



VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION

ACT TO AMEND THE VUNTUT GWITCHIN GOVERNANCE ACT (2023-2)

WHEREAS:

- A. Under the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Constitution, the Council of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation is to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation in accordance with Section 13.0 of the Self-Government Agreement;
- B. The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Constitution calls for all Vuntut Gwitchin Laws enacted by Council to be consistent with the objects of the Constitution;
- C. The Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation Constitution calls for the Council to establish by law a general procedure for the enactment of Vuntut Gwitchin Laws;
- D. Council is committed to a mandate to streamline and increase the effectiveness of Vuntut Gwitchin Government, including the law-making process, by reducing peripheral steps and efforts;
- E. Vuntut Gwitchin Government has undergone a re-organization and re-structuring exercise with the aim to stabilize government and focus on providing programs and services to Citizens while being fiscally responsible;
- F. The Chief has the power in accordance with the Constitution and any law and subject to the approval of Council to establish committees of the Council, including an ad-hoc committee to advise on the preparation and development of legislation as needed;
- G. Council has the duties and powers prescribed to it under the VGFN Constitution to, among others:
 - a. Set clear policies and guidelines and ensure good management and reporting in all aspects of the Vuntut Gwitchin Government within the jurisdiction of Council;
 - b. Exercise such powers and do such things as may be necessary to fulfill the objects of the Constitution;

First Reading on June 12, 2023
Second Reading on [Click or tap to enter a date.](#)

- H. The Council of the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation now wishes to amend the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act to remove the legal requirement to the establish standing committees in order to streamline the legislative process.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE VUNTUT GWITCHIN FIRST NATION ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

Amendment to Section 2

- 1 Under the **Interpretation** section, the following definition is added:
- "Ad-hoc committee of the Council"** means a committee established by the Chief and with the approval of Council with a specific mandate and terms of reference;
- 2 Section 2 of the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act is hereby repealed.
- 3 Section 3 of the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act is hereby repealed.
- 4 Beginning with section 4, numbering of sections is reduced by two. That is, section 4 becomes section 2, section 5 becomes section 3, and so on.
- 5 The new section 2(1) (formerly section 4(1)) is amended with the addition of the following phrase in red:
- A proposed Act means a new Act, an amendment to an Act, or the repeal of part or all of an Act.**
- 6 The new section 2(4) (formerly section 4(4)) is amended as follows in red:
- On the first reading of a proposed Act, the Council may, with or without amendment or debate, vote
- (a) to refer it to an **ad-hoc standing committee of the Council for its review and for further public input**; or
- to approve it pending second reading. **Immediately following the approval of the first reading of the proposed Act by Council, the Vuntut Gwitchin Government shall publish the first reading version of the Act;**
- 7 The following phrase is added at the end of Part 1
- Part 1 amended June XX, 2023 (Council Resolution XX062023-#XX)**

Commented [RD1]: Amendments to existing legislation need to follow the same legislative process as for new legislation. This is an important check and balance otherwise a Council could fundamentally change or alter existing legislation and government policy to effectively introduce new legislation by amendment without adhering to the law-making process.

Coming into Force and Effect of Amendment

- 8 This Act to Amend the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act (2023-2) shall come into force and effect immediately following second reading pursuant to the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation legislative process set out under section 2 (formerly section 4) of the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act.

Publication of Act to Amend the Governance Act (2023-2) and the Amended Governance Act

- 9** Immediately following first reading of the Act to Amend the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act (2023-2) by Council, the Vuntut Gwitchin Government shall publish the first reading version of the Act.
- 10** Upon the coming into force and effect of this Act to Amend the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act (2023-2) the Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation shall publish an updated version of the Vuntut Gwitchin Governance Act incorporating the amendments set out above.

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