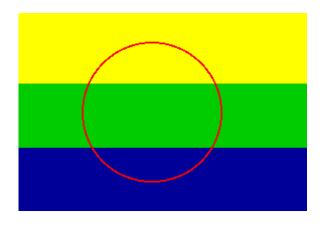
# RULES OF ORDER FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

# **PEGUIS FIRST NATION**



Adopted: BCR 09/04/29

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# Rules of Order for General Assemblies

General Assemblies are an important part of the governance of Peguis First Nation. Held at least quarterly, the meetings enable the Council to report to and obtain feedback from citizens directly on all matters of public concern consistent with the value of accountability and transparency in governance. In this forum, citizens are able to speak directly to issues of concern to them and ask questions of their leaders and express their views on the issues of the day.

In order that these purposes are served and not abused at our meetings, these rules of order shall apply to ensure fairness, respect and proper decorum at assemblies.

#### **GENERAL**

A duly convened assembly is called by the council at least four times per year to provide information to and seek input from member of Peguis First Nation.

#### **AGENDA**

The Council shall prepare an agenda for the general assembly and shall include on the agenda, the item "other matters" to give members an opportunity to raise matters of concern to them.

#### **CHAIR OF MEETINGS**

The Council shall delegate a person who is knowledgeable of meeting procedures and has demonstrated experience in effectively conducting the duties of Chair.

## **RULES OF CONDUCT**

4 Citizens attending the meeting shall observe the rules of propriety, decorum and good conduct.

## **RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHAIR**

- The chairperson shall preside over the assembly by making sure that the meeting is called to order at the specified time, an agenda is adopted, and otherwise, maintain order and proper decorum.
- More specifically, the chairperson determines the order of speaking, puts the question of all motions and maintains order in the assembly.
- The Chair shall have the authority to prevent the misuse of motions, the abuse of any privilege or the obstruction of business of the Assembly by ruling any such matters out of order. In so ruling, the chair shall be courteous and fair and should presume that the moving party is acting on good faith.

- 8 The chairperson, at his/her discretion, may interrupt a speaker whose remarks are repetitious or are not relevant to the topic under discussion and call on the next speaker.
- At the discretion of the chair, individuals who refuse to recognize the authority of the chairperson, or are abusive and disrespectful shall be removed from the assembly room.
- The Chair has the responsibility to monitor the length of time that a citizen speaks to make sure others have a chance to speak.

#### **SPEAKERS**

- Any citizen may address the Assembly by approaching the microphone and being recognized by the chair.
- Unless otherwise decided by a vote by show of hands at the assembly, speakers may speak for ten minutes. The Chair will signal the speaker at the 8 minute mark to wrap up. This procedure is not meant to limit debate or cut comments short but rather to apply fairness in the proceedings by allowing other citizens to speak and to ensure the conciseness of communication.
- Upon the conclusion of a citizen's speech, and the Council's response, if there is one, to the matter in question, the chair will ask other citizens if they desire to address the matter and they will also speak to the issue. This is so that matters that have already been raised and discussed are not continually being brought out again causing the meeting to be unreasonably prolonged.
- If a general vote is required at a general assembly, the citizens present or the Peguis First Nation Council may decide that, depending on the matter, Peguis First Nation referendum procedures, Indian Referendum Procedures or other referendum procedures under other Peguis First Nation policies apply to the decision and therefore, the Council is responsible for implementing
- Members of Council are accountable to their citizens and must answer questions put to them honestly and truthfully.
- The Council shall make sure that minutes of the assembly are taken and disseminated and are made available at the administration office to members who request them.