

## Voting information

You may vote in person at one of our designated polling stations:

- Whitecap Dakota Nation - Fire Hall
- Saskatoon - White Buffalo Youth Lodge

You may also vote electronically by using our online voting platform LBNet. E-voting registration begins on Monday, August 14, 2023 and closes Sunday, August 27, 2023.

Voting will take place on August 28, 2023. Polling stations and electronic voting will be open from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

All members that vote will be eligible for a "voter participation prize". More information will be shared on Facebook.



Voting takes place  
August 28, 2023  
We need your vote!

## Contact Us

306.477.0908

engage@whitecapdakota.com

 whitecapdakota.com

 Whitecap Dakota Government Facebook Page



**YOUR VOTE** **YOUR FUTURE**  
WHITECAP DAKOTA SELF-GOVERNMENT

## Building on our Past, Creating our Future



**YOUR VOTE** **YOUR FUTURE**  
WHITECAP DAKOTA SELF-GOVERNMENT

## WDN Members' Voting Guide - Core Laws Monday, August 28, 2023

### Message from Chief and Council

Fellow Whitecap Dakota Nation Members,

We are truly grateful for your support in our Journey to Self-Government so far. Following our 92% approval of our Constitution and Self-Government Agreement last October, we again met with Minister Miller and made the case that our relationship should go farther with Canada based on our historical alliances with the British Crown. The Government of Canada listened. We negotiated and received 100% community approval last spring for a new Self Government Treaty which formally recognizes Whitecap Dakota Nation (WDN) as "Aboriginal Peoples of Canada" and affirms our inherent right to self-government under the Constitution Act, 1982 (sections 25 and 35).

Our Self-Government Treaty received Royal Assent on June 22, 2023 and is set to go into effect on September 1, 2023. As part of making this happen we are seeking community approval for three items:

- Approval of amendments to our Constitution so that it recognizes our new Treaty with Canada
- Approval of a WDN Governance Code to set out the rules for Council, passing laws and other WDN government structures
- Approval of a WDN Financial Management and Accountability Code to set out rules for sound management of our Nations moneys

All three changes are further explained in this pamphlet. There is also more information on how you can vote either in person or electronically.

We ask all our members to review this material, come to us with any questions or concerns, and then participate in our vote on Voting Day, Monday August 28th.



Chief Darcy Bear

Councillor Dwayne Eagle

Councillor Frank Royal

---

## Ballot Question

---

**Do you approve the proposed amendments to the Whitecap Dakota Nation Constitution, the proposed Whitecap Dakota Nation Governance Code, and the proposed Whitecap Dakota Nation Financial Management and Accountability Code, as presented in the Approval Package?**

YES  NO

**Mark this Ballot by placing an “X” in box containing the word “YES”, if you agree, or “NO” if you do not agree.**

---

## WDN Constitution

---

The WDN Constitution was previously approved by the community and is set to take legal effect on September 1, 2023. Since approval, WDN has now entered into a Self-Government Treaty with Canada. The WDN Constitution should be amended to reflect the Treaty including WDN Members being recognized as "Aboriginal peoples of Canada" with s. 35 rights.

Other small changes include removing reference to 'First Nation' and referring instead to the 'Whitecap Dakota Nation', and upon advice from WDN Elders the list of Dakota values/principles has been updated. Another change updates and simplifies thresholds to pass future WDN Codes. This will not impact the Governance Code or Finance Code as the WDN Constitution requires these core laws to be in place and are included in the community approval vote on August 28th.

---

## The Codes

---

The Whitecap Dakota Nation Governance Code ("Governance Code") and the Whitecap Dakota Nation Financial Management and Accountability Code ("Finance Code") are new documents that codify many existing processes and recognize the new exercise of authority and jurisdiction now held by WDN by virtue of the Treaty. They are required by the Constitution (Governance Code in Part 5, the Finance Code in Part 9). The Constitution also requires a Ratification Vote to approve both of these core laws and in the future they can be amended by Membership Meeting Vote if needed.

---

## Governance Code

---

The Governance Code is aimed at ensuring continuing good governance into the future. It includes:

- Composition of Council (1 Chief and 4 Councillors)
- Duties and expectations of Council
- Law-making processes (based on existing processes in Land Code)
- Mechanisms for Council discipline

---

## Finance Code

---

The Finance Code replaces the Financial Administration Law which was based on federal government requirements. The Finance Code is aimed at allowing WDN to effectively and efficiently deal with financial matters while also ensuring accountability and protecting WDN's assets. It includes:

- Duties of Chief and Council, Finance Committee, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and Department of Finance
- Technical requirements for audits, budget, borrowing, investments, etc.

**Full copies of all three documents are available at [www.whitecapdakota.com](http://www.whitecapdakota.com)**