means the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, as amended from time to time;

“*Mail-in Ballot*” means a paper ballot mailed or delivered to the Ratification Officer;

“*Member*” means a person whose name appears or is entitled to appear on the Semiahmoo First Nation membership list;

“*Official Voting Day*” means the date set for holding the Ratification Vote;

“*Ratification Officer*” means the person who is appointed by Council to fulfill the duties in this *Community Ratification Process*;

“*Ratification Vote*” means a vote by the Eligible Voters on whether to approve or reject the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*;

“*Regular Ballot*” means a paper ballot used to cast a ballot at the in-person polls;

“*Verifier*” means the independent person who is appointed under the *Framework Agreement*;

“*Voter Identification Envelope*” means the envelope used to confirm the membership, age, and identify of an Eligible Voter;

2.3 In the event of an inconsistency between the *Framework Agreement* and the *Community Ratification Process*, the *Framework Agreement* will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

2.4 The time frame calculation for a task specified under the *Community Ratification Process*, does not include the Official Voting Day.

2.5 A time frame calculation under the *Community Ratification Process* includes weekend and holidays.

2.6 All references to time are in the Pacific Time Zone (PT).

2.7 Titles and headings in this *Community Ratification Process* are for convenience only.

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2.8 Words in the singular include the plural, words in the plural include the singular. Words in the masculine include the feminine and words in the feminine include the masculine, as the context may require.

PART III: PRE-VOTE PROCESS

3.0 ELIGIBLE VOTERS LIST

3.1 Council must arrange for the preparation of the Eligible Voters List.

3.2 The Eligible Voters List must contain the following information for each Eligible Voter:

- (a) the full name;
- (b) 10-digit status/band/registration number; and
- (c) birth date.

3.3 The prepared Eligible Voters List must be provided to the Ratification Officer and Verifier, who will only use the information solely for the purposes of the Ratification Vote.

3.4 The Ratification Officer has final discretion for adding or removing names from the Eligible Voters List.

3.5 Council may provide information to the Ratification Officer to update the Eligible Voters List by adjusting for deceased, transferred, or new Members.

3.6 The Ratification Officer must determine the total number of Eligible Voters based on the Eligible Voters List.

3.7 The Eligible Voters List must be kept in the electronic voting system and updated as ballots are cast.

4.0 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

4.1 Council must take reasonable steps to inform Eligible Voters of:

- (a) their right to participate in the *Community Ratification Process*;
- (b) the methods available to cast their vote by mail, electronically, or in-person at the poll;
- (c) the *Land Code*;
- (d) the *Individual Agreement*;

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- (e) the *Framework Agreement*;
- (f) the *Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management Act*; and
- (g) any other information that will inform Eligible Voters.

4.2 Council will determine the methods of community engagement that will occur prior to the vote, including but not limited to:

- (a) visits at the home of, telephone calls, or emails with Eligible Voters;
- (b) information meetings; and
- (c) such other information activities as may be deemed appropriate.

5.0 INFORMATION TO VERIFIER

5.1 Council must provide a copy of the *Community Ratification Process*, *Land Code*, and Eligible Voters List to the Verifier by using Form 2, at least ninety (90) days before the Official Voting Day.

5.2 Council must provide documentation to the Verifier regarding:

- (a) efforts to locate and inform Eligible Voters;
- (b) notices for information meetings;
- (c) distribution of documents; and
- (d) other community engagement activities e.g. website, newsletters, posters, etc.

6.0 CONFIRMATION BY VERIFIER

6.1 Upon receipt of Form 2, the Verifier must review the *Land Code* and the *Community Ratification Process* to ensure consistency with the *Framework Agreement*.

6.2 Within thirty (30) days of receiving Form 2, the Verifier must issue a notice in Form 3 to Semiahmoo First Nation, Canada, and the Lands Advisory Board confirming the *Land Code* and the *Community Ratification Process* are consistent with the *Framework Agreement*.

6.3 If the Verifier is unable to confirm the consistency of the documents with the *Framework Agreement*, the Verifier must notify Semiahmoo First Nation as soon as possible, so that necessary changes can be made for resubmission.

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7.0 START OF VOTE PROCESS

7.1 After receiving Form 3 from the Verifier, Council must pass a resolution using the wording in Form 4 to:

- (a) appoint the Ratification Officer;
- (b) confirm the Eligible Voters List;
- (c) approve the use of Electronic Voting;
- (d) approve the text of the verified *Community Ratification Process*;
- (e) approve the text of the verified *Land Code*, for ratification by eligible voters;
- (f) set the Official Vote Day;
- (g) approve the wording of the Ballot question; and
- (h) confirm that the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* are considered approved, if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them.

7.2 Upon receipt of the *Individual Agreement* agreed to with Canada, Council must confirm the text of the *Individual Agreement* by initialing each page of the *Individual Agreement* including each annex, and passing a Council resolution in Form 5.

8.0 APPOINTMENT AND DUTIES OF RATIFICATION OFFICER

8.1 The Ratification Officer is responsible for administering the Ratification Vote and has all the powers necessary to ensure compliance with this *Community Ratification Process*.

8.2 Council must appoint the Ratification Officer by completing Form 4.

8.3 The Ratification Officer must complete Form 6 to formally accept the appointment.

8.4 The Ratification Officer must ensure the safekeeping of the ballot boxes, materials, and documents related to all polls.

8.5 The Ratification Officer must appoint a Deputy Ratification Officer by completing Form 7 within a reasonable time of being appointed.

8.6 The Deputy Ratification Officer must perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Ratification Officer in the absence of the Ratification Officer or in circumstances where the Ratification Officer is unable to perform the duties or exercise the powers of the position.

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8.7 The Ratification Officer may appoint one or more assistant Ratification Officers to observe or assist the conduct of the vote by completing Form 8.

8.8 The assistant Ratification Officer must perform duties required by this *Community Ratification Process* or as directed by the Ratification Officer, except for the:

- (a) initialling of ballots;
- (b) determination to hold an additional day for voting;
- (c) deposit of the Mail-in Ballots in the ballot box;
- (d) safekeeping of ballot boxes; and
- (e) counting of ballots.

9.0 NOTICE OF VOTE

9.1 At least fifty (50) days prior to the Official Voting Day, the Ratification Officer, in consultation with Council, must post a Notice of Vote in Form 9 in public places.

9.2 Immediately after posting the Notice of Vote, the Ratification Officer must email a true copy of the Notice of Vote to the Verifier.

9.3 At least fifteen (15) days prior to the Official Voting Day, the Ratification Officer must publish the Notice of Vote in various media accessible by Eligible Voters including local newspapers, websites, newsletters, and online media.

9.4 The Notice of Vote must contain the following information:

- (a) that the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* are approved if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them;
- (b) the Ballot question;
- (c) the date, location, and time of the Official Voting Day and any applicable Advance Polls;
- (d) a description of voting options and the time and days for Electronic Voting;
- (e) instructions on obtaining copies of the:
 - i. verified *Land Code*;
 - ii. *Individual Agreement*;

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- iii. *Community Ratification Process*;
- iv. *Framework Agreement*;
- v. *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act*; and
- vi. Ratification Officer's name and contact information.

10.0 VOTER INFORMATION PACKAGE

10.1 At least fifty (50) days prior to the Official Voting Day, the Ratification Officer must send a Voter Information Package to each Eligible Voter at their last known address or email.

10.2 Voter Information Packages may be emailed, mailed, couriered, or hand delivered to Eligible Voters.

10.3 The Voter Information Package must contain:

- (a) a copy of the Notice of Vote;
- (b) summaries of the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*; and
- (c) procedures of voting.

10.4 The Voter Information Package may contain any other information Semiahmoo First Nation deems relevant (maps, full versions of documents, etc.)

10.5 The Verifier and the First Nations Land Management Resource Centre must receive a copy of the Voter Information Package.

11.0 AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

11.1 Council must ensure that the following documents are available on the Semiahmoo First Nation website or a specific *Land Code* website <insert website address>:

- (a) verified *Land Code*;
- (b) *Individual Agreement*;
- (c) verified *Community Ratification Process*;
- (d) *Framework Agreement*;
- (e) *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act*; and



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- (f) any other information deemed relevant by Council (summaries, maps, etc.).

11.2 Council must ensure paper copies are available upon request.

11.3 The Voter Information Package must contain a copy of the Notice of Vote and instructions on obtaining copies of the:

- (a) verified *Land Code*;
- (b) *Individual Agreement*;
- (c) verified *Community Ratification Process*; and
- (d) procedures for voting.

12.0 INFORMATION TO THIRD PARTIES

12.1 At least twenty-eight (28) days prior to Official Voting Day, Council must notify any persons who are not Members and who hold a registered interest in Semiahmoo First Nation reserve land.

12.2 The notice must contain:

- (a) the date and effect of the Ratification Vote;
- (b) a summary of the *Land Code*, the *Framework Agreement*, and the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act*; and
- (c) contact at the Semiahmoo First Nation should they have questions.

13.0 PRELIMINARY PROCEDURES

13.1 The Ratification Officer, in consultation with Council, must:

- (a) designate the polling location(s);
- (b) prepare and initial sufficient copies of Regular Ballots and Mail-in Ballots;
- (c) prepare sufficient copies of the secrecy envelopes, the Voter Information Envelopes, and the return envelopes, with prepaid postage where necessary;
- (d) prepare sufficient copies of the voting instructions;
- (e) obtain a sufficient number of ballot boxes;

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- (f) provide for a designated voting area at the polls such that an Eligible Voter can mark a Ballot free from observation;
- (g) provide a sufficient number of lead pencils and blue or black pens for marking the ballot;
- (h) ensure that samples of the Ballot question are posted or available for examination at the polls; and
- (i) ensure that a Commissioner for taking Oaths or Notary Public is available as required.

13.2 If there are multiple polling stations, the Ratification Officer must establish a process of ongoing communication by telephone, online, or other effective means between each polling station.

PART IV: VOTING PROCESS

14.0 GENERAL RULES ON VOTING

14.1 Every Eligible Voter may exercise their right to vote and may cast a single Ballot using one of the following vote methods:

- (a) in-person;
- (b) mail-in; or
- (c) electronic.

14.2 The Ratification Officer must ensure the following:

- (a) the secrecy and confidentiality of each vote cast;
- (b) that peace and good order is maintained at the polls;
- (c) that no person interferes with or harasses an Eligible Voter when voting;
- (d) that there is no proxy voting;
- (e) the vote process is fair, accessible, transparent and accountable; and
- (f) certainty that the results of the Ratification Vote accurately reflect the votes cast.

14.3 The Ballot wording, in Form 1, must be identical for each voting method.

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15.0 POSTPONEMENT AND ADDITIONAL DAY FOR VOTING

15.1 Council may decide to postpone, add vote days, or identify alternative polling stations if there is an event that impacts the vote. Events may include but are not limited to:

- (a) severe inclement weather;
- (b) death of a Member; or
- (c) a natural or any other disaster.

15.2 If Council postpones or adds vote days, Council must:

- (a) identify an additional voting date to be held no more than twenty (20) days after the Official Voting Day; and
- (b) provide written notification of the decision to the Ratification Officer and Verifier.

15.3 Upon receipt of a written notification that Council is postponing or adding vote days, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) notify Eligible Voters immediately of the decision to postpone, add vote days or identify alternative polling stations; and
- (b) ensure that Electronic and Mail-in Ballots can be received until the close of the polls on the additional day or voting.

16.0 ELECTRONIC VOTING

16.1 The Notice of Vote must be posted prior to the opening of Electronic Voting.

16.2 The electronic voting system must:

- (a) confirm that the Eligible Voter has not previously voted;
- (b) record the name, time, and date of each Electronic Ballot that is cast; and
- (c) send an email notifying the Ratification Officer that an Eligible Voter has cast an Electronic Ballot.

16.3 The electronic voting service provider must ensure the Ratification Officer can:

- (a) access detailed daily and weekly activity reports;
- (b) modify and view the Eligible Voters List;

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(c) view, issue, and cancel unique security codes, if applicable; and

(d) view the summary of the voting activity.

16.4 Where the Ratification Officer is notified of an Eligible Voter having difficulty casting their Electronic Ballot, the Ratification Officer must ensure assistance is provided as soon as practicable.

16.5 Individual voting results must always remain secret, not be revealed, and be encrypted in such a way that it can never be revealed.

16.6 The electronic voting system must send an automated email notification to the Ratification Officer, Verifier, and the Eligible Voter of all activity associated with that Eligible Voter's Electronic Vote, including:

(a) attempted registration and/or voting;

(b) completed voter registration;

(c) completed voting; and

(d) system or communication failures.

16.7 After the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day, the electronic voting system will close, and the Electronic Voting results will be emailed and made available to the Ratification Officer and the Verifier.

16.8 Only the Ratification Officer is authorized to post the vote results.

16.9 The results of Electronic Voting are a part of the confirmation by the Ratification Officer in Form 14.

17.0 MAIL-IN BALLOTS

17.1 The Ratification Officer must send a Mail-in Ballot package to each Eligible Voter that Semiahmoo First Nation has a mailing address for.

17.2 Mail-in Ballot packages must be mailed, couriered, or hand delivered to the Eligible Voter.

17.3 The Mail-in Ballot package must contain:

(a) a pre-folded and initialled Mail-in Ballot in Form 1;

(b) a secrecy envelope;

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- (c) a Voter Identification Envelope in Form 10; and
- (d) a return envelope and voting instructions.

17.4 An Eligible Voter who spoils or loses a Mail-in Ballot may obtain another ballot by contacting the Ratification Officer, and the Ratification Officer must record that a second ballot was provided to the Eligible Voter.

18.0 RECEIVING MAIL-IN BALLOTS

18.1 When receiving a completed Mail-in Ballot package, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) open the return envelope;
- (b) confirm that the Voter Identification Envelope is complete, signed, and witnessed;
- (c) confirm that the Eligible Voter's name is on the Eligible Voters List;
- (d) record, on the Eligible Voters List, the date the return envelope was received; and
- (e) store the sealed Voter Identification Envelope that contains the Mail-in Ballot in a secure location until the Official Voting Day.

18.2 The Ratification Officer may contact an Eligible Voter if a Voter Identification Envelope is not completed properly, and the Eligible Voter may make corrections.

18.3 The Ratification Officer must ensure that Mail-in Ballots are retrieved by the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day.

19.0 PREPARING BALLOT BOXES

19.1 On the Official Voting Day, and in the presence of an Eligible Voter who will act as a witness, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) open a ballot box to be used only for Mail-in Ballots;
- (b) request the witness to confirm that the ballot box is empty;
- (c) seal the ballot box and place their signature on the seal; and
- (d) ask the witness to place their signature on the seal.

19.2 The Ratification Officer must:

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- (a) execute a Declaration of Ratification Officer in Form 11; and
- (b) ensure that each witness executes a Statement of Witness in Form 13.

19.3 On each voting day and at every polling location, and in the presence of an Eligible Voter who will act as a witness, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) open a ballot box to be used on for Regular Ballots;
- (b) seal the ballot box and place their signature on the seal;
- (c) ask the witness to place their signature on the seal; and
- (d) keep the ballot box in view for receiving Regular Ballots.

19.4 The Ratification Officer must:

- (a) execute a Declaration of Ratification Officer in Form 12; and
- (b) ensure that each witness executes a Statement of Witness in Form 13.

20.0 IN-PERSON VOTING

20.1 The Ratification Officer must ensure appropriate signage is posted to identify each polling location.

20.2 When an Eligible Voter requests to vote in-person, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) confirm that they are an Eligible Voter and have not already voted by another vote method;
- (b) record on the Eligible Voters List, the name of the Eligible Voter receiving a Regular Ballot; and
- (c) provide the Eligible Voter with a pre-folded Regular Ballot, initialled by the Ratification Officer.

20.3 Upon request, the Ratification Officer will explain the voting method to an Eligible Voter.

20.4 The Ratification Officer will note on the Eligible Voters List, if an Eligible Voter requests assistance with casting their ballot.

20.5 The Ratification Officer must only allow one Eligible Voter at a time into the designated voting area, unless assistance is needed.

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20.6 Upon receipt of a completed Regular Ballot, the Ratification Officer, without unfolding it, must:

- (a) verify the Ratification Officer's initials; and
- (b) deposit the Regular Ballot into the ballot box.

20.7 At the time set for closing the polls, the Ratification Officer must declare the polls closed and allow any remaining Eligible Voters within the polls to finish casting their ballot.

20.8 If there is an alternative polling location(s), upon the close of the polls and in the presence of an Eligible Voter who will act as a witness, the presiding Ratification Officer must:

- (a) seal the ballot box and place their signature on the seal;
- (b) ask the witness to place their signature on the seal; and
- (c) immediately transport the sealed ballot box to the Ratification Officer.

20.9 If an additional voting day is determined by Council, at the close of the poll and in the presence of an Eligible Voter who will act as a witness, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) seal the ballot box and place their signature on the seal; and
- (b) ask the witness to place their signature on the seal.

21.0 PROCESSING MAIL-IN BALLOTS

21.1 The Ratification Officer will process Mail-in Ballots on the Official Voting Day.

21.2 When processing Mail-in Ballots, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) confirm the name of the Eligible Voter is on the Eligible Voters List;
- (b) ensure that the Eligible Voter has not already voted by any other means;
- (c) if the Eligible Voter has already voted, set the unopened Voter Identification Envelope aside;
- (d) open the secrecy envelope, confirm the authenticity of the ballot by verifying the Ratification Officer's initials, and deposit the ballot into the Mail-in Ballot box; and
- (e) record the Eligible Voter as having voted by Mail-in Ballot.

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22.0 CANCELLED, REJECTED, AND SPOILED BALLOTS

22.1 The Ratification Officer may determine that a ballot is rejected if:

- (a) the ballot does not contain the Ratification Officer's initials;
- (b) an Eligible Voter has previously voted by another method;
- (c) a voter is not an Eligible Voter; or
- (d) a Mail-in Ballot is not accompanied by a Voter Identification Envelope, or the envelope is incomplete and cannot be verified.

22.2 The Ratification Officer may determine that a ballot is spoiled if:

- (a) the ballot was not marked as either "YES" or "NO";
- (b) the ballot was marked as both "YES" and "NO";
- (c) the Ratification Officer cannot reasonably determine the intent of the Eligible Voter; or
- (d) the ballot has writing or a mark that can identify the Eligible Voter.

22.3 The Ratification Officer may determine that a ballot is cancelled if an Eligible Voter fails to deposit their completed Regular Ballot to the Ratification Officer.

22.4 Any spoiled, rejected, or cancelled ballots must be recorded on the Eligible Voters List and confirmed by the Ratification Officer in Form 14.

PART V: AFTER VOTE PROCEDURE

23.0 COUNTING OF BALLOTS

23.1 After the close of the polls on the Official Vote Day and in the presence of participating Eligible Voters, the Ratification Officer must:

- (a) process the Mail-in Ballots, if applicable;
- (b) examine all ballots contained in the ballot boxes;
- (c) count the number of ballots marked "YES" and the number of ballots marked "NO"; and
- (d) count the number of spoiled, rejected, and cancelled ballots.

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23.2 When the results of the vote have been determined, the Ratification Officer must provide confirmation of the results by completing Form 14 and provide a copy to Semiahmoo First Nation and the Verifier.

23.4 The Ratification Officer must seal in separate envelopes, any spoiled, rejected, or cancelled "YES" and "NO" ballots.

23.5 The Ratification Officer, and an Eligible Voter acting as a witness, must sign the seals of each envelope.

23.6 The Ratification Officer must retain in their secure possession for seventy-five (75) days after the Official Vote Day, the separate envelopes containing all ballots cast and the Eligible Voters List.

23.7 Unless otherwise instructed by Council, the Ratification must thereafter destroy all ballots and the Eligible Voters List.

24.0 PROCEDURAL AMENDMENTS

24.1 The Ratification Officer, Council or its designate, and the Verifier may determine that a procedural amendment is required if they:

- (a) deem it necessary to do so; and
- (b) reasonably believe the procedural amendments will not change the substance of the verified *Community Ratification Process*.

24.2 The Ratification Officer must state in writing the nature and basis of the procedural amendment, and post it in public places.

25.0 DISPUTED VOTE

25.1 Any Eligible Voter may, within five (5) days after the conclusion of the vote, report any irregularity in the voting process to the Verifier.

25.2 If an Eligible Voter reasonably believes the result of the vote might have been different, but for the violation or irregularity, they may dispute the vote.

25.3 A dispute must be provided in writing and include the following information:

- (a) the name, address, and telephone number of the Eligible Voter disputing the vote;
- (b) a summary of the grounds for the dispute; and

VERIFIED

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- (c) a statutory declaration setting out the grounds for the dispute.

25.4 The Verifier must, within ten (10) days after the conclusion of the vote, determine whether a dispute is valid.

25.6 The Verifier must dismiss a dispute, if the Verifier determines that:

- (a) there was neither a violation of the *Community Ratification Process*, nor an irregularity in that process; or
- (b) there was a violation or an irregularity, but the final result of the Ratification Vote was not affected.

25.7 A Verifier must not certify the *Land Code* if they are of the opinion that a dispute is valid.

26.0 REPORT BY VERIFIER

26.1 Within fifteen (15) days of the conclusion of the vote, the Verifier must send a report, in Form 15, to Semiahmoo First Nation, Canada, and the Chair of the Lands Advisory Board.

PART VI: CERTIFICATION

27.0 CERTIFICATION OF LAND CODE

27.1 The *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* are deemed approved, if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them.

27.2 If the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* are approved, and after receiving the report by the Verifier (Form 15), Council must sign the *Individual Agreement* and send a copy to Canada.

27.3 Canada must sign the *Individual Agreement* and send a copy to Semiahmoo First Nation.

27.4 After receiving the signed *Individual Agreement* from Canada, Council must complete Form 16 to send the verified *Land Code* and signed *Individual Agreement* to the Verifier for certification.

27.5 Upon receipt of Form 16, the Verifier must certify the *Land Code* and confirm the effective date by completing Form 17.

27.6 As soon as practicable after certifying the *Land Code*, the Verifier must send a copy of Form 17 and the certified *Land Code* to Semiahmoo First Nation, Canada, and the Chair of the Lands Advisory Board.

28.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

Any questions or inquiries can be directed to the Land Office at:

SEMAIHMUO FIRST NATION COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS

Semiahmoo First Nation

16049 Beach Road, Surrey BC V3S 9R6

<https://www.semiahmoofirstnation.ca>

Hours Monday–Friday 9am–5pm

Phone (604) 536-3101

Fax (604) 536-6116

THIS COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS IS HEREBY DULY ENACTED by Council on the ____ day of ____, 2025, at the City of Surrey, in the Province of British Columbia, at a duly called and conducted Council meeting at which the required quorum of two (2) members of Council were present throughout.

CHIEF HARLEY CHAPPELL

COUNCILLOR JOANNE CHARLES

COUNCILLOR JENNINE COOK

VERIFIED

MAR 12 2025

Form 1: Ballot Question

Do you approve the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, dated for reference (DATE) and the *Individual Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, dated for reference (DATE)?

EXPLANATION

A “YES” vote means that Semiahmoo First Nation will govern its own reserve lands under the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*.

A “NO” vote means that Semiahmoo First Nation reserve lands will continue to be managed by Canada under the *Indian Act*.

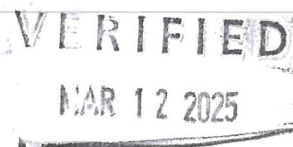
YES

☐

NO

☐

Mark this ballot by placing an X in one of the above boxes.



Form 2: Information to Verifier
(NAME) First Nation Council Resolution

The Council of Semiahmoo First Nation, in accordance with clause 8.4 of the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* and section 5 of the *Community Ratification Process*, do hereby resolve to submit the following to the Verifier:

1. the proposed *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, dated for reference (DATE);
2. the proposed *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*, dated for reference (DATE); and
3. the initial Eligible Voters List, who, according to the records of Semiahmoo First Nation, are eligible to participate in the Ratification Vote on the Official Voting Day.

Dated at Semiahmoo First Nation, Province of _____, on (DATE).

Chief (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

(* A quorum for (NAME) First Nation consists of (#number) Council members)

Form 3: Confirmation by Verifier

CANADA
PROVINCE OF _____

I, _____, of _____, in the Province of _____, DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was appointed as the Verifier for Semiahmoo First Nation by the First Nation on (DATE), and by Canada on (DATE) for the purpose of verifying the community approval of their *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*, in accordance with the *Framework Agreement on First nation Land Management*.
2. In accordance with clause 8.4 of the *Framework Agreement*, I received the following information from Semiahmoo First Nation on (DATE):
 - (a) a copy of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*;
 - (b) a detailed description of the *Community Ratification Process* that Semiahmoo First Nation proposes to use; and
 - (c) an initial list of the names of every Semiahmoo First Nation member who, according to the Semiahmoo First Nation's records at that time, would be eligible to vote on whether to approve the proposed land code and the *Individual Agreement*.
3. A true copy of the *Land Code*, entitled the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, dated for reference (DATE) is attached (Annex 1).
4. A true copy of the *Community Ratification Process*, entitled Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process, dated for reference (DATE) is attached (Annex 2).
5. In accordance with clause 8.5 of the *Framework Agreement*, I reviewed the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* to decide whether:
 - (a) the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* conforms with the requirements of clause 5 of the *Framework Agreement*; and
 - (b) the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* conforms with clause 7 of the *Framework Agreement*.
6. In accordance with 8.9 of the *Framework Agreement*, the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* are hereby confirmed/not confirmed as being consistent with the *Framework Agreement*.

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7. My reasons for not confirming the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* or *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* are as follows:

AND I MAKE THIS SOLEMN DECLARATION conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the *Canada Evidence Act*.

DECLARED BEFORE me at the)
_____ of _____,)
In the Province of _____, this)
_____ day of _____, 202_.)
_____)
_____, Verifier)
_____)
A Commissioner for Taking Oaths in and)
For the Province of _____)

SEMIAHMOO FIRST NATION COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS

Form 4: Commencement of Vote
(NAME) First Nation Council Resolution

The Council of Semiahmoo First Nation, in accordance with the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* and the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*, do hereby resolve to:

1. Appoint _____ as the Ratification Officer;
2. Confirm the Eligible Voters List;
3. Authorize the use of Electronic Voting, and appointment of _____, as the independent electronic voting service provider;
4. Confirm the text of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*, as confirmed by the Verifier and dated for reference (DATE);
5. Confirm the text of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, as confirmed by the Verifier and dated for reference (DATE);
6. Set the Official Voting Day for the Ratification Vote to be (DATE), to determine if the community approves the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*;
7. Confirm the attached Ballot question in Form 1 (Annex 1); and
8. Confirm that the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* will be approved if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them.

Dated at Semiahmoo First Nation, Province of _____, on (DATE).

Chief (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

(* A quorum for Semiahmoo First Nation consists of (#number) Council members)

Form 5: Confirmation of Individual Agreement for Vote

Semiahmoo First Nation Council Resolution

The Council of Semiahmoo First Nation, in accordance with the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* and the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*, do hereby resolve to confirm the text of the *Individual Agreement*, dated for reference (DATE).

Dated at Semiahmoo First Nation, Province of _____, on (DATE)

Chief (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

(* A quorum for Semiahmoo First Nation consists of (#number) Council members)

Form 6: Acceptance of Ratification Officer Appointment

(DATE)

I, (NAME-RO), agree to act as Ratification Officer for the Semiahmoo First Nation Ratification Vote on the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*, and I will fulfill my duties in accordance with the *Community Ratification Process* and the requirements of confidentiality.

Ratification Officer

Form 7: Appointment of Deputy Ratification Officer

(DATE)

I, (NAME-RO), Ratification Officer, appoint (NAME-Deputy) to act as Deputy Ratification Officer in accordance with *the Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* for the purpose of the Ratification Vote on the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*.

Ratification Officer

I, (NAME-Deputy) accept the appointment of Deputy Ratification Officer for the purpose for the Semiahmoo Ratification Vote on the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* and promise to carry out all assigned duties to the best of my ability in accordance with the *Community Ratification Process* and the requirements of confidentiality.

Deputy Ratification Officer

Form 8: Appointment of an Assistant Ratification Officer

(DATE)

I, (NAME – RO), Ratification Officer, appoint (NAME - ASSISTANT) to act as my assistant in carrying my duties in accordance with the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process* for the purpose of the Ratification Vote on the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*.

Ratification Officer

I, (NAME - ASSISTANT) agree to act as an assistant to the Ratification Officer for the purpose for the Semiahmoo First Nation Ratification Vote on the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* and promise to carry out all assigned duties to the best of my ability in accordance with the *Community Ratification Process* and the requirements of confidentiality.

Assistant Ratification Officer

Form 9: Notice of Vote

(DATE)

TO: Semiahmoo First Nation Eligible Voters

Notification of Community Ratification Vote

A community ratification vote about the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* is being held in accordance with the *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*.

Approval Threshold

The *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* will be approved if a majority of Semiahmoo First Nation Eligible Voters that participate in the vote, vote to approve them.

Eligible Voters

All members of Semiahmoo First Nation who are 18 years of age or older as of (OFFICIAL VOTING DAY) are eligible to vote.

Ballot Question

The Ballot asks voters:

“Do you approve:

- The *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, date for reference (DATE); and
- The *Individual Agreement* with His Majesty the King in Right of Canada”

Voting Options and Details

<u>Electronic Voting</u>	<u>Advance Poll(s)</u>	<u>Official Voting Day</u>
Starts (DATE), (TIME)	Starts (DATE), (TIME)	Starts (DATE), (TIME)
Ends (DATE), (TIME)	Ends (DATE), (TIME)	Ends (DATE), (TIME)
Location(s) • (Polling Address)	Location(s) • (Polling Address)	Location(s) • (Polling Address)
Mail-in Ballots <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option 1: Mail-in Ballots are available by contacting the Ratification Officer. • Option 2: Mail-in Ballots were sent to each Eligible Voter who provided an up-to-date mailing address. <p>*If you did not receive a Mail-in Ballot, please contact the Ratification Officer.</p>		

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Copies of Information

The following information may be obtained at (FIRST NATION WEBSITE) or by contacting the *Land Code* Coordinator, (NAME), (TELEPHONE/EMAIL) or the Ratification Officer.

- i. verified *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*;
- ii. *Individual Agreement*;
- iii. *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*;
- iv. *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*;
- v. *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management Act*; and
- vi. any other relevant information including summaries, maps, etc.

How to contact the Ratification Officer:

(NAME), Ratification Officer
(TELEPHONE)
(EMAIL)

Form 10: Voter Identification Envelope
(formatted for 8.5 x 11 envelope)

MAIL-IN BALLOT VOTER IDENTIFICATION ENVELOPE
Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code Ratification Vote

I, (Full Name of Eligible Voter): _____

(Please print your name)

by completing this form, confirm that:

1. I am a member of Semiahmoo First Nation.
2. I will be at least 18 years of age on the Official Voting Day of _____, 202__.
3. I have marked, folded, and sealed my Ballot in the secrecy envelope.

Eligible Voter signature and information, signed
in the presence of witness:

Witness to Eligible Voter's signature:
(Witness must be at least 18 years of age.)

(Signature of Eligible Voter)

(Witness' signature)

(Date of Birth)

(Witness, please print name)

(Eligible Voter 10-digit band number)

(Witness address)

(Eligible Voter Address)

(Witness Telephone)

(Eligible Voter Telephone)

Signed on (date/time)

Signed on (date/time)

Mail-In Ballots must be received by the Ratification Officer by
(month/date/year), (time) p.m.

Form 10: Voter Identification Envelope
(formatted for 5 x 7 envelope)

MAIL-IN BALLOT VOTER IDENTIFICATION ENVELOPE
Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code Ratification Vote

I, (Full Name of Eligible Voter):

(Please print your name)

by completing this form, confirm that:

1. I am a member of Semiahmoo First Nation.
2. I will be at least 18 years of age on the Official Voting Day of _____, 202__.
3. I have marked, folded, and sealed my Ballot in the secrecy envelope.

Eligible Voter signature and
information, signed in the
presence of witness:

Witness to Eligible Voter's signature:
(Witness must be at least 18 years of
age.)

(Signature of Eligible Voter)

(Witness' signature)

(Date of Birth)

(Witness, please print name)

(Eligible Voter 10-digit band #)

(Witness address)

(Eligible Voter Address)

(Witness Telephone)

(Eligible Voter Telephone)

Signed on (date/time)

Signed on (date/time)

Mail-In Ballots must be received by the Ratification Officer by
(month/date/year), (time) p.m.

Form 11: Declaration of Ratification Officer

(Mail-in Ballots)

CANADA)
)
PROVINCE OF _____)

I, (NAME), Ratification Officer, of (CITY), in the Province of (PROVINCE) , DO
SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was personally responsible for receiving and processing all Mail-in Ballots at Semiahmoo First Nation when Eligible Voters voted in a Ratification Vote concerning the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*.
2. In preparation for depositing Mail-in Ballots, I opened ballot box number #__.
3. I confirmed that the ballot box was empty, and I asked Eligible Voters who were present to witness that the ballot box was empty.
4. I then properly sealed the ballot box, in front of the Eligible Voters who were present, and prepared it for the reception of Mail-in Ballots.
5. I personally deposited all the Mail-in Ballots received by me without opening the secrecy envelopes into ballot box #__ and kept the ballot box sealed when not in my custody until the ballots were counted.

AND I MAKE THIS SOLEMN DECLARATION conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the *Canada Evidence Act*.

DECLARED BEFORE me at the)
_____ of _____,)
In the Province of _____, this)
____ day of _____, 202_.)

) _____
) , Ratification Officer

)
)
A Commissioner for Taking Oaths in and)
For the Province of _____)

Form 12: Declaration of Ratification Officer

(In-person Polls)

CANADA)

PROVINCE OF _____)

I, (NAME), Ratification Officer, of (CITY), in the Province of (PROVINCE) , DO
SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was personally present at Semiahmoo First Nation on (DATE) when Eligible Voters voted in a Ratification Vote concerning the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement*.
2. Immediately before the Ratification Vote began, I opened ballot box number #__.
3. I confirmed that the ballot box was empty, and I asked Eligible Voters who were present to witness that the ballot box was empty.
4. I then properly sealed the ballot box, in front of the Eligible Voters who were present, and kept it in view for the reception of Regular Ballots.

AND I MAKE THIS SOLEMN DECLARATION conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the *Canada Evidence Act*.

DECLARED BEFORE me at the)

_____ of _____,)

In the Province of _____, this)

____ day of _____, 202_.)

)

) _____, Ratification Officer

)

A Commissioner for Taking Oaths in and)

For the Province of _____)

Form 13: Statement of Witness

(Preparing Ballot Boxes)

Date

I, _____ was personally present at Semiahmoo First Nation on (DATE) when the Ratification Officer prepared the Ballot Boxes.

1. I am an Eligible Voter.
2. I witnessed that Regular Ballot Box #__ was empty.
3. I witnessed that Mail-in Ballot Box #__ was empty.
4. I witnessed the Ratification Officer seal and sign all ballot boxes.
5. I signed the seals, as requested by the Ratification Officer.

Witness Signature

Form 14: Confirmation by Ratification Officer

(Conclusion of Vote)

CANADA)

PROVINCE OF _____)

As required by the Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process, I, (NAME-RO), Ratification Officer, for Semiahmoo First Nation, in the Province of (PROVINCE), DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was present at Semiahmoo First Nation on (VOTE DATES) when Semiahmoo First Nation Eligible Voters voted concerning approval of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code and Individual Agreement*.
2. A true copy of the Notice of Vote is attached (Annex 1).
3. I posted the Notice of Vote at least fifty (50) days prior to the Official Voting Day.
4. I arranged for the Notice of Vote to be published, at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Official Voting Day, in various media accessible by Eligible Voters.
5. The Notice of Vote and Voter Information Package were sent to each individual on the Eligible Voters List at their last known address or email address at least fifty (50) days prior to the Official Voting Day.
6. The voting procedure, including the handling of all ballots and the counting of the results, was conducted in accordance with the verified Semiahmoo Community Ratification Process.
7. The names of _____ Eligible Voters appeared on the Eligible Voters List.
8. The number of participating Eligible Voters was _____.
9. The number of participating Eligible Voters who constituted a majority was _____.
10. The results of the Ratification Vote as are follows:
 - (a) _____ Electronic Ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with the Community Ratification Process;
 - (b) _____ Mail-in Ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with the Community Ratification Process;
 - (c) _____ Regular Ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with the Community Ratification Process;

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- (d) _____ Mail-in Ballots were rejected in accordance with the *Community Ratification Process* and not opened or deposited into the ballot box;
- (e) _____ Regular Ballots were deemed to be spoiled in accordance with the Community Ratification Process;
- (f) _____ Regular Ballots were cancelled in accordance with the Community Ratification Process;
- (g) _____ ballots were rejected in accordance with the Community Ratification Process;
- (h) _____ ballots were marked "YES" for the ballot question; and
- (i) _____ ballots were marked "NO" for the ballot question.

11. Based on the need to meet or exceed the number in item 9 above, the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* were *approved/not approved* by Semiahmoo First Nation Eligible Voters.

AND I MAKE THIS SOLEMN DECLARATION conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the *Canada Evidence Act*.

DECLARED BEFORE me at the _____)
_____ of _____,)
In the Province of _____, this)
____ day of _____, 202_.)
_____) _____
) , Ratification Officer
)
)
A Commissioner for Taking Oaths in and)
For the Province of _____)

SEMAIHMUO FIRST NATION COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS

Form 15: Report by Verifier
(Conclusion of Objections Period)

CANADA)
)
Province of _____)

I, (NAME), in the Province of _____,

DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. On the (VOTE DATES) the Eligible Voters of the Semiahmoo First Nation voted concerning approval of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* in accordance with the Community Ratification Process.
2. A copy of the declaration of Ratification Officer in Form 14 is attached (Annex 1).
3. The names of _____ Eligible Voters appeared on the Eligible Voters List.
4. The number of participating Eligible Voters was _____.
5. The number of participating Eligible Voters who constituted a majority was _____.
6. The results of the Ratification Vote are as follows:
 - (a) _____ ballots were marked "YES" for the Ballot question; and
 - (b) _____ ballots were marked "NO" for the Ballot question.
7. Based on the need to meet or exceed the number in item 5, above, the *Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* were approved/not approved by the Eligible Voters.
8. *Based on the objection period passing, Council can proceed with signing the Individual Agreement....)*

AND I MAKE THIS SOLEMN DECLARATION conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath and by virtue of the *Canada Evidence Act*.

DECLARED BEFORE me at the)
_____ of _____,)
In the Province of _____, this)
____ day of _____, 202_.)
)
)
)
)
A Commissioner for Taking Oaths in and)
For the Province of _____)

_____, Verifier

Form 16: First Nation Council Resolution
(Submission to Verifier)

Whereas:

1. The *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* were submitted to a Ratification Vote at Semiahmoo First Nation on (OFFICIAL VOTING DAY);
2. The Ratification Officer reported that the Ratification Vote was conducted in accordance with the verified *Semiahmoo First Nation Community Ratification Process*;
3. The Eligible Voters approved these documents at the Ratification Vote; and
4. The Semiahmoo First Nation Council and Canada have signed the *Individual Agreement*.

Be it resolved that the Semiahmoo First Nation Council, in accordance with the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* and the *Community Ratification Process*, agree to send the Verifier a true copy of the signed *Individual Agreement* (Annex 1), and the verified *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* (Annex 2) for certification by the Verifier.

Dated at Semiahmoo First Nation, Province of _____, on (DATE).

Chief (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

Councillor (name)

(* A quorum for Semiahmoo First Nation consists of (#number) Council members)

Form 17: Certification of Land Code

Whereas:

1. The *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* were submitted to a Ratification Vote at Semiahmoo First Nation on (OFFICIAL VOTE DATE);
2. The Eligible Voters approved the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* at the Ratification Vote;
3. The Semiahmoo First Nation Council provided a true copy of the signed *Individual Agreement* and a statement that the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* and *Individual Agreement* were properly approved; and
4. The *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* states that the *Land Code* must take effect on the first day of the month following the certification of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* by the Verifier.

Therefore, I hereby certify the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code*, (Annex 1) and the effective date of the *Semiahmoo First Nation Land Code* is (DATE).

DECLARED BEFORE me at the _____)
_____ of _____,)
In the Province of _____, this)
_____ day of _____, 202_.)

A Commissioner for Taking Oaths in and)
For the Province of _____)

_____, Verifier