

## SCHEDULE

### Principles of Election Administration

For the purposes of section 70, it is expected that

- (a) the election administration will at all times strive to demonstrate respect for Nisga'a law, by
  - (i) complying with all applicable Nisga'a enactments,
  - (ii) ensuring that this Act is implemented in an impartial fashion, within the legal framework of Nisga'a Government, and
  - (iii) ensuring that every candidate, voter and other participant in an election or referendum is treated fairly and justly,
- (b) the election administration will strive to function independently and act impartially, performing all their tasks in a politically neutral fashion,
- (c) each member of the election administration will strive to
  - (i) act in an unbiased manner in every matter respecting a candidate or voter,
  - (ii) do nothing that could indicate, or be seen as indicating, support for a candidate, referendum outcome, political actor or political tendency,
  - (iii) at all times behave without reproach, exercise sound judgment, and observe the highest levels of personal discretion and integrity,
  - (iv) disclose any relationship that could lead to a conflict of interest with their duties as an election administrator,
  - (v) reject any improper influence,
  - (vi) accept directions relating to the administration of an election or referendum only from persons properly authorized to function as part of the election administration,
  - (vii) not participate in any unauthorized activity, including any private activity, that could lead to actual or perceived conflict of interest with their duties as an election administrator,
  - (viii) not participate in any unauthorized activity, including any private activity, that could lead to a perception of sympathy for a particular candidate, referendum outcome, political actor or political tendency,
  - (ix) not express a view on any subject that is likely to be an issue in an election or referendum, and

- (x) not communicate with any voter on a matter of partisan significance,
- (d) the election administration will strive to function transparently, and each member of the election administration, within their area of responsibility, will strive to be prepared to
  - (i) in response to reasonable requests, arrange access to relevant documents and information, within the framework of Nisga'a law,
  - (ii) ensure that each candidate can fully and effectively exercise their legal rights,
  - (iii) consult with participants in election or referendum processes in relation to specific decisions, if it is appropriate to do so in the circumstances,
  - (iv) in response to reasonable requests, provide an explanation for a decision they have made as part of an election or referendum process, or a decision made as part of the general operation of the election administration, and
  - (v) if any deficiency in the administration of an election or referendum comes to their attention, disclose that deficiency on their own initiative,
- (e) the election administration will strive to conduct work to high standards of accuracy, and each member of the election administration, within their area of responsibility, will strive to
  - (i) ensure that information is collected, compiled and published in a way that is systematic, clear and unambiguous, and
  - (ii) do anything necessary, within the framework of Nisga'a law, to ensure that all the information that they compile, use or publish has a sound factual basis, and
- (f) the election administration will strive to provide service to voters, and each member of the election administration, within their area of responsibility, will strive to
  - (i) provide every voter the highest quality service required to enable voters to exercise their rights with the least possible inconvenience,
  - (ii) make it as convenient as possible for voters to participate in election and referendum processes, and
  - (iii) ensure that voters adequately understand election and referendum processes.