

**DOIG RIVER FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS**

**- In accordance with -**

***The Framework Agreement on  
First Nation Land Management***

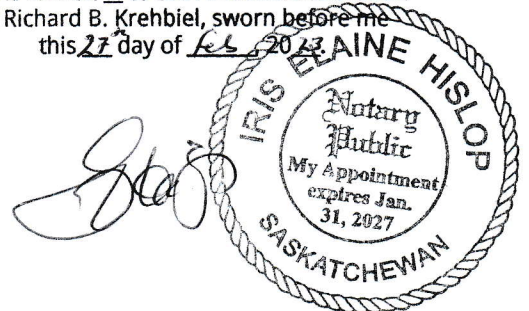
**Dated for Reference February 21, 2023**

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February 21, 2023

to Verify

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CERTIFIED TRUE COPY  
This is Exhibit Z to the Affidavit/Declaration  
of Richard B. Krehbiel, sworn before me  
this 27 day of Feb, 2023

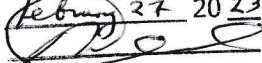


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## FORMS

Form 1	<b>Ballot Question</b>
Form 2	<b>First Nation Council Resolution (Information to Verifier)</b>
Form 3	<b>Confirmation by Verifier (Land Code and Ratification Process)</b>
Form 4	<b>First Nation Council Resolution (Commencement of Vote)</b>
Form 5	<b>First Nation Council Resolution (Approval of Individual Agreement for Vote)</b>
Form 6	<b>Appointment of Ratification Officer</b>
Form 7	<b>Appointment of an Assistant Ratification Officer</b>
Form 8	<b>Notice of Vote</b>
Form 9	<b>Declaration of Mail-in Voter</b>
Form 10	<b>First Nation Council Resolution (List of Eligible Voters)</b>
Form 11	<b>Declaration of Ratification Officer (Mail-in Ballots)</b>
Form 12	<b>Statement of Witness (Deposit of Mail-in Ballots)</b>
Form 13	<b>Statement of Witness (Opening of Mail-in Ballots)</b>
Form 14	<b>Declaration of Ratification Officer (Regular Polls)</b>
Form 15	<b>Statement of Witness (Regular Polls)</b>
Form 16	<b>Confirmation of Ratification Officer (Conclusion of Vote)</b>
Form 17	<b>Report by Verifier (Conclusion of Objections Period)</b>
Form 18	<b>First Nation Council Resolution (Submission to Verifier)</b>
Form 19	<b>Certification of Land Code</b>

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**DOIG RIVER FIRST NATION  
COMMUNITY RATIFICATION PROCESS**

**TITLE AND PURPOSE**

- 1.(1) The title of this document is the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process.
- (2) The purpose of this document is to set out the procedure by which Doig River First Nation will decide whether to approve its *Land Code* and the Individual Agreement with Canada, as required under the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*.

**DEFINITIONS**

**2.(1)** In this Ratification Process:

“Act” means the *Framework Agreement on First Nations Land Management Act*, (S.C. 2022, c. 19, s. 121);

“Additional Vote Day” means an additional day for voting scheduled under section 13 because of an emergency, disaster or interruption on or prior to the Official Voting Day;

“Advance Polls” means any early Voting Day held prior to the Official Voting Day to permit Eligible Voters who expect to be absent on the Official Voting Day to cast their ballots;

“Background Documents” means:

- (a) the *Framework Agreement*;
- (b) the *Act*;
- (c) a summary of the *Framework Agreement*;
- (d) a summary of the *Act*;
- (e) a summary of the *Land Code*; and
- (f) a summary of the Individual Agreement;

“Ballot” means a Regular Ballot, Mail-in Ballot or Electronic Ballot;

“Ballot Question” means the question asked in the Ratification Vote substantially the form attached as [Form 1](#);

“Council” means the Chief and Council of the Doig River First Nation;

“Department” means the Department/s of Indigenous Services Canada/Crown-Indigenous

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Relations and Northern Affairs Canada;

“Eligible Voter” means a Member of the First Nation who has attained 18 years of age on or before the final Voting Day and is registered on the First Nation’s membership list;

“Electronic Ballot” means a ballot submitted in accordance with section 14;

“Electronic Voting Platform” means a web-based database where unique PINs and electronic ballots are stored;

“Electronic Voting Methods” means a procedure that allows an Eligible Voter to cast their vote by using a secured internet website;

“First Nation” means Doig River First Nation;

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

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

“*Land Code*” means the proposed *Doig River First Nation Land Code*;

“List of Eligible Voters” means the list of Eligible Voters;

“Mail-in Ballot” means a ballot mailed or delivered by an Eligible Voter who is unable or does not wish to vote at the polls on Voting Days;

“Member” means a person whose name appears or is entitled to appear on the D membership list;

“Minister” means the Minister/s of Indigenous Services Canada/Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada;

“Notice of Vote” means a notice to Eligible Voters of the Ratification Vote and related matters under subsection 8(4);

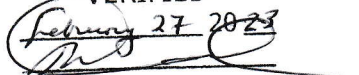
“Official Voting Day” means the date set for holding the Ratification Vote;

“Ratification Documents” means the *Land Code* and the Individual Agreement;

“Ratification Officer” means the person appointed by Council and confirmed under paragraph 6.(1)(a);

“Ratification Process” means this Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;

“Ratification Vote” means a vote by the Eligible Voters on the Ballot Question conducted

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according to the Ratification Process;

“Regular Ballot” means a paper ballot used to cast a secret vote at the polls on Voting Days;

“Verifier” means an independent person appointed pursuant to clauses 8 and 44 of the *Framework Agreement*;

“Voter Information Package” means the package of information containing the voting information under subsection 9(3) to be sent to all Eligible Voters; and

“Voting Day” means any Advance Polls, Official Day and Additional Vote Day.

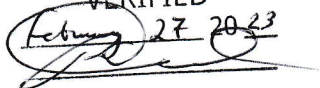
- (2) Unless otherwise provided, words defined in the *Framework Agreement* have the same meaning in this Ratification Process.
- (3) When calculating time, where anything is to be done within a time after, from, of, or before a specified day, or where a time is expressed to begin after or to be from a specified day, the time does not include that day.
- (4) Words in the singular include the plural, words in the plural include the singular and words in the masculine include the feminine and words in the feminine include the masculine, as the context may require.

**LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS AND DECLARATION**

- 3.(1) Council shall ensure that a preliminary List of Eligible Voters is prepared containing the full names, band numbers, birth dates, known addresses and known e-mail addresses of the Eligible Voters.
- (2) Following appointment by Council, the Ratification Officer is responsible for any amendment to the List of Eligible Voters and for determining if a person is an Eligible Voter.
- (3) Council shall ensure that, if required, an addendum to the List of Eligible Voters is prepared and provided to the Ratification Officer with supporting documentation or comments to support any additions or deletions to the List of Eligible Voters.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection 3.(3), the Ratification Officer will determine, in his or her full discretion, that the name of the Member should be or should not be included on the List of Eligible Voters, and such decision shall be final.
- (5) The List of Eligible Voters shall be a live web-based list and populated on the Electronic Voting Platform under subsection 14.(4).

**INFORMATION TO VERIFIER**

- 4.(1) At least 103 days before the Official Voting Day, Council shall by resolution in

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substantially the form attached as [Form 2](#) send, or cause to be sent, an electronic copy of the Ratification Process, *Land Code* and preliminary List of Eligible Voters to the Verifier and to the Ratification Officer.

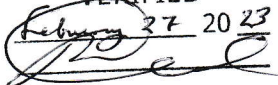
- (2) Prior to the Official Voting Day, Council shall by resolution in substantially the form attached as Form 10 send, or cause to be sent to the Verifier an electronic copy of the addendum to the List of Eligible Voters under subsection 4.(1), listing any changes to the List of Eligible Voters.

#### CONFIRMATION BY VERIFIER

- 5.(1) Upon receipt of the documents under subsection 4.(1), the Verifier shall review the *Land Code* and the Ratification Process to determine whether they are consistent with the *Framework Agreement*.
- (2) In accordance with clause 8.9 of the *Framework Agreement*, the Verifier will, within 30 days of receiving the documents, issue a notice in substantially the form attached as [Form 3](#) to the First Nation, the Minister and the Lands Advisory Board stating whether the *Land Code* and the Ratification Process are consistent with the *Framework Agreement*.

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS

- 6.(1) After the Verifier confirms the *Land Code* and this Ratification Process under subsection 5.(2), Council shall pass a Resolution in substantially the form attached as [Form 4](#) to:
  - (a) appoint the Ratification Officer;
  - (b) confirm the preliminary List of Eligible Voters;
  - (c) confirm the use of Electronic Voting Methods, and appoint an independent service provider;
  - (d) confirm the text of the *Land Code* and the Ratification Process;
  - (e) order that the Ratification Vote be held to determine if the Eligible Voters approve the Ratification Documents;
  - (f) confirm that the *Land Code* and Individual Agreement shall be approved if a majority of participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them;
  - (g) confirm the wording of the Ballot Question; and
  - (h) set the Advance Polls and the Official Voting Day.
- (2) Council shall pass a Resolution in substantially the form attached as [Form 5](#) to confirm the Individual Agreement.

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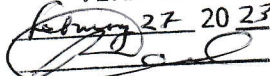
**DUTY OF RATIFICATION OFFICER AND APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT**

- 7.(1) Upon the appointment of the Ratification Officer, the Ratification Officer shall execute an Appointment of a Ratification Officer in substantially the form attached as [Form 6](#).
- (2) The Ratification Officer is responsible for monitoring and overseeing the conduct of the Ratification Vote and has all the powers necessary to carry out that responsibility.
- (3) The Ratification Officer may appoint assistants and may delegate any of the duties set out in the Ratification Process to the assistants, except:
  - (a) the initialling of Ballots;
  - (b) the determination to hold an additional day for voting under subsection 13.(4);
  - (c) the deposit of the Mail-in Ballots in the ballot box under paragraphs 15.(13)(i);
  - (d) the safekeeping of ballot boxes under subsection 16.(22); and
  - (e) the counting of Ballots under section 19.
- (4) Upon the appointment of an assistant, the Ratification Officer and each assistant shall execute an Appointment of an Assistant Ratification Officer in substantially the form attached as [Form 7](#).
- (5) If the Ratification Officer is unable to perform his or her duties, Council may appoint an acting Ratification Officer.

**NOTICE OF VOTE**

- 8.(1) The Ratification Officer, in consultation with Council, shall post a Notice of Vote in substantially the form attached as [Form 8](#) at least 56 days prior to the Official Voting Day in public places where it can be read by the Members.
- (2) Forthwith after posting the Notice of Vote, the Ratification Officer shall e-mail a true copy of the Notice of Vote to the Verifier.
- (3) The Ratification Officer shall publish the Notice of Vote in various media deemed appropriate, such as newspapers, online media, newsletters and websites, at least 15 days prior to Official Voting Day.
- (4) The Notice of Vote shall contain the following information:
  - (a) the date, place and time of the Advance Polls and Official Voting Day;
  - (b) the date and hours for the Electronic Voting Methods and information on how to access the Electronic Voting Platform;

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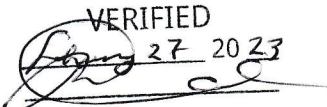
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- (c) that the *Land Code* and Individual Agreement shall be approved if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them;
- (d) the Ballot Question;
- (e) the procedure for completing an Eligible Voter declaration;
- (f) the procedure for obtaining a Mail-in Ballot package; and
- (g) the name, office address, email address and telephone number of the Ratification Officer.

**VOTER INFORMATION PACKAGE**

- 9.(1) The Ratification Officer shall, at least 56 days prior to the Official Voting Day, send a Voter Information Package to each Eligible Voter, at their last known address or e-mail.
- (2) Voter Information Packages may be e-mailed, mailed, couriered or hand delivered.
- (3) The Voter Information Package shall contain:
  - (a) a copy of the Notice of Vote;
  - (b) instructions on obtaining copies of the Ratification Documents, Background Documents, map(s) of the reserve land that will be subject to the *Land Code* and the Ratification Process which shall be available online;
  - (c) instructions for obtaining a Mail-in Ballot package; and
  - (d) instructions on how to vote by Electronic Voting Methods.
- (4) Eligible Voters may request to receive a paper copy of the information in subsection 9.(3) by contacting the Ratification Officer.
- (5) Council may conduct or cause to be conducted:
  - (a) visits at the homes of Eligible Voters;
  - (b) telephone contact with Eligible Voters;
  - (c) information meetings at Doig River First Nation and other appropriate places; and
  - (d) such other information activities as may be deemed appropriate.
- (6) Activities conducted in accordance with subsection 9.(5) may take place up until the day before the Official Voting Day or Additional Vote Day.

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- (7) Notwithstanding subsection 9.(6), personal visits, text, email, telephone or other contact with an Eligible Voter on Official Voting Day or Additional Vote Day may take place for the purposes of assisting such Eligible Voter to vote.

**INFORMATION TO THIRD PARTIES**

- 10.(1) At least 28 days prior to Official Voting Day Council shall send or cause to be sent the following information to persons who are not Members and who hold an Interest in Doig River First Nation land that will be subject to the Land Code:
  - (a) the date of the Ratification Vote;
  - (b) a communiqué from the First Nation explaining the effect of the Ratification Vote;
  - (c) a summary of the *Land Code*;
  - (d) a summary of the *Act and Framework Agreement*; and
  - (e) the name, office address and telephone number of a person who may be contacted for purposes of obtaining copies of the *Land Code* and Background Documents or further information about the management of Doig River First Nation land.
- (2) In addition to information provided in accordance with subsection 10.(1), the First Nation may meet with, or otherwise provide information directly to, persons who are not Members and who hold an interest in Doig River First Nation land.
- (3) Nothing in this Ratification Process precludes the First Nation from providing information in any form it deems appropriate to a municipal corporation, regional district, another First Nation or other entity with an Interest in land in the vicinity of Doig River First Nation land.

**AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS**

- 11.(1) The Ratification Officer shall ensure that the Ratification Documents, Background Documents and Ratification Process are available online and sufficient paper copies are available at the administrative offices of Doig River First Nation.
- (2) Any person who holds an Interest in the First Nation land may, on request, obtain a copy of the Ratification Documents and Background Documents free of charge.
- (3) Any Member may, on request, obtain a copy of the Ratification Documents, Background Documents and Ratification Process.

**PRELIMINARY PROCEDURES**

- 12. The Ratification Officer, in consultation with Council, shall:

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- (a) designate the polling place;
- (b) prepare and initial sufficient copies of Regular Ballots and Mail-in Ballots, which shall be uniform in size, appearance, quality and weight;
- (c) prepare sufficient copies of the secrecy envelopes, the declaration 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;
- (f) provide for a designated voting area at the polling place(s) such that an Eligible Voter can mark a Regular Ballot free from observation;
- (g) provide a sufficient number of blue or black ink pens for marking the Regular Ballot;
- (h) ensure that samples of the Ballot Question are posted or available for examination by Eligible Voters at the polling place(s); and
- (i) ensure that a Commissioner for taking Oaths or Notary Public shall be available as required.

**POSTPONEMENT AND ADDITIONAL DAY FOR VOTING**

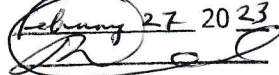
- 13.(1) An emergency, disaster or interruption, includes but is not limited to:
- (a) severe inclement weather;
  - (b) death of a community Member;
  - (c) natural disasters such as fire, earthquake, tornado; or
  - (d) other emergency or disasters, such as a national, provincial or First Nation declared emergency, epidemic, explosion, power failure, or an act of sabotage.
- (2) If an emergency, disaster or interruption interferes with the vote process, up until the day prior to the Official Voting Day, Council may:
- (a) postpone the Official Voting Day and set an Additional Vote Day;
  - (b) add an Additional Vote Day after the Official Voting Day; or
  - (c) specify alternative polling place(s).
- (3) Where Council decides to postpone or adjust a vote because of an emergency, disaster or interruption, the Ratification Officer shall, as soon as possible, advise the Verifier and Eligible Voters of the decision by posting notices at each designated polling places, notices online, and by any other method deemed appropriate.

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- (4) Immediately upon the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day, the Ratification Officer may, in his or her sole discretion, decide that an Additional Vote Day shall be held, where participation may have been affected by an emergency, disaster or interruption.
- (5) Pursuant to subsection 13.(4), if the Ratification Officer decides that an Additional Vote Day will be held, the Ratification Officer shall formally advise the Verifier and Council in writing.
- (6) If a vote is postponed because of an emergency, disaster or interruption, the Ratification Officer and Council shall, within 2 days of deciding to postpone the vote, set a date for the Additional Vote Day, not be more than 20 days after the Official Voting Day, and the hours during which the polls will be open.
- (7) If a decision is made to postpone a vote as a result of an emergency, disaster or interruption, the Ratification Officer shall ensure that the Electronic Voting Platform remains open and available until the close of the polls on the Additional Vote Day.
- (8) If an Additional Vote Day is set under subsection 13.(4), the Ratification Officer shall publish a notice showing the decision, the reason for an Additional Vote Day, the number of Eligible Voters who voted by the Official Voting Day, the hours and date of the additional day for voting, and shall notify all Eligible Voters by mail, hand delivery service or e-mail.
- (9) In the event of a postponement or addition under this section, Eligible Voters who did not vote by the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day shall be entitled to vote on the Additional Vote Day.
- (10) In the event of a postponement or addition under this Part the receipt of Mail-in Ballots may be extended in accordance with the timelines set out in subsection 15.(7).
- (11) Electronic Voting Methods may be extended and shall open and close at the hours and dates specified in the notice of the Additional Vote Day.
- (12) In the event that an Additional Vote Day is scheduled, the counting of Ballots shall occur after the close of polls on the Additional Vote Day.
- (13) In the event that an Additional Vote Day is scheduled, where anything is to be done within a time after the Official Voting Day, the time will be calculated from the additional vote day.

**ELECTRONIC VOTING METHODS**

- 14.(1) Electronic Voting shall open and close on the dates specified in the Notice of Vote or on the hours and dates specified by the Ratification Officer in the event of an Additional Vote Day.
- (2) The Ratification Officer shall work with the consultant managing the Electronic Voting

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Platform to design the Electronic Voting credentials.

- (3) The Electronic Ballot shall contain the same Ballot Question as the Mail-in Ballots and the Regular Ballots.
- (4) The Electronic Voting Platform shall be populated with the List of Eligible Voters at least 70 days prior to the Official Voting Day. The List of Eligible Voters shall be a live web-based link.
- (5) The Ratification Officer shall have complete administrative access to the Electronic Voting Platform to:
  - (a) view and download daily reports and detailed activity reports;
  - (b) modify, update and view the List of Eligible Voters at all times;
  - (c) receive an email notification confirming the voter registration; and
  - (d) receive an email notification confirming the Eligible Voter voted by Electronic Voting.
- (6) To participate in Electronic Voting, an Eligible Voter must:
  - (a) visit the landing page of the Electronic Voting Platform;
  - (b) confirm their eligibility to participate in Electronic Voting;
  - (c) complete the Electronic Voting registration process, which will include the provision of their registration number (status card number) and date of birth;
  - (d) declare their intent and desire to vote by Electronic Voting;
  - (e) complete the authentication and Electronic Voting Voter verification process; and
  - (f) mark their Electronic Ballot.
- (7) An Eligible Voter shall complete the process described in subsection 14.(6) and as otherwise provided in the Electronic Voting instructions in the Electronic Voting Platform to login, and once this is complete, shall vote either "Yes" or "No" in response to the Ballot Questions or decline to vote. If the Eligible Voter enters the information described in subsection 14.(6) in the Electronic Voting Platform to login, and does not cast a vote, the Ballot will be rejected and will be marked as such.
- (8) At the close of the Electronic Voting period, and on an ongoing basis, a report identifying who voted on the Electronic Voting Platform shall be issued to the Ratification Officer. This report will contain no information regarding how an individual Voter may have voted.

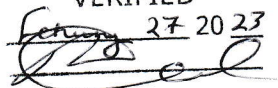
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- (9) Where the Eligible Voter has voted by Electronic Voting, the Eligible Voter shall not be permitted to vote in person or by Mail-in Ballot.
- (10) If an Eligible Voter has voted both by Electronic Voting and Mail-in Ballot, the Mail-in Ballot by that the Eligible Voter will be rejected and treated as void and the vote cast by Electronic Voting shall be counted as each Voter is only permitted to cast one vote that will be counted in the Ratification Vote.
- (11) The results of the Electronic Voting will form part of the Ratification Officer's Declaration of Ratification Officer in substantially the form attached as [Form 16](#).

**MAIL-IN BALLOTS**

- 15.(1) An Eligible Voter may cast a Mail-in Ballot in accordance with this section.
- (2) The Ratification Officer shall send a Mail-in Ballot package to each Eligible Voter who requests to vote by mail in the manner set out in the Voter Information Package. Mail-in Ballot packages may be mailed, couriered or hand delivered to the Eligible Voter.
- (3) The Mail-in Ballot package shall contain a pre-folded and initialed Ballot in substantially the form attached as [Form 1](#), a secrecy envelope, a declaration envelope in substantially the form attached as [Form 9](#), a postage paid return envelope addressed to the Ratification Officer and voting instructions.
- (4) To cast a Mail-in Ballot, an Eligible Voter shall:
  - (a) mark the Ballot by placing an **X** in the box marked "YES" or in the box marked "NO";
  - (b) enclose and seal the Ballot inside the secrecy envelope;
  - (c) enclose and seal the secrecy envelope in the declaration envelope;
  - (d) complete and sign the outside of the declaration envelope in the presence of a witness who is at least 18 years of age;
  - (e) enclose and seal the signed and witnessed declaration envelope in the prepaid return envelope; and
  - (f) deliver the sealed return envelope to the Ratification Officer.
- (5) A Mail-in Ballot may be delivered to the Ratification Officer by mail, courier or hand delivery.
- (6) A Mail-in Ballot shall be received by the Ratification Officer no later than the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day if hand delivered to the Ratification Officer or 1:00 pm one business day prior to the Official Voting Day if mailed or couriered.

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- (7) An Eligible Voter who inadvertently spoils or loses a Mail-in Ballot may obtain another Mail-in Ballot by contacting the Ratification Officer, and the Ratification Officer shall make an entry on the List of Eligible Voters indicating that a second Mail-in Ballot was provided to the Eligible Voter.
- (8) Where an Eligible Voter is unable to vote in the manner set out in subsection 15.(4), the Eligible Voter may enlist the help of another person to mark the Ballot and complete and sign the declaration envelope.
- (9) If an Eligible Voter mails or delivers the Mail-in-Ballot and also attends a polling station to vote in person on the Official Voting Day or votes using the Electronic Voting Method, then the Mail-in-Ballot will be treated as a spoiled Ballot and will not be counted as a vote cast.
- (10) After the Ratification Officer has received a Mail-in Ballot, and opens the return envelope, the Ratification Officer shall:
  - (a) confirm that the sender of the Mail-in Ballot is an Eligible Voter;
  - (b) confirm that the declaration envelope was duly signed and witnessed;
  - (c) record the date when the Mail-in Ballot package was received;
  - (d) confirm that no other Mail-in Ballot package has been received from the Eligible Voter;
  - (e) confirm that the Eligible Voter has not voted electronically; and
  - (f) store the Mail-in Ballot package in a secure location until the Official Voting Day.
- (11) The Ratification Officer may contact an Eligible Voter if a declaration envelope is not completed properly in order to:
  - (a) allow the Eligible Voter to correct the declaration; or
  - (b) to provide confirmation to the Ratification Officer of the Eligible Voter's identity and that the Mail-in Ballot was completed by the Eligible Voter,and the Ratification Officer, in his or her sole discretion, may make the determination to accept or reject the Mail-in Ballot.
- (12) The Ratification Officer is responsible for the safekeeping of Mail-in Ballot packages until such time as the packages are opened, verified and deposited in a Mail-in Ballot box in accordance with subsection 15.(13).
- (13) After the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day, or Additional Vote Day, the Ratification Officer shall in the presence of one or more Eligible Voters who shall act as

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*[Signature]* 27 2023

witnesses:

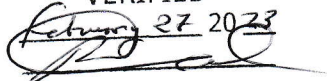
- (a) open a ballot box to be used only for the Mail-in Ballots;
  - (b) request that one or more Eligible Voters witness that the ballot box is empty;
  - (c) forthwith seal the ballot box;
  - (d) place his or her signature on the seal;
  - (e) ask the witnesses to place their signatures on the seal;
  - (f) in the presence of the witnesses, open each Mail-in Ballot package that has not previously been opened;
  - (g) check the List of Eligible Voters to ensure that the Eligible Voter has not previously voted by Mail-in Ballot, Electronic Ballot, or in person;
  - (h) if the Eligible Voter has already voted, set aside the unopened declaration envelope;
  - (i) if the Eligible Voter has not already voted, deposit the Mail-in Ballot in its unopened secrecy envelope into the ballot box; and
  - (j) record on the List of Eligible Voters that the Eligible Voter cast a Mail-in Ballot.
- (14) The Ratification Officer shall reject the Mail-in Ballot and note the reason for the rejection on the List of Eligible Voters and on the unopened declaration envelope, and shall forthwith place the unopened declaration envelope into a suitable envelope retained for that purpose, where:
- (a) an Eligible Voter has previously voted in person, by Mail-in Ballot or by Electronic Ballot;
  - (b) a voter is not an Eligible Voter;
  - (c) a Mail-in Ballot is not accompanied by a declaration envelope; or
  - (d) the declaration envelope is not completed properly and cannot be verified by the Ratification Officer under subsection 15.(11).
- (15) The Ratification Officer shall:
- (a) execute a Declaration of Ratification Officer in substantially the form attached as [Form 11](#); and
  - (b) ensure that each witness executes a Statement of Witness in substantially the forms attached as [Form 12](#) and [13](#).

VERIFIED  
*February 27 20 23*  
*[Signature]*

**VOTING PROCEDURES AT THE POLLS ON VOTING DAYS**

- 16.(1)** The Ratification Officer and Council shall post the locations of the polling places and the hours that the polls shall be opened on the Voting Day(s) on the Notice of Vote.
- (2) The polls shall be opened during the hours specified on the Notice of Vote.
  - (3) All voting at the polls shall be by secret Regular Ballot.
  - (4) No proxy voter shall be used at any time.
  - (5) The Ratification Officer is responsible for determining whether a person is an Eligible Voter.
  - (6) At each poll, the Ratification Officer shall:
    - (a) before the first vote is cast, open the ballot box and request an Eligible Voter to witness that the ballot box is empty;
    - (b) thereupon seal the ballot box and place his or her signature on the seal in front of the witness, and ask the witness to place his or her signature on the seal;
    - (c) keep the ballot box in view for reception of Regular Ballots;
    - (d) execute a Declaration of Ratification Officer in substantially the form attached as [Form 14](#); and
    - (e) ensure that each witness executes a Statement of Witness in substantially the form attached as [Form 15](#).
  - (7) When a person at a poll requests to vote, the Ratification Officer shall:
    - (a) ensure that the person is an Eligible Voter;
    - (b) check the List of Eligible Voters to ensure that the person has not already voted, either in person or by Electronic Ballot;
    - (c) check the List of Eligible Voters to ensure that the person has not already voted by Mail-in Ballot, in which case the Eligible Voter may cast a Regular Ballot and the Mail-in Ballot shall be rejected under subsection 15.(14); and
    - (d) provide the Eligible Voter with a Regular Ballot, on the back of which are affixed the Ratification Officer's initials so that the initials can be seen when the Ballot is folded.
  - (8) The Ratification Officer shall record, on the List of Eligible Voters, the name of every Eligible Voter receiving a Regular Ballot at a poll.

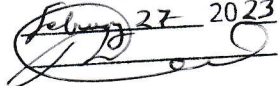
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- (9) Upon request, the Ratification Officer shall explain the method of voting.
- (10) If the Ratification Officer determines that the name of an Eligible Voter has been omitted, incorrectly set out or incorrectly included on the List of Eligible Voters, he or she shall, in his or her sole discretion, make the necessary revision and such revision shall be final.
- (11) An Eligible Voter may request special assistance from the Ratification Officer at the polls.
- (12) The Ratification Officer shall, on request and in the presence of a witness acceptable to the Eligible Voter and the Ratification Officer, provide special assistance to an Eligible Voter at the polls by marking a Regular Ballot in secret as directed by the Eligible Voter and immediately folding and depositing the Regular Ballot into the ballot box.
- (13) The Ratification Officer, after providing special assistance to an Eligible Voter, shall make an entry on the List of Eligible Voters indicating:
  - (a) that the Regular Ballot was marked by the Ratification Officer at the request of the Eligible Voter;
  - (b) the reason for the Eligible Voter's request; and
  - (c) the name of the witness.
- (14) Except for an Eligible Voter requiring special assistance, every Eligible Voter receiving a Regular Ballot at a poll shall:
  - (a) proceed immediately to a designated voting area;
  - (b) mark the Regular Ballot by placing an **X** in the box marked "YES" or in the box marked "NO";
  - (c) fold the Regular Ballot so as to conceal the mark and expose the initials of the Ratification Officer; and
  - (d) immediately give the folded Regular Ballot to the Ratification Officer.
- (15) Upon receiving a marked Regular Ballot, the Ratification Officer, without unfolding it, shall:
  - (e) verify the Ratification Officer's initials;
  - (f) remove the perforated strip, if any; and
  - (g) deposit the Regular Ballot into the ballot box.
- (16) An Eligible Voter at a poll who receives a spoiled or improperly printed Regular Ballot, or

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who accidentally spoils his or her Regular Ballot when marking it, is entitled to receive another Regular Ballot from the Ratification Officer after returning the original Regular Ballot.

- (17) The Ratification Officer shall record a Regular Ballot returned in accordance with subsection 16. (17) as spoiled.
- (18) An Eligible Voter at a poll who receives a Regular Ballot and does not return it to the Ratification Officer shall forfeit the right to vote and the Ratification Officer shall make an entry on the List of Eligible Voters stating that the Eligible Voter left the poll without delivering the Regular Ballot and shall record the Regular Ballot as cancelled.
- (19) At the time set for closing the polls, the Ratification Officer shall declare the polls closed, and entry shall be denied to the polls until all remaining Eligible Voters in the polls at that time have voted.
- (20) After the close of a poll on any Advance Polls, and Official Voting Day if an additional day for voting is scheduled, the Ratification Officer or Assistant Ratification Officer presiding at that poll, with an Eligible Voter who shall act as a witness, shall:
  - (a) seal the ballot box at that poll such that no further Regular Ballots may be deposited in that ballot box; and
  - (b) initial the seal.
- (21) The Ratification Officer is personally responsible for ensuring the safekeeping of the ballot boxes, and any and all other material and documents related to any polls.

#### ORDERLY VOTING

- 17.(1) Council, with the assistance of the Ratification Officer, shall ensure that peace and good order are maintained at the polls.
- (2) The Ratification Officer shall allow only one Eligible Voter at a time into a designated voting area, except for an Eligible Voter receiving special assistance.
- (3) An Eligible Voter who is present and available to vote at a poll before the closing time shall be entitled to vote.
- (4) No person shall:
  - (a) interfere or attempt to interfere with an Eligible Voter when the Eligible Voter is voting;
  - (b) obtain or attempt to obtain information as to how an Eligible Voter is about to vote or has voted;

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- (c) mark a Ballot in a way that identifies the Eligible Voter;
- (d) mark the secrecy envelope for a Mail-in Ballot in a way that indicates how the Ballot was cast;
- (e) if applicable, use another Eligible Voter's unique one-time voter security code to vote electronically;
- (f) if applicable, take, seize, or otherwise deprive an Eligible Voter of his or her unique one-time voter security code; or
- (g) if applicable, sell, gift, transfer, assign or purchase a unique one-time voter security code.

**REJECTED BALLOTS**

18.(1) A Ballot shall be rejected if:

- (a) the Ballot was not supplied by the Ratification Officer or assistant Ratification Officer;
- (b) if applicable, the unique one-time voter security code was not issued by the Ratification Officer or the independent service provider;
- (c) the Ballot was not marked as either "YES" or "NO";
- (d) the Ballot was marked as both "YES" and "NO";
- (e) the Ballot was marked outside a box marked "YES" or "NO" such that the Ratification Officer cannot reasonably discern the intent of the Eligible Voter; or
- (f) the Ballot has any writing or mark which can identify the Eligible Voter.

(2) A Ballot marked with anything other than an **X**, or marked with anything other than a blue or black pen, shall not be rejected if:

- (a) the mark is in a box;
- (b) the mark does not identify the Eligible Voter; and
- (c) in the opinion of the Ratification Officer, the intent of the Eligible Voter is clear.

**COUNTING OF BALLOTS**

19.(1) After the Mail-in Ballots have been deposited in a ballot box and after the close of polls on the Official Voting Day or Additional Vote Day if applicable, the Ratification Officer, in the presence of any Eligible Voter who may be present, shall:


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*[Signature]*

- (a) Count the number of spoiled Ballots under subsection 16.(18);
  - (b) examine all Ballots contained in the ballot boxes;
  - (c) reject any Ballots as required under subsection 15.(14) and section 18;
  - (d) count the number of Ballots marked "YES", the number of Ballots marked "NO" and the number of rejected Ballots; and
  - (e) count the number of Ballots cast by Electronic Voting Methods based on the report in subsection 14.(8).
- (2) When the results of the Ratification Vote have been determined, the Ratification Officer shall execute a Confirmation by Ratification Officer in substantially the form attached as [Form 16](#) and shall provide the form to the First Nation and the Verifier.
- (3) The Ratification Officer shall seal in separate envelopes the spoiled Ballots, the rejected Ballots, the Ballots cast in favour and the Ballots cast against and shall thereupon:
- (a) affix his or her signature to the seals; and
  - (b) request that an Eligible Voter affix his or her signature to the seals.
- (4) The Ratification Officer shall retain in his or her secure possession the separate envelopes.
- (5) After 75 days from Official Voting Day, unless otherwise instructed by Council, the Ratification Officer may thereafter destroy the Ballots cast, including the rejected Ballots, and the spoiled Ballots.

**PROCEDURAL AMENDMENTS**

- 20.(1) In order to give effect to and carry out the objectives and purpose of the Ratification Vote, the Ratification Officer, Council or its designate and the Verifier may agree upon a variation of the procedural requirements of this Ratification Process if they:
- (a) deem it necessary to do so; and
  - (b) reasonably believe the variation shall not result in any substantive change to those procedural requirements.
- (2) The Ratification Officer shall state in writing the nature and basis of a variation under subsection 20.(1) and make a copy of the statement publicly available.
- (3) The appended forms to this Ratification Process may be amended to add or update, but not remove, material detail.

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**OBJECTIONS**

- 21.(1) Any Eligible Voter may file an objection with the Verifier if the Eligible Voter has reasonable grounds for believing that:
- (a) there was a violation of, or irregularity in, this Ratification Process; and
  - (b) the final result of the Ratification Vote might have been different but for the violation or irregularity.
- (2) An objection must be received by the Verifier within 5 days of the Official Voting Day.
- (3) An objection shall be in writing and shall:
- (a) identify the name, address and telephone number of the Eligible Voter making the objection;
  - (b) summarize the grounds for the objection; and
  - (c) be accompanied by a statutory declaration setting out the grounds for the objection.
- (4) The Verifier may, if the material provided under subsection 21. (3) is insufficient to decide the validity of the objection, conduct such further investigations as the Verifier deems necessary.
- (5) If an objection is filed under this section, the Verifier shall, within 10 days of the Official Voting Day determine whether the objection is valid.
- (6) If the Verifier determines the objection is valid, the Verifier may allow the objection and call another Ratification Vote.
- (7) The Verifier shall dismiss the objection if the Verifier determines that:
- (a) there was neither a violation of this 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.

**REPORT BY VERIFIER**

22. Within 15 days of receiving the Confirmation by Ratification Officer in accordance with clause 19.(2), the Verifier shall send a written report in substantially the form attached as [Form 17](#) on the results of the Ratification Vote to the First Nation, the Minister and the Chair of the Lands Advisory Board.

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**CERTIFICATION OF LAND CODE**

- 23.(1)** The *Land Code* and the Individual Agreement shall be approved if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them.
- (2) If the *Land Code* and the Individual Agreement are approved, Council shall as soon as practicable after receiving the report of the Verifier under section 22, sign 3 copies of the Individual Agreement and send the copies to the Department for signing by the Minister.
  - (3) Council shall as soon as practicable after receiving the fully signed Individual Agreement, pass a resolution in substantially the form attached as [Form 18](#) as a declaration of the results of the vote.
  - (4) Council shall send the resolution, a copy of the approved *Land Code*, and a copy of the fully signed Individual Agreement to the Verifier.
  - (5) Upon receiving the *Land Code*, the fully signed Individual Agreement and the resolution in substantially the form attached as [Form 18](#) from Council, the Verifier shall certify the *Land Code* and forward a completed copy of the substantially the form attached as [Form 19](#) together with a copy of the certified *Land Code* to the Doig River First Nation, the Minister and the Chair of the Lands Advisory Board.

VERIFIED  
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**BALLOT QUESTION**

Do you:

- **Approve the proposed *The Doig River First Nation Land Code*, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;**
- **Approve the proposed *The Individual Agreement with His Majesty the King in right of Canada*, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023**
- **Authorize and direct the Doig River First Nation Council to do everything necessary to give effect to all documents listed in this Ballot?**

**EXPLANATION**

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

A **“NO”** vote means that Doig River First Nation 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  
Ratification Process**

**FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION**  
(Information to Verifier)

WHEREAS On or around July 24, 2020, Doig River First Nation (“DRFN”) became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* on First Nation Land Management (“*Framework Agreement*”);

AND WHEREAS In accordance with the provisions of the *Framework Agreement*, DRFN has prepared a proposed Land Code, Individual Agreement and Community Ratification Process (“Ratification Process”);

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council have reviewed the Land Code and Ratification Process and are desirous of sending them to the Verifier for such confirmations as are required under the Framework Agreement;

AND WHEREAS Pursuant to clause 8.4 of the Framework Agreement and section 4 of the Ratification Process, DRFN must send or cause to be sent an electronic version of the Ratification Process, Land Code and preliminary list of Eligible Voters to the Ratification Officers at least 103 days prior to the official Vote Day;

AND WHEREAS DRFN is considering setting the official Vote Date for \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The proposed Doig River *Land Code* dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 be sent by email to the Verifier;
2. The proposed Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 be sent by email to the Verifier;
3. The preliminary List of Eligible Voters who, according to the records of Doig River First Nation, would be eligible to vote on whether to approve the proposed *Doig River First Nation Land Code* be sent by email to the Verifier;
4. The Land Code and Individual Agreement shall be approved if a majority of participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them; and
5. \_\_\_\_\_ be authorized and directed to submit the above materials to the Verifier on this day.



QUORUM: 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief (Trevor Makadahay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Starr Acko)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Brittany Brinkworth)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor Garry Oker

**Form 3  
Ratification Process**

**CONFIRMATION BY VERIFIER**  
(*Land Code* and Individual Agreement Ratification Process)

CANADA )  
 )  
PROVINCE OF \_\_\_\_\_ )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_,  
DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was appointed as the Verifier for Doig River First Nation on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 202\_ and by Canada on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 202\_ for the purpose of verifying the community approval of their *Land Code* and their 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 \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_, 2023:
  - (a) a copy of the *Doig River First Nation Land Code*;
  - (b) a detailed description of the Community Ratification Process that D proposes to use; and
  - (c) a preliminary list of the names of every Member of Doig River First Nation who, according to D's records at that time, would be eligible to vote on whether to approve the *Land Code* and the Individual Agreement.
3. A true copy of the *Land Code*, entitled the *Doig River First Nation Land Code*, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 is attached hereto as Annex "1" to this declaration.
4. A true copy of the Community Ratification Process, entitled Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 is attached hereto as Annex "2" to this declaration.
5. In accordance with clause 8.5 of the *Framework Agreement*, I reviewed the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* and the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process to decide whether:
  - (a) The *Doig River First Nation Land Code* conforms with the requirements of section 5

of the *Framework Agreement*; and

- (b) The Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process conforms with section 7 of the *Framework Agreement*.
- 6. In accordance with clause 8.9 of the *Framework Agreement*, the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* and the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process are hereby confirmed/not confirmed as being consistent with the *Framework Agreement*.
- 7. My reasons for not confirming the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* or the Doig River 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 \_\_\_\_\_ )

**Form 4  
Ratification Process**

**FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION**  
(Commencement of Vote)

- WHEREAS On or around July 24, 2020, Doig River First Nation (“DRFN”) became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* on First Nation Land Management (“*Framework Agreement*”);
- AND WHEREAS In accordance with the provisions of the *Framework Agreement*, DRFN has prepared a proposed Land Code, Individual Agreement and Community Ratification Process (“Ratification Process”);
- AND WHEREAS Chief and Council of DRFN caused to be sent an electronic copy of the Ratification Process, Land Code and preliminary List of Voters to the Verifier on or around \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;
- AND WHEREAS On or around \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, the Verifier issued a notice in accordance with the Ratification Process and Framework Agreement stating that the Land Code and Ratification Process are consistent with the Framework Agreement;
- AND WHEREAS Subsection 6.1 of the Ratification Process requires that Chief and Council: appoint the Ratification Officer; confirm the preliminary List of Eligible Voters; confirm the use of Electronic Voting Methods, and appoint an independent service provider; confirm the text of the *Land Code* and the Ratification Process; order that the Ratification Vote be held to determine if the Eligible Voters approve the Ratification Documents; confirm that the *Land Code* and Individual Agreement shall be approved if a majority of participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them; confirm the wording of the Ballot Question; and set the Advance Polls and the Official Voting Day;
- AND WHEREAS \_\_\_\_\_ has agreed to act as Ratification Officer and Chief and Council are desirous of appointing \_\_\_\_\_ as Ratification Officer;
- AND WHEREAS Chief and Council of DRFN are desirous of using an Electronic Voting Method as defined in the Ratification Process;
- AND WHEREAS Chief and Council of DRFN are desirous of engaging \_\_\_\_\_ to serve as individual service provider for the Electronic Voting Platform and \_\_\_\_\_ has agreed to act as the provider;
- AND WHEREAS Chief and Council of DRFN have reviewed and wish to confirm the text in the Land Code and Ratification Process as verified by the Verifier on or

around \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council are desirous of holding a Ratification Vote and setting an Advance Voting Day and Official Voting Day

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council have reviewed and are desirous of confirming the Ballot Question for the Ratification Vote.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ be appointed as the Ratification Officer;
2. The preliminary List of Eligible Voters be confirmed;
3. The use of Electronic Voting Methods and the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_, an independent service provider, to provide the Electronic Voting Platform be authorized;
4. The text of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process, as confirmed by the Verifier and dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 be confirmed;
5. The text of the *Doig River First Nation Land Code*, as confirmed by the Verifier and dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ be confirmed;
6. A Ratification Vote to determine if the Eligible Voters approve the Ratification Documents in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process be held;
7. The wording of Ballot Question in the form attached as Annex #1 be confirmed;
8. \_\_\_\_\_ be designated to act on behalf of Council for the purposes set out in subsection 20.(1) of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
9. The Advance Voting Day(s) be set for \_\_\_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023; and
10. The Official Voting Day be set for the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023.

QUORUM: 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief (Trevor Makadahay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Brittany Brinkworth)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Garry Oker)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Starr Acko)

**Form 5  
Ratification Process**

**FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION**  
(Approval of Individual Agreement for Vote)

WHEREAS On or around July 24, 2020, Doig River First Nation (“DRFN”) became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* on First Nation Land Management (“*Framework Agreement*”);

AND WHEREAS In accordance with the provisions of the *Framework Agreement*, DRFN has prepared a proposed Land Code, Individual Agreement and Community Ratification Process (“Ratification Process”);

AND WHEREAS Chief and Council of DRFN caused to be sent an electronic copy of the Ratification Process, Land Code and preliminary List of Voters to the Verifier on or around \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;

AND WHEREAS On or around \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, the Verifier Issued a notice in accordance with the Ratification Process and Framework Agreement stating that the Land Code and Ratification Process are consistent with the Framework Agreement;

AND WHEREAS Subsection 6.(2) of the Ratification Process requires that Chief and Council:  
Pass a resolution to confirm the Individual Agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The text of the Individual Agreement, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 is confirmed.

QUORUM: 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief (Trevor Makadahay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Garry Oker)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Starr Acko)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Brittany Brinkworth)

**Form 6  
Ratification Process**

**APPOINTMENT OF RATIFICATION OFFICER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to act as Ratification Officer for the Ratification Vote to determine if the Eligible Voters of Doig River First Nation approve the Ratification Documents, and shall discharge my duties to the best of my abilities and in accordance with the D Community Ratification Process.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ratification Officer

**APPOINTMENT OF AN ASSISTANT RATIFICATION OFFICER**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Ratification Officer, appoint \_\_\_\_\_  
to act as my assistant in carrying out my duties in accordance with the Doig River First Nation  
Community Ratification Process for the purpose of the Ratification Vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ratification Officer

I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to act as an assistant to the Ratification Officer  
for the purpose of the Ratification Vote and promise to carry out all assigned duties to the best  
of my abilities and in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification  
Process.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant Ratification Officer



**NOTICE OF VOTE**

**TO: ALL ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF DOIG RIVER FIRST NATION**

**TAKE NOTICE** that a Ratification Vote shall be held in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process in order to determine if Eligible Voters approve the Doig River First Nation Land Code and the Individual Agreement with His Majesty the King in Right of Canada.

1. The Official Voting Day for the Ratification Vote on the Doig River First Nation Land Code and the Individual Agreement with His Majesty the King in Right of Canada will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ (day of the Week) the \_\_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ from \_\_\_ a.m. until \_\_\_ p.m. at: \_\_\_\_\_, Province of British Columbia.
2. The Advance Polls for the Ratification Vote on the Doig River First Nation Land Code and the Individual Agreement with His Majesty the King in Right of Canada will take place on \_\_\_\_\_ (day of the Week) the \_\_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ from \_\_\_ a.m. until \_\_\_ p.m. at: (Location/s) \_\_\_\_\_ (Street address) \_\_\_\_\_, Province of British Columbia.
3. The Electronic Voting Methods will be available from \_\_\_ a.m. on \_\_\_\_\_ (day of the Week) the \_\_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ to \_\_\_ p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_ (day of the Week) the \_\_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_. Electronic Voting Methods (will be available/not be available) during regular polls on voting days (Advance Polls and Official Voting Day). Eligible Voters can access the Electronic Voting Platform at [www.\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](http://www._____.).

**Eligible Voters may vote in person at the polling places, by Mail-in Ballot in accordance with section 15 of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process or by Electronic Voting Methods in accordance with section 14 of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process.**

4. The *Doig River First Nation Land Code* and the Individual Agreement with His Majesty the King in Right of Canada shall be approved if a majority of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve them.

The following question will be asked of the Eligible Voters of Doig River First Nation by Ballot:

**"Do you:**

- **Approve the proposed *The Doig River First Nation Land Code*, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023;**
- **Approve the proposed *The Individual Agreement with His Majesty the King in right of Canada*, dated for reference \_\_\_\_\_, 2023**

➤ **Authorize and direct the Doig River First Nation to do everything necessary to give effect to all documents listed in this Ballot?**

- 5. Eligible Voters can complete an Eligible Voter declaration at the polls up to the close of the polls on the Official Voting Day.
- 6. Eligible Voters may request a Mail-in-Ballot package from \_\_\_\_\_, the Ratification Officer, at the Doig River First Nation Administration Offices, (address) Province of \_\_\_\_\_, by telephone \_\_\_\_\_ . Copies may also be obtained from the website: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Voters may view a copy of the List Eligible Voters on the Electronic Voting Platform at [www.\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#). The procedure for an addendum to the List of Eligible Voters is set out in the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process.***

**THE RATIFICATION OFFICER NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION IS:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**NAME**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**OFFICE ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**EMAIL ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**TELEPHONE NUMBER**

Form 9  
Ratification Process

DECLARATION ENVELOPE

Declaration of Mail-In Voter  
Doig River First Nation Ratification Vote

PLEASE ENCLOSE ONE SECRECY ENVELOPE CONTAINING ONE BALLOT

I, (Full Name of Eligible Voter): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print your name)

DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I am a Member of Doig River First Nation.
2. I am at least 18 years of age or will be 18 years of age by the Official Voting Day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ and my date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. I have folded the Ballot, hiding my mark and showing the initials marked on the back, and I have placed the Ballot in the secrecy envelope.
4. I confirm that this envelope contains only my Ballot, which is sealed inside a secrecy envelope.

SIGNED THIS \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
(town/city and province/state)

In the presence of witness:

Eligible Voter Signature and Information:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Witness' signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Eligible Voter)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Witness, please print name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Eligible Voter 10-digit band number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Witness address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Eligible Voter address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Witness Telephone)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Eligible Voter Telephone)

(Witness does not have to be a Member, must be 18 years of age or older and is attesting that the Voter signing this Declaration of Mail-in Voter is the person whose name is set out in the form.)

DEADLINE FOR RETURNING THE BALLOT ENVELOPES WITH BALLOT

In order for your mail-in ballot to be valid, it **must** be received by the Ratification Officer by the close of polls on the Official Voting Day: \_\_\_ p.m. on \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2023 if delivered in person **OR** by 1:00pm one business day prior to the Official Voting Day if mailed or couriered. Please ensure enough time for the package to arrive by this deadline. Ballot envelopes received **after** this deadline will not be opened or counted.

**Form 10  
Ratification Process**

**FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION**  
(List of Eligible Voters)

WHEREAS On or around July 24, 2020, Doig River First Nation (“DRFN”) became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* on First Nation Land Management (“*Framework Agreement*”);

AND WHEREAS In accordance with the provisions of the *Framework Agreement*, DRFN has prepared a proposed Land Agreement Code, and Community Doig River First Nation Individual Ratification Process (“Ratification Process”);

AND WHEREAS On or around \_\_\_\_\_, 2023, the Verifier issued a notice in accordance with the Ratification Process and Framework Agreement stating that the Land Code and Ratification Process are consistent with the Framework Agreement;

AND WHEREAS Pursuant to subsection 4.(2) of the Ratification Process, prior to the Official Voting Day, Council shall by resolution send, or cause to be sent to the Verifier an electronic copy of the addendum to the List of Eligible Voters listing any changes to the List of Eligible Voters.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. This addendum to the List of Eligible Voters be confirmed;
2. The attached list of Members are confirmed to be deceased; and
3. The Ratification Officer be requested to confirm the removal of the deceased Members from the List of Eligible Voters.

QUORUM: 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief (Trevor Makadahay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Starr Acko)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Brittany Brinkworth)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Garry Oker)

**Form 11  
Ratification Process**

**DECLARATION OF RATIFICATION OFFICER  
(Mail-in Ballots)**

CANADA )  
 )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_ )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Ratification Officer, of \_\_\_\_\_, in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_,  
DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was personally responsible for receiving all Mail-in Ballots at D when Eligible Voters of D voted in a Ratification Vote concerning the Ratification Documents.
2. In preparation for depositing Mail-in Ballots, I opened ballot box number # \_\_\_\_.
3. I saw 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 of the Mail-in Ballots received by me into ballot box # \_\_ without opening the secrecy envelope 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 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 Oaths in and for the  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_

**Form 12  
Ratification Process**

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS  
(Deposit of Mail-In Ballots)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_ was personally present at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ when the Ratification Officer deposited the secrecy envelopes containing the Mail-in Ballots in ballot box #\_\_; and

1. I am an Eligible Voter.
2. I witnessed that ballot box #\_\_ was empty before any secrecy envelopes containing Mail-in Ballots were deposited.
3. I witnessed the Ratification Officer seal the ballot box and sign the seal.
4. I signed the seal, as requested by the Ratification Officer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

**Form 13  
Ratification Process**

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS  
(Opening of Mail-In Ballots)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_ was personally present at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ when the Ratification Officer opened the Mail-in Ballot packages; and

1. I am an Eligible Voter.
2. The Declaration envelopes were unopened immediately prior to the time the Ratification Officer opened them.
3. The Ratification Officer checked the List of Eligible Voters and ensured that the Eligible Voter whose name appeared on the Mail-in Ballot package had not previously voted in person, by Mail-in Ballot or electronically.
4. The Ratification Officer recorded the name of each Eligible Voter on the List of Eligible Voters and deposited the secrecy envelope of that Eligible Voter in the separate ballot box kept for that purpose.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

Form 14  
Ratification Process

DECLARATION OF RATIFICATION OFFICER  
(Regular Polls)

CANADA )  
 )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_ )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Ratification Officer, of \_\_\_\_\_, in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_, DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. I was personally present at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 202\_\_ when Eligible Voters of Doig River First Nation voted in a Ratification Vote concerning the Ratification Documents.
2. Immediately before the Ratification Vote began, I opened ballot box number #\_\_\_\_\_.
3. I saw 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 those persons 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 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 Oaths in and for the  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_ )



**Form 15  
Ratification Process**

**STATEMENT OF WITNESS  
(Regular Polls)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

I, \_\_\_\_\_, was personally present at the polling place at \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ when Eligible Voters of D were to vote in a Ratification Vote concerning the Ratification Documents; and

1. I am an Eligible Voter.
2. I witnessed that the ballot box #\_\_ was empty before any votes were cast in the Ratification Vote.
3. I witnessed the Ratification Officer seal the ballot box and sign the seal.
4. I signed the seal, as requested by the Ratification Officer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

**Form 16  
Ratification Process**

**CONFIRMATION BY RATIFICATION OFFICER**  
(Conclusion of Vote)

CANADA )  
 )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_ )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, Ratification Officer for D in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_, DO SOLEMNLY  
DECLARE THAT:

1. I was present at D on the \_\_\_\_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ when Eligible Voters of D voted concerning approval of *the Doig River First Nation Land Code* and Individual Agreement in accordance with the *Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process*.
2. A true copy of the Notice of Vote is attached as Annex "1" to this declaration.
3. In accordance with subsection 8.(1) of the D Community Ratification Process, I posted the Notice of Vote at least 56 days prior to the Official Voting Day.
4. In accordance with subsection 8(3) of the D Community Ratification Process, I arranged for the Notice of Vote to be published in the \_\_\_\_\_ at least 15 days prior to the Official Voting Day.
5. In accordance with section 9 of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process, a copy of the Notice of Vote and a Voter Information Package were sent to each person on the List of Eligible Voters at their last known address or e-mail address at least 56 days prior to the Official Voting Day.
6. [IF APPLICABLE] In accordance with sections 9. (5), (6) and (7) of the Doig River First nation Community Ratification Process, visits at the homes of Eligible Voters, telephone contact with Eligible Voters and information meetings were conducted.
7. In accordance with section 10.(1) of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process, the information package was sent to any persons who are not Members who hold an interest in D Land at least 28 days prior to the Official Voting Day.
8. The voting procedure, including the handling of Electronic Ballots, Mail-in Ballots and the counting of results, was conducted in accordance with sections 12 to 20, inclusive, of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process.
9. The names of \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible Voters appeared on the List of Eligible Voters.

- 10. The number of participating Eligible Voters was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 11. The number of participating Eligible Voters who constituted a majority was \_\_\_\_\_.
- 12. The results of the Ratification Vote are as follows:
  - (a) \_\_\_\_\_ electronic ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with section 14, of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_ Mail-in Ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with section 5 of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with section 6 of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_ Mail-in Ballots were rejected in accordance with subsection 15. (14) of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process and not opened or deposited into the ballot box;
  - (e) \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Ballots were spoiled as provided in subsection 16. (18) of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
  - (f) \_\_\_\_\_ Regular Ballots were cancelled in accordance with subsection 16. (19) of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
  - (g) \_\_\_\_\_ ballots were rejected in accordance with section 18 of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process;
  - (h) \_\_\_\_\_ ballots were marked "YES" for the Ballot Question; and
  - (i) \_\_\_\_\_ ballots were marked "NO" for the Ballot Question.
- 13. Based on the need to meet or exceed the number in item 11, above, the Ratification Documents were *approved/not approved* by the Eligible Voters of Doig River First Nation.

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 Oaths in and for the  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_

)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

Form 17  
Ratification Process

REPORT BY VERIFIER  
(Conclusion of Objections Period)

CANADA )  
 )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_ )

I, \_\_\_\_\_, in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_,

DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:

1. On the \_\_ day(s) of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_ the Eligible Voters of Doig River First Nation voted concerning approval of *the Doig River First Nation Land Code* and their Individual Agreement in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process.
2. A copy of the declaration of Ratification Officer in [Form 16](#) is attached as Annex "1" to this declaration.
3. The names of \_\_\_\_\_ Eligible Voters appeared on the List of Eligible Voters.
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 Ratification Documents were *approved/not approved* by the 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\_\_.

**Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process**

**February 21, 2023**

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\_\_\_\_\_)  
Verifier )

\_\_\_\_\_)  
A Commissioner for Oaths in and for the )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_ )

**Form 18  
Ratification Process**

**FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION**  
(Submission to Verifier)

- WHEREAS On or around July 24, 2020, Doig River First Nation (“DRFN”) became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* on First Nation Land Management (“*Framework Agreement*”);
- AND WHEREAS the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* and the Individual Agreement were submitted to a Ratification Vote at Doig River First Nation on the \_\_\_\_\_ days of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_;
- AND WHEREAS the Ratification Officer has reported that the Ratification Vote was conducted in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process confirmed by the Verifier;
- AND WHEREAS the Ratification Officer has reported that the Ratification Vote was conducted in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process confirmed by the Verifier;
- AND WHEREAS the Ratification Officer has reported that the Ratification Vote was conducted in accordance with the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process confirmed by the Verifier;
- AND WHEREAS the Eligible Voters approved these documents at the Ratification Vote;
- AND WHEREAS the Doig River First Nation Council and the Minister or delegate have fully signed the Individual Agreement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. Council of Doig River First Nation in accordance with the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management and subsection 23.(3) and 23.(5) of the Doig River First Nation Community Ratification Process, do hereby resolve to send to the Verifier a true copy of the fully signed Individual Agreement hereto attached as Annex “1”, and the approved Doig River First Nation Land Code, attached hereto as Annex “2” for certification by the Verifier.

QUORUM: 3

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief (Trevor Makadahay)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Starr Acko)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Brittany Brinkworth)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councillor (Garry Oker)



Form 19  
Ratification Process

CERTIFICATION OF LAND CODE

Whereas the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* and the Individual Agreement were submitted to a Ratification Vote at Doig River First Nation the \_\_\_\_\_ days of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_;

And Whereas the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* and the Individual Agreement were approved by the Eligible Voters at the Ratification Vote on the \_\_\_\_\_ days of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_;

And Whereas the Doig River First Nation Council has sent a true copy of the fully signed Individual Agreement and a statement that the *D Land Code* and the Individual Agreement were properly approved;

And Whereas section \_\_\_ of the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* states that the *Land Code* shall take effect on the first day of the month following the certification of the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* by the Verifier;

Therefore, I hereby certify the *Doig River First Nation Land Code*, attached as Annex "1" hereto, and the effective date of the *Doig River First Nation Land Code* is \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 202\_\_.

DECLARED BEFORE me at the \_\_\_\_\_ )  
of \_\_\_\_\_ in the )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of )  
\_\_\_\_\_ 202\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_)  
Verifier )

\_\_\_\_\_)  
A Commissioner for Oaths in and for the )  
Province of \_\_\_\_\_.