



huu ay aht

ANCIENT SPIRIT, MODERN MIND

CONSTITUTION ACT

OFFICIAL CONSOLIDATION
Current to May 14, 2026

REGISTRY OF LAWS CERTIFICATION

I certify that the *Constitution Act* passed Third Reading in the Legislature on:

April 1, 2011



Chief Councillor Robert Dennis Sr.

Certified True Copy

I certify that the *Constitution Act* is enacted as law on:

April 1, 2011



Ta'yii Hawilth Derek Peters

I certify that the *Constitution Act* came into force on:

April 1, 2011



Law Clerk Connie Waddell

REGISTRY OF LAWS CERTIFICATION

I certify that the *Huu-ay-aht General Legislation Amendment Act, 2026* was passed by Executive Council on:

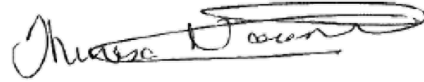
March 31, 2026



Chief Councillor John Jack

I certify that the *Huu-ay-aht General Legislation Amendment Act, 2026* is enacted as law on:

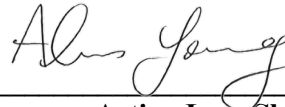
March 31, 2026



On behalf of the Ta'yii Hawilth, Theresa Nookemus

I certify that the *Huu-ay-aht General Legislation Amendment Act, 2026* came into force on:

March 31, 2026



Acting Law Clerk Alexis Young

REGISTRY OF LAWS CERTIFICATION

I certify that the *General Legislation Correction and Amendment Regulation, 2026* was passed by Executive Council on:

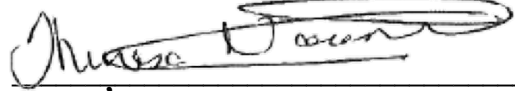
May 14, 2026



Chief Councillor John Jack

I certify that the *General Legislation Correction and Amendment Regulation, 2026* is enacted as law on:

May 14, 2026



ḥawiiḥ Councillor Theresa Nookemus

I certify that the *General Legislation Correction and Amendment Regulation, 2026* came into force on:

May 14, 2026



Acting Law Clerk Alexis Young

CONSTITUTION ACT

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WHEREAS members of Huu-ay-aht First Nations participated in the development of a Constitution over a five year period;

AND WHEREAS eligible voting members of Huu-ay-aht First Nations approved a Huu-ay-aht First Nations Constitution on April 28, 2007 in accordance with the Treaty, and with 82 % of those who voted, voting in favour;

AND WHEREAS the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Constitution came into force and effect on April 1, 2011 in accordance with paragraph 8.3 of the Constitution;

AND WHEREAS eligible voting members of Huu-ay-aht First Nations approved certain amendments to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Constitution on March 19, 2011 in accordance with paragraph 9.6 of the Constitution, and with 85% of those who voted, voting in favour;

AND WHEREAS the government wishes to make the amendments to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Constitution approved by the membership of Huu-ay-aht First Nations and enact the Constitution as amended, as law;

NOW THEREFORE the Legislature enacts as follows:

Force of law

- 1 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Constitution set out in the Schedule to this Act is enacted and has the force of law.

Commencement

- 2 This Act comes into force on the date of its enactment by the Legislature.

Time of Commencement

- 3 Despite section 18 of the *Interpretation Act*, this Act must be construed as commencing after the 2007 Constitution comes into force, upon the certification.

SCHEDULE

HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

A. HUU-AY-AHT DECLARATION OF IDENTITY

We, the people of HUU-ay-aht, by this Constitution declare our unique identity as a Nation and claim our rightful place as equal participants in Canadian society.

We have existed from time immemorial and have occupied and used the lands, waters and resources of our traditional territory throughout history, a traditional territory that extends from the mountaintops to the off-shore areas as shown on the map attached as Appendix A - 1 to this Constitution.

We draw our identity from our relationship to our land and from our rich heritage, culture, language and our stories, myths and oral traditions.

We honour our ancestors and our elders and commit ourselves to the values that they have preserved for us, values that provide us dignity and enhance our humanity. We honour our children in our determination to see these values carried into the future.

As self-determining peoples, we accept the responsibilities inherent in governing ourselves and seek, with the assistance of Naas (the Creator), to govern with wisdom and respect for all people. Through the act of governing, we assume the power to preserve our natural world and enhance our identity.

B. HUU-AY-AHT DECLARATION OF RIGHTS AND VALUES

The HUU-ay-aht have existed from time immemorial, owned and occupied the lands and waters within our traditional territory, governed these lands and waters, abided by our laws and shared our language and culture.

From this historic foundation we have shaped fundamental values that unite us, define us and upon which this Constitution is based. As HUU-ay-aht, we commit ourselves to the values of our Nation, which values include:

- a. reverence for the Creator (Naas);
- b. honour for our ancestors;

- c. respect for our elders, our children, our families, our future generations and our kinship system;
- d. recognition of an internal order based on our ʻāwāhih and ʻāhūuʻi;
- e. a deep pride in our identity;
- f. our unique language;
- g. appreciation of our unique and vibrant culture, a culture that embraces our myths, stories, ceremonies and traditions;
- h. a profound respect for nature, our lands and waters and all living things within our territory;
- i. an acceptance and reverence for a spiritual basis to life;
- j. a common and mutually supportive economic foundation; and
- k. acceptance of our obligation to safeguard our special relationship with the Creator, the spirit world and the earth for future generations.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d), HFNR 2/2026, s. 3 (2)(a).

From our historic existence, our value system and our membership in the community of man, we possess certain fundamental and inalienable human rights which have never been extinguished, ceded or surrendered. These include:

- a. the right to our traditional territory including the waters and beds of water;
- b. the right to the resources of our traditional territory;
- c. the right to govern within our traditional territory;
- d. the right to utilize and protect our language;
- e. the right to practice, protect and enhance our culture;
- f. the right to the wealth of our traditional territory and a sound economic foundation;
- g. the right to protect our spiritual sites;
- h. the right to preserve our family and kinship systems; and
- i. the right to define ourselves and the criteria for the identification of our citizens.

CHAPTER 1: INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF HUU-AY-AHT CITIZENS

- 1.1 An individual is entitled to be a HUU-ay-aht citizen if that individual:
 - (a) is enrolled under the Maa-nulth Treaty, or
 - (b) was registered on the HUU-ay-aht Indian Band list on the day immediately prior to the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, and
 - (c) meets the criteria for HUU-ay-aht citizenship set out in the HUU-ay-aht citizenship act.
- 1.2 For greater certainty, HUU-ay-aht citizenship does not, in itself, confer Treaty rights and benefits on an individual.

- 1.3 Every HUU-AY-AHT citizen enjoys all of the individual rights and freedoms guaranteed under the Constitution of Canada and by the various instruments of human rights in international law.
- 1.4 Subject to paragraph 1.2 and to such reasonable limits prescribed by law as can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society, all HUU-AY-AHT citizens are equal under this Constitution and, based on this equality and in accordance with HUU-AY-AHT customary law, possess:
- (a) the right to participate in HUU-AY-AHT First Nations political activities, elections and government as set out in HUU-AY-AHT First Nations law;
 - (b) the right to be informed about HUU-AY-AHT First Nations affairs;
 - (c) the right to be consulted regarding HUU-AY-AHT First Nations affairs;
 - (d) the right to express opinions and views on HUU-AY-AHT First Nations affairs;
 - (e) the right to equal employment opportunities within the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations public administration;
 - (f) the right to equal provision of public services by the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations;
 - (g) the right to a healthy life, environment and the equal provision of health care;
 - (h) the right to utilize the Nuu-chah-nulth language;
 - (i) the right to participate in HUU-AY-AHT culture and traditions consistent with established practices and customs;
 - (j) the right to enter, remain in and leave HUU-AY-AHT First Nations lands in accordance with this Constitution and HUU-AY-AHT First Nations laws;
 - (k) the freedom to pursue a livelihood within HUU-AY-AHT First Nations lands;
 - (l) the freedom to contribute to the progress and development of the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations; and
 - (m) the freedom to achieve their fullest potential as individuals.
- 1.5 Every HUU-AY-AHT citizen, through participation in the HUU-AY-AHT community, accepts the responsibilities of citizenship including:
- (a) upholding and respecting this Constitution and HUU-AY-AHT First Nations laws;
 - (b) fulfilling personal obligations with respect to the care and guidance of our children and families;
 - (c) adhering to the teachings related to *ʔiisaak* (respect); and
 - (d) promoting a healthy and vibrant community for all citizens.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (2) (c).

CHAPTER 2: GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE OF THE HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS

- 2.1 The Government of the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations shall consist of a legislature, an executive, a ʔawiih Council and a People's Assembly.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).

The Legislative Branch

- 2.2 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council is the legislature for the purposes of 2.1, when it exercises the powers of the legislature in accordance with Huu-ay-aht law.
- 2.3 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall have the power and the responsibility to pass laws in relation to those jurisdictions and authorities set out in the Maa-nulth Treaty.
- 2.4 A Huu-ay-aht First Nations law shall have force and effect when that law has been passed by a majority of a quorum of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council in accordance with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations law setting out governance processes and procedures.
- 2.5 Except for Huu-ay-aht customary laws, all Huu-ay-aht First Nations laws will be published and made available to the public within ten days of coming into effect.
- 2.6 (1) The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall be composed of 7 members as follows:
- (a) one elected Chief Councillor;
 - (b) five elected Councillors, and
 - (c) one ḥawiiḥ or designated appointee chosen by the ḥawiiḥ Council.
- (2) Subsection (1) shall be subject to such limited and temporary exceptions provided by law to enable the continuing democratic functioning of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.
- 2.7 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall be chosen in accordance with Huu-ay-aht laws in 2011 and every 4 years after that.
- 2.8 Any Huu-ay-aht citizen who has attained the age of 18 years is eligible to be a member of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.
- 2.9 Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall, upon Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, establish an election law prescribing the times, places and manner of holding elections, including by-elections and run-off votes.
- 2.10 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall establish and publish rules of procedure for its proceedings.
- 2.11 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council may designate an elected Councillor as acting Chief Councillor who may assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chief Councillor on an interim basis in the event that the Chief Councillor is unable to carry out the duties and responsibilities of that office.
- 2.12 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council may, subject to budgetary constraints, establish any public institution or body it deems necessary to meet the duties and obligations of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government or protect or advance the interests of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d), HFNR 2/2026, s. 3 (2)(b).

The ḥawiiḥ Council

- 2.13 There shall be constituted an advisory body to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council composed of the Huu-ay-aht ḥawiiḥ, to be known as the ḥawiiḥ Council.
- 2.14 Representation on the ḥawiiḥ Council shall be determined in accordance with customary practices.
- 2.15 Prior to passing any laws, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council must seek and consider any advice from the ḥawiiḥ Council.

- 2.16 In addition to the role contemplated in 2.15, the ʻāwiih Council shall assume those additional roles and responsibilities contemplated in this Constitution.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).

The Executive

- 2.17 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council is the executive for the purposes of 2.1, when it exercises the powers of the executive in accordance with Huu-ay-aht law.
- 2.18 The Chief Councillor, as chief executive of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government, shall have authority and responsibility for:
- (a) representing the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government in relations with local, provincial and federal governments, other First Nations, and indigenous organizations nationally and internationally;
 - (b) ensuring that the Huu-ay-aht citizens are fully informed on all issues that affect the Huu-ay-aht First Nations;
 - (c) developing and maintaining effective systems of communication with Huu-ay-aht citizens and with other governments;
 - (d) protecting and enhancing Huu-ay-aht First Nations aboriginal and treaty rights;
 - (e) ensuring that the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Constitution and Huu-ay-aht First Nations laws and policies are adhered to and enforced;
 - (f) promoting and maintaining a sound Huu-ay-aht First Nations economy;
 - (g) promoting Huu-ay-aht First Nations values, culture, traditions and language;
 - (h) the proper management and administration of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government; and
 - (i) those additional roles and responsibilities established by Huu-ay-aht law.
- 2.19 All meetings of the executive shall be chaired by the Chief Councillor or a designate.
- 2.20 The Chief Councillor has the authority to establish or dissolve executive portfolios in consultation with the executive, and to delegate authority and responsibility to members of the executive in addition to roles and responsibilities established by Huu-ay-aht law.
- 2.21 All members of the Huu-ay-aht executive are directly accountable to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council and shall report to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council on a regular basis or as requested by Council.

People's Assembly

- 2.22 There shall be convened at least once annually a general assembly of Huu-ay-aht citizens to be known as the People's Assembly at which time the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council will provide financial information and set out the strategic objectives for the coming year.
- 2.23 The Chief Councillor, in consultation with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council and the ʻāwiih Council, may at any time call a special People's Assembly to address important Huu-ay-aht First Nations issues.
- 2.24 The People's Assembly shall convene in accordance with rules of procedure established by the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.
- 2.25 Every Huu-ay-aht citizen has the right to attend and speak at the People's Assembly.

- 2.26 The People's Assembly may, by a majority vote of those in attendance, make recommendations to the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council by way of resolutions.
- 2.27 The People's Assembly may by way of a resolution passed in accordance with HUU-AY-AHT First Nations law require the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council to hold a referendum on a specific issue.
- 2.28 The HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council shall establish a referendum law, which law shall have force and effect as of the Effective Date of the MAA-NULTH Treaty.
- 2.29 All recommendations passed by the People's Assembly must be considered and voted on by the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).

Speaker

- 2.30 HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council shall, in consultation with HAWIIH Council, appoint a Speaker who shall preside over the proceedings of the Legislature and the People's Assembly.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).

Committees

- 2.31 The HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council may establish committees to assist in the discharge of its authority and responsibilities.
- 2.32 The committees shall include, but not be limited to:
- (a) a committee on finance;
 - (b) a committee on treaty implementation;
 - (c) a committee on economic development; and
 - (d) a committee on citizenship.
- 2.33 The terms of reference for any committee shall be established by the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council.
- 2.34 All committee members, excluding the chairperson, shall be chosen by the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council.
- 2.35 The chairperson of each committee shall be chosen by the Chief Councillor.
- 2.36 The chairperson for each committee shall be chosen from among the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council, and the membership of any committee may consist of any number of HUU-AY-AHT citizens, and where HUU-AY-AHT law allows, non-citizens.

CHAPTER 3: LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY OF THE HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS GOVERNMENT

- 3.1 The HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Government shall have the right to assume and exercise all law-making authority set out in the MAA-NULTH Treaty and any law-making authority set out in non-Treaty agreements with Canada or British Columbia.
- 3.2 As of the Effective Date of the MAA-NULTH Treaty, and in accordance with the respective provisions of the MAA-NULTH Treaty, the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council shall have the authority to make laws pertaining to:
- (a) HUU-AY-AHT First Nations citizenship;

- (b) Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government structures and procedures;
- (c) Huu-ay-aht First Nations land and land management;
- (d) Huu-ay-aht First Nations resources on Huu-ay-aht First Nations land;
- (e) Huu-ay-aht First Nations public institutions and Huu-ay-aht First Nations corporations;
- (f) Huu-ay-aht First Nations assets;
- (g) Adoption;
- (h) Child protection services;
- (i) Child care services;
- (j) Education in respect of kindergarten to grade 12;
- (k) Post-secondary education;
- (l) Education in respect of language and culture;
- (m) Solemnization of marriages;
- (n) Social development;
- (o) Health services;
- (p) Culture and heritage;
- (q) Management and distribution of fish and aquatic plants for domestic purposes;
- (r) Management and distribution of wildlife and migratory birds for domestic purposes;
- (s) Renewable resource harvesting within federal and provincial parks and protected areas;
- (t) Water;
- (u) Preservation and conservation of the environment;
- (v) Taxation;
- (w) Public works;
- (x) Buildings and structures;
- (y) Regulation, licensing and prohibition of business;
- (z) Traffic, transportation, parking and highways;
- (aa) Public order, peace and safety;
- (bb) Emergency preparedness;
- (cc) Conflict of interest;
- (dd) Conduct of public officials;
- (ee) Access to information;
- (ff) Enforcement of Huu-ay-aht First Nations laws; and
- (gg) Any other law-making authority set out in the Maa-nulth Treaty or in any non-Treaty agreement with Canada or British Columbia.

3.3 To the extent that the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council chooses not to exercise a law-making authority set out in paragraph 3.2, federal or provincial laws in relation to that authority shall continue to apply until such time as the authority is exercised by the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.

- 3.4 In the event of an inconsistency or conflict between this Constitution and the provisions of any HUU-AY-AHT First Nations law, the Constitution prevails and the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations law is, to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict, of no force or effect.
- 3.5 HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council may, by law, delegate its law-making authority to:
- (a) A HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Public Institution established by law; or
 - (b) A public institution established by one or more First Nation Governments in British Columbia.

CHAPTER 4: THE HUU-AY-AHT FIRST NATIONS LAND SYSTEM

- 4.1 As of the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the underlying title to all HUU-AY-AHT lands shall be vested collectively in the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations.
- 4.2 Prior to the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council shall consult with and seek the advice of the People's Assembly and the ɥawiiɥ Council in the development of the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations land code.
- 4.3 On the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council shall bring into force and effect a HUU-AY-AHT First Nations land code.
- 4.4 The HUU-AY-AHT First Nations land code shall address, among other things:
- (a) the nature and extent of the rights of individual HUU-AY-AHT citizens in and to HUU-AY-AHT lands;
 - (b) the powers and authority of the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council to administer, regulate, expropriate and grant interests in and to HUU-AY-AHT lands;
 - (c) land transactions that will require approval of HUU-AY-AHT citizens by way of a referendum;
 - (d) procedures for raising title to, and registering interests in, HUU-AY-AHT lands;
 - (e) procedures for addressing interests of non-HUU-AY-AHT individuals in HUU-AY-AHT lands;
 - (f) the regulation of mortgages and other forms of security in relation to HUU-AY-AHT lands;
 - (g) procedures for zoning and land use planning; and
 - (h) any other matter that the HUU-AY-AHT First Nations Council deems necessary for a comprehensive land code.
- 4.5 The quantity of HUU-AY-AHT lands as set out in the Maa-nulth Treaty shall not be reduced except as provided for in the Maa-nulth Treaty.
- 4.6 The boundaries of the HUU-AY-AHT lands as set out in the Maa-nulth Treaty shall not be altered except as provided for in the Maa-nulth Treaty or if approved by at least 60% of HUU-AY-AHT eligible voters in a referendum held to approve the boundary alteration.
- 4.7 Except as set out in the Maa-nulth Treaty, notwithstanding the conveyance or alienation of any estate or interest in HUU-AY-AHT lands, all lands that are the subject of such estate or interest shall continue to be HUU-AY-AHT Treaty Settlement Lands in accordance with the Maa-nulth Treaty and subject to the jurisdiction and authority of the HUU-AY-AHT Government.

CHAPTER 5: FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

- 5.1 Prior to the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall consult with and seek the advice of the Huu-ay-aht members and the Huu-ay-aht ḥawiiḥ in the development of the Huu-ay-aht financial administration act.
- 5.2 On the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall bring into force and effect a Huu-ay-aht First Nations financial administration act that is:
- (a) effective and efficient in the use of Huu-ay-aht First Nations financial resources;
 - (b) open and accountable; and
 - (c) is based on standards comparable to those generally accepted for governments in Canada.
- 5.3 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall establish a Committee on Finance, which Committee shall make recommendations to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council on any financial matter or in relation to any law regarding financial matters.
- 5.4 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall establish rules and terms of reference for the Committee on Finance, including such matters as:
- (a) rules of procedure;
 - (b) frequency of meetings;
 - (c) time periods for performing duties; and
 - (d) the ability to seek advice from persons with relevant expertise.
- 5.5 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall request and consider a report from the Committee on Finance prior to preparing the annual Huu-ay-aht First Nations financial report and budgets, entering into financial agreements or taxation agreements with Canada or British Columbia, or making any laws that substantially affect the finances of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations.
- 5.6 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall:
- (a) publish the annual audited financial statements for the Huu-ay-aht government upon approval by Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council; and
 - (b) prepare an annual budget and audit for presentation and review by the People's Assembly.
- 5.7 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council may borrow money or guarantee loans pursuant to a law made for such purposes, which law shall be reviewed by the People's Assembly prior to passage by the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).

CHAPTER 6: CODE OF CONDUCT AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 6.1 The Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government will be administered in a manner that:
- (a) adheres to the highest ethical standards;
 - (b) effectively and efficiently uses the resources of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations;
 - (c) provides services on an equitable and impartial basis; and
 - (d) responds in a timely and accessible manner.

- 6.2 All elected members of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government will take an oath of office sworn at the People's Assembly.
- 6.3 On the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall bring into force and effect a code of conduct and conflict of interest guidelines to apply to all elected and non-elected representatives, and all employees of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations.

CHAPTER 7: DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 7.1 On the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council shall bring into force and effect a Huu-ay-aht First Nations dispute resolution act which shall provide for, among other things, a process for challenging the validity of Huu-ay-aht First Nations laws and a process for appealing or reviewing administrative and public law enforcement decisions of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Government or Huu-ay-aht First Nations public institutions.
- 7.2 The body empowered to address disputes with the Huu-ay-aht First Nations shall be independent and shall be provided with the authority to conduct hearings, make recommendations and render binding decisions.
- 7.3 The body empowered to address disputes shall consist of five members with two members chosen by the Chief Councillor and elected Council members, two members chosen by the ḥawiiḥ Council, and one member chosen by the People's Assembly, and shall sit from time to time as a panel of one or more of its members as required.
- 7.4 One of the members appointed by the Chief Councillor and elected Council members shall be designated as chair by the executive, and shall have the authority and responsibility for the administration of the dispute resolution body, including the authority to make decisions, as provided by law.
- 7.5 The body empowered to address disputes shall be provided with sufficient resources to meet its obligations under this Constitution.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).

CHAPTER 8: RATIFICATION OF THIS CONSTITUTION

- 8.1 This Constitution shall be ratified in a referendum in which at least 50% plus 1 of Huu-ay-aht eligible voters as defined by the Maa-nulth Treaty who vote, approve the Constitution.
- 8.2 This Constitution shall be ratified prior to the vote held to ratify the Maa-nulth Treaty.
- 8.3 This Constitution, if ratified, shall come into force and effect on the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty.

CHAPTER 9: CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

- 9.1 An amendment to this Constitution may be initiated by:
- (a) the presentation of a petition to the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council signed by at least 25% of Huu-ay-aht eligible voters as defined by the Huu-ay-aht voters list at the time of the petition; or
 - (b) a resolution passed by a majority of a quorum of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.

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- 9.2 Upon receipt of the petition or passage of the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council resolution identified in paragraph 9.1, the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council shall develop wording for a referendum on the proposed Constitutional amendment.
- 9.3 On the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council shall bring into force and effect procedures governing the conduct of any Constitutional amendment referendum.
- 9.4 Prior to conducting a referendum on a proposed Constitutional amendment, the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council shall:
- (a) provide full information on the proposed amendment by way of written material and other forms of publication to all HUU-ay-aht citizens;
 - (b) provide all HUU-ay-aht citizens with at least 20 days notice of a specially convened People's Assembly including the date, time and location of the People's Assembly and a summary of the proposed Constitutional amendment;
 - (c) conduct the specially convened People's Assembly in order to seek the views of HUU-ay-aht citizens;
 - (d) seek the advice of the Ha'wiih Council; and
 - (e) make any changes to the wording of the proposed Constitutional amendment that the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council deems appropriate in light of the advice received from the People's Assembly and the ha'wiih Council.
- 9.5 As soon as practicable after the specially convened People's Assembly, the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council shall conduct a referendum on the proposed Constitutional amendment in accordance with the procedures set out in the HUU-ay-aht First Nations referendum law.
- 9.6 (1) This Constitution may be amended on the following basis:
- (a) in the period from the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty to the 10th anniversary of the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, with the approval of at least 40% of the HUU-ay-aht eligible voters as defined by the HUU-ay-aht voters list at the time of the referendum;
 - (b) in the period from the 10th anniversary of the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty to the 20th anniversary of the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, with the approval of at least 50% of the HUU-ay-aht eligible voters as defined by the HUU-ay-aht voters list at the time of the referendum; and
 - (c) any time after the 20th anniversary of the Effective Date of the Maa-nulth Treaty, with the approval of at least 60% of the HUU-ay-aht eligible voters as defined by the HUU-ay-aht voters list at the time of the referendum.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) above, section 4.6 of the Constitution may only be amended with the approval of at least 60% of the HUU-ay-aht eligible voters as defined by the HUU-ay-aht voters list at the time of the referendum.
- 9.7 This Constitution shall be deemed to have been amended as of the date of certification of the required level of approval as set out in paragraph 9.6.
- 9.8 Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council may, by a resolution passed by a majority of a quorum of the HUU-ay-aht First Nations Council, make technical or grammatical amendments to this Constitution.

9.9 All amendments to this Constitution shall be published by the Huu-ay-aht First Nations Council.

HFNA 3/2026, s 4 (1) (d).