



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

## Amendments to the Citizenship Act

### 1. Ability of those without Huu-ay-aht ancestry to pass on citizenship

Under the Citizenship and Treaty Enrolment, only people with Huu-ay-aht ancestry and people who are adopted by someone with Huu-ay-aht ancestry can pass citizenship/treaty enrolment down to their children. People who acquire citizenship through marriage cannot pass it down to their children. However, people who acquire treaty enrolment through marriage can pass treaty enrolment on to a spouse following the end of the marriage through which they acquired enrolment.

The committee is considering an amendment that would make it so that treaty enrolment cannot be acquired through marriage to someone who obtained treaty enrolment through marriage—it could only be acquired through someone with Huu-ay-aht ancestry (by blood or adoption).

Are you in favour of this amendment?

Yes

No

Why or why not?

### 2. Demonstrating a significant attachment to the Huu-ay-aht prior to acquiring citizenship through marriage

Under the Citizenship and Treaty Enrolment Act, people who have acquired citizenship through marriage must demonstrate an ongoing significant attachment to the Huu-ay-aht to the satisfaction of the Ḥaw' iih' Council or they can lose their citizenship and treaty enrolment.

The committee is considering an amendment that would require individuals who have applied to acquire treaty enrolment (and, thereby, citizenship) through marriage to demonstrate an ongoing significant attachment to the Huu-ay-aht to the satisfaction of the Ḥaw' iih' Council before they may become enrollees/citizens.

Are you in favour of this amendment?

Yes

No



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Why or why not?

### 3. Acquiring citizenship through marriage

Under the Citizenship and Treaty Enrolment Act, an individual is eligible for treaty enrolment (and thus citizenship) through marriage in the following circumstances:

- a) If they are of First Nations ancestry, after five years of marriage or cohabitation in a marriage like relationship with a Huu-ay-aht treaty participant.
- b) If they are not of First Nations ancestry, after ten years of marriage or cohabitation in a marriage like relationship with a Huu-ay-aht treaty participant.

The committee is considering whether to change the circumstances in which a person without Huu-ay-aht ancestry might acquire citizenship. Please indicate which of the following you support:

- Everyone**, regardless of ancestry, must be married or in a marriage-like relationship with a Huu-ay-aht for **five** years before they become eligible to apply for treaty enrolment.
- Everyone**, regardless of ancestry, must be married or in a marriage-like relationship with a Huu-ay-aht for **ten** years before they become eligible to apply for treaty enrolment.
- No change
- No one can acquire treaty enrolment/citizenship through marriage
- Other: please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

Why?

Please note: These forms will be kept anonymous and will be compiled into a report.

Ways to submit your form:

Email: [lawclerk@huuayaht.org](mailto:lawclerk@huuayaht.org)

Fax: 250-723-4646 Attention: Law Clerk

Drop off or mail a printed form: Attention: Law Clerk, 4644 Adelaide Street, Port Alberni, BC V9Y 6N4