



ALEXIS NAKOTA SIOUX NATION CONSTITUTION

PROJECT UPDATE: DECEMBER 2020

ALEXIS EXECUTIVE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

CHIEF TONY ALEXIS, CHIEF OF STAFF: DORIAN ALEXIS, SR LEGAL POLICY ANALYST: CHASIDY ALEXIS, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT: KORTNEY ALEXIS, ELDERS CO-ORDINATOR/HERITAGE & LANGUAGE: ELIZABETH LETENDRE, LANGUAGE & HERITAGE: EUGENE ALEXIS, DIRECTOR OF BAND GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION: WILLIS KOOTENAY

FOCUS GROUP: MEETINGS & FACILITATION [60+]

MEETING DATES: OCTOBER 29, 2020

NOVEMBER 12 & 26 CANCELLED

FUTURE EVENT

DECEMBER 4, MEETING UPDATE

ELECTORAL REGULATIONS & POLICY UPDATES

- FUTURE POLICY CHANGES

CONSTITUTIONAL UPDATE:

- NAMING THE CONSTITUTION,

- FUTURE MEETING PROTOCOLS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Our executive committee have designated an *Interim title* to our Alexis Constitution, moving forward we will refer to our living document as “*Odag? ina Nimi*”, meaning how we think and act with a reciprocal alignment of maintaining wellbeing with a good heart, good mind and good spirit.

In previous governance meetings several recommendations were brought forward by our Community Elders, mainly governance elements our knowledge keepers would like to see in the process of designing our own constitution. Our first meeting focused only on the pre-amble declaration, one major theme addressed was the need to recognize of our spiritual intent in our languages, culture and lands.

The elders concluded on the term “*The Creator gives us our spiritual intent*”.

Moving forward our governance executive team has constructed this governance outline, which will lead the design of our community constitution moving forward.

The elements of *Odag? ina Nimi* are the following.



Alexis Constitution: *Odag? ina Nimi*

- I. Alexis Pre-amble
- II. Alexis Treaty Rights
- III. Alexis Citizenship/Membership
- IV. Alexis General Assembly [Language Requirement]
- V. Alexis Governance Structure: Legislative/Executive/Judicial [Elders Senate]
- VI. Alexis Education
- VII. Alexis Health
- VIII. Alexis Family Kinship Customs
- IX. Alexis Lands
- X. Alexis Financial Administration & Accountability
- XI. Alexis Economic Development
- XII. Alexis Natural Resource Development
- XIII. Alexis Administration of Justice
 - I. Elders Judicial Review
 - II. Elders Customary Role & Seven Members of council
 - III. Elders Youth Council Member, two seats [Elders Senate Chambers]
 - IV. Alexis Peace Officer/Community Helper Role & alternative dispute resolutions.
- XIV. Alexis Constitutional Amendments & Procedures

Elders & Knowledge Keeper Governance Recommendations:

**FOCUS GROUP RECOMENDATIONS TOWARD C
ONSTITUTIONAL NATION-BUILDING**



1. *Seven teachings that should be included in the declaration: “Love, Respect, Courage, Honesty, Humility, Wisdom, and Truth”*
2. *An order of Governance, keeping the Elders in their own Council.*
3. *Election Regulation [Code of Ethics]*
4. *Consistent commitment to protect our environment*
5. *Treaty Rights to Health Education & Medicine*
6. *We rely too much on the ‘Washizu ways’, we need revitalization of what we know*
7. *We need Laws to protect our Hunters & Gatherers*
8. *If you’re working in our community, you have to learn our language and if you visit here you have to respect our language.*
9. *Spirituality is our Foundation*
10. *A membership Code that protects our Women*
11. *We need to bring back our teachings of respect*
12. *We need to protect our families; Child Welfare policies disrupt our families and we need to be keeping our children in the community.*
13. *We need rehab centers, group homes and healing centers that includes our traditions*
14. *Were ten years behind in Constitution, we need departments input towards constitution building.*
15. *We need to protect our lands*
16. *Treaties were never written in stone.*
17. *Stronger recognition under Section 35. Of Canada Constitution, to protect our own laws.*
18. *Equal opportunity to Education*
19. *Language Revitalization in our community*
20. *Building our own Policing system*

GROUP MEETINGS ANNOUNCEMENT:

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT ALL FUTURE MEETINGS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGES,
AS WE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW ALBERTA HEALTH COVID-19 POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.

Ishnish,
Alexis Executive Governance Team