NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO WWK LAND CODE

Chief and Council is presenting several amendments to the existing *WWK Land Code* (the "**Land Code**"). The purpose of the amendments is to enable efficient and streamlined processes to implement the authority provided under the Land Code and govern the WWK Lands as intended when the Land Code was first adopted. We encourage all Citizens to attend this Special General Meeting to learn more about what the amendments are; why they are being proposed; and to provide feedback and ask questions – ***we want to hear from you!***

⇒ **Special General Meetings:**

- **Wednesday October 29, 2025 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm on Zoom**

  WeWaiKai Nation is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
  Join Zoom Meeting
  https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83113568622?pwd=anUQaA4OpTHG2c7XRtlIWQRUeTbxjT.1

  Meeting ID: 831 1356 8622
  Passcode: 750348

- **Wednesday November 12, 2025 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm on Zoom**

  WeWaiKai Nation is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.
  Join Zoom Meeting
  https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86380574760?pwd=DIazn3zJBl2wqaHxO3kV8EHToammYF.1

  Meeting ID: 863 8057 4760
  Passcode: 611872

Both virtual meetings are for information only, not voting meetings.

⇒ Copies of the amended WWK Land Code are available at the Administration Office or online via wewaikai.com

⇒ This is NOT a voting meeting; this is an information meeting only to answer questions and obtain feedback.

Background:

We Wai Kai enacted its Land Code in December 7, 2009. The Land Code contains requirements that make it challenging for the Lands Office and Chief and Council to enact Land Laws. As such, since coming into force, no Land Laws have been enacted.

The WWK Lands Committee along with Chief and Council are proposing these amendments to simplify the procedural requirements which will enable the Lands Committee, Lands Office and Chief and Council to implement the Land Code and govern the WWK lands accordingly.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS

Goal of the amendments:

⇒ Simplify procedural requirements;
⇒ Use plain language drafting; and
⇒ Focus on the most important land governance issues to WWK.

Law-making procedures

Goal = *Simplify the procedures to enable Council to enact land laws without removing appropriate Community consultation and input*.

Current Code ⇒ *See Enclosed Diagram –* Generally, the existing Land Code requires that all WWK land laws are to be developed and enacted as follows:

1. Council review and approval by BCR
2. Hold a Special General Meeting that allows Citizens to ask questions and provide comments. Council to make changes to the draft if they deem it advisable
3. Hold a Referendum. Council will schedule a Special General Meeting where Electors and members of the Council will vote on the final draft law. The referendum is a 90-day process.

Proposed Amendment ⇒ *See Enclosed Diagram –* Keep Community involvement and feedback; remove lengthy referendum process.

The new process would be as follows:

1. The Lands Office will develop the draft land law by:
    a. Consulting with Lands Committee
    b. Publishing the draft Land Law so it is available for Citizens to review
    c. Hold meetings and provide information for Citizens to review, understand and provide feedback on the draft land law
2. The Lands Office will then present the draft land law to Council and will include a summary of any input received from Citizens and the Lands Committee.
3. Council then will do one of:
    a. Decide whether or not to enact the draft land law
    b. Make minor amendments and enact the draft land law
    c. Request the Lands Office to do further work
    d. Decide to consider the law at a later date.

If the land law is an Expropriation Land Law, then a vote of the Citizens is required.

The principles of Community involvement and feedback remain. Before a land law can be officially enacted, Community consultation is required (and this includes having copies available for Citizen review and holding lands meetings to obtain feedback). Council must consider all input from the Citizens and the Lands Committee prior to adopting a land law.

Voting

Goal = *Ensure Citizens maintain the ability to vote on important matters in an efficient way*

When are Votes required?

Current Code ⇒ requires Votes for different matters by Special General Meeting or Referendum as follows:

Vote by Special General Meeting (secret ballot voting in-person only):	Vote by Referendum (90-day process)
1. Lease with a term of 49 years or less 2. Approve a Natural Resources Licence in Community Lands 3. Approve an expropriation for a Community Purpose 4. Approve Lands Laws as required by Council (at least 30 electors must be present/vote; Majority must vote in favour)	1. Lease with a term or 50+ years 2. Approve land exchange 3. Approve Land Laws as required by Council 4. Amendments to Land Code

Proposed Amendment ⇒ Create clarity by removing different types of voting and thresholds.

Vote is required for:

- Approval of land use plan
- Enacting an Expropriation Land Law
- Approving a voluntary exchange of lands
- Approving substantive amendments to the Land Code[1].

How are Votes held?

Current Code ⇒ It depends on the matter. Special General Meetings where a certain number of people must attend, only voting in-person is permitted; or by the Referendum Law that includes polling stations.

Requiring a referendum process puts burdens on the Nation as well as the Citizens. It takes time and significant costs to go through a referendum. Furthermore, by requiring in-person voting only can make it difficult for people to vote.

Proposed Amendments ⇒ All votes required under the Land Code will be in person at a Lands Meeting, mail-in or electronically (if available). The approval threshold is of those who vote, 50%+1 must vote in favour. The intention is to keep votes to important matters and make voting as easy as possible for Citizens.

Leaseholds & Natural Resource Licence in Community Lands

Current Code ⇒ If an area of Community Lands has been approved by Referendum (90-day process vote) as available for leasing, Council may grant a lease to any person. If the area has not been approved by Referendum, then if the term is 49 years or less, a Vote will be held at a Special General Meeting. Where the term is longer than 49 years, then it must be approved by Referendum. Council must go to a vote by Special General Meeting in order to grant a Natural Resource Licence in Community Lands.

Proposed Amendments ⇒ No voting requirements in the Land Code, Chief and Council may grant leases or Natural Resources Licences in Community Lands subject to the requirements of any land law.

Financial Management

[1] Chief and Council are now authorized to deal with minor amendments that do not alter the meaning of a provision.

The Financial Management section was significantly revised to account for the fact that WWK has a Financial Administration Law ("FAL"). The FAL, enacted in 2012, is the highest law of WWK and all lands and resources monies are subject to the FAL. As such, financial management provisions are not required in the Land Code as the process and requirements in the FAL apply. The removal of these sections do not water down any accountability or financial management, as the processes, obligations and requirements of the FAL apply to all Land-related monies.

Right of Occupancy

Current Code ⇒ Citizens with a Right of Occupancy may grant a mortgage, lease, permit, easement or natural resource licence to any person with respect to their Right of Occupancy. A Citizen may also hold more than one Right of Occupancy where they intend to build a house (however, there are time limits associated with this).

Proposed Amendments ⇒ Citizens are only permitted to hold one Right of Occupancy (unless they hold others as Trustee) after the associated mortgage is paid off; and further, they are only permitted to transfer their Right of Occupancy to another Citizen or the Nation (there are no rights to grant leases, etc.).

Others

Proposed Amendments ⇒ The following are not address in the existing Land Code:

- Establishment of Lands Committee
    - Council is proposing the establishment of a Lands Committee with the general function of providing advice to the Lands Department and Council on land related matters, and part of that advice will be based on recommendations and feedback from Citizens. There will be at least 5 members appointed by Council to the Committee in accordance with a Terms of Reference, to be developed by Council.
    - The existing Code does not have a similar advisory group. However, a Lands Committee currently exists, and this proposed change is to recognize its existence, purpose and important role.
- Trespass and Offences
- Enforcement
- Residency and Access

Drafting

Based on an extensive legal review, we are proposing several deletions of definitions and provisions for clarity and readability purposes. We have kept definitions as simple as possible without altering the substance of the Land Code. We are confident that this document can now be easily understood and implemented by the Lands Department, Chief and Council and all WWK Citizens.