?AQAMNIK (MEMBERSHIP) LAW, 2024

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WHEREAS

A. Pursuant to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples ?aqamnik are Indigenous peoples who have the right to:

- autonomy or self-government in matters relating to ?aqamnik internal and local affairs,
- not be subjected to forced assimilation or destruction of ?aqamnik culture,
- belong to an Indigenous community or nation, in accordance with ?aqamnik traditions and customs,
- determine ?aqamnik identity or wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) in accordance with ?aqamnik customs and traditions, and
- determine the responsibilities of individuals to ?aqam;

B. Canada has enacted the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, S.C. 2021, c.14, which affirms that the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* is an international human rights instrument with application in Canadian law;

C. Canada has proclaimed in its *Principles Respecting the Government of Canada's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples* that it recognizes Indigenous peoples right to self-determination, including Indigenous peoples' inherent right to self-government which includes a right to define and govern themselves as Nations;

D. Pursuant to section 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, the existing aboriginal and treaty rights of the aboriginal peoples of Canada are recognized and affirmed by the Government of Canada;

E. ?aqam is made up of Ktunaxa peoples who have an aboriginal right to self-government which emanates from our people, culture, and land, and which includes the right to determine our own identity and wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) in accordance with Ktunaxa customs, traditions, and laws;

F. In 1987, ?aqam electors voted in favour of the Kootenay Nations St. Mary's Indian Band Membership Laws, which sets out the membership rules for ?aqam and a mechanism for reviewing decisions on wilqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership);

G. The ?iiwatna?is ?aqam (Council) and ?aqamnik (members) consider it in the best interests of ?aqam to:

- repeal the Kootenay Nations St. Mary's Indian Band Membership Laws, and
- enact this *?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024*, which is consistent with Ktunaxa customs, traditions and laws around identity, marriage, kinship, adoptions, and governance;

H. Pursuant to section 27 of the *Kootenay Nations St. Mary's Indian Band Membership Laws*, a k¢ikmałinkinił (repeal) of those laws:

- may be initiated by a petition, signed by at least 30% of the electors of the band, a copy of which petition was received by ?ilwatna?is ?aqam (Council) on and
- must be approved by a majority of the electors of ?aqam in the same manner and proportion as was used for its establishment;

I. On April 22, 2024, ?aqam gave written notice to electors of the band of its intention to k¢ikmałinkinił (repeal) the Kootenay Nations St. Mary's Indian Membership Laws and enact this ?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024; and

J. ?aqam held a referendum vote by secret ballot on at which of ?aqam electors participated in the vote and of those electors who participated in the vote voted in favour of:

- repealing the Kootenay Nations St. Mary's Indian Band Membership Laws, and
- enacting this ?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2023.

NOW THEREFORE ?AQAM DULY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

QASIŁ ?UKI (PART 1) QAKI·KAXU?MIK (CITATION)

1. This ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) may be cited as the ?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2023.

QASIŁ ?A·S (PART 2) ?AKŁIKYAXWUM (DEFINITIONS), KU¢INŁIŁAT (INTERPRETATION) AND APPLICATION

?akłikyaxwum (Definitions)

- **2.** In this ?a·knumu¢titii (Law):
- "?akinmałka?nam (spouse)" means a person who is married to another person either by a religious or civil ceremony, or in accordance with Ktunaxa laws;

"?a·knumu¢titłił (Law)" means this ?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024;

"?aqam" means dense forest, and in this ?a knumu¢tilil (Law) refers to ?aqam within the meaning of the *Indian Act*, formerly known as the St. Mary's Indian Band, for whose use and benefit in common ?aqam ?amak (?aqam Lands) have been set apart by Canada;

"?aqamnik (member)" means people of the dense forest, and in this ?a knumu¢tiłił (Law) means a person whose name appears or whose name is entitled to appear on the ?aqam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqłiłqał (Membership List);

"?aqamnik Number" means a number that is assigned by the Membership Clerk to a ?aqamnik (member):

- (a) to document that the person is a ?aqamnik (member), and
- (b) for use by ?aqam for the purposes of determining a person's ?itiłkałi?tił (eligibility) to:
 - (i) receive benefits through ?aqam funded programs and services, and

(ii) exercise rights or receive benefits in accordance with either Ktunaxa law, or a law developed by ?aqam;

- "Associate Member" means a person who is approved as an Associate Member pursuant to their entitlement under section 12;
- "ISC" means the federal department of Indigenous Services Canada, or any federal department that may replace that department;
- "Indian Act" means the Indian Act, RSC 1985, c.I-5;
- "Indian Register" means the register of persons that is maintained by ISC under section 5 of the *Indian Act*, which contains the name of every person who is entitled to be registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act*; It sets out the names of each ?aqamnik (member) who is also a "status Indian" as that term is commonly understood by Indigenous peoples in Canada;
- "?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council)" means the lawfully elected government of ?aqam and includes the Nasu?kin (Chief);
- "Ktunaxa ancestry" means a person whose ancestry traces back to the Ktunaxa people, as demonstrated through DNA evidence, genealogical records, such as birth and death certificates, baptism records, or oral history shared by other ?aqamnik (member);
- "Ktunaxa people" means that group of people who, since time immemorial, have lived in Ktunaxa Traditional Territory with their own customs, traditions, practices, language, laws and governance systems, and who will continue to do so for eternity, many of whom are also members of the following communities: ?akisqnuk First Nation, ?aqam, Yaqan Nukiy (Lower Kootenay Indian Band), Yaqit ?a knuqli 'it (Tobacco Plains Indian Band), Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, and Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribe;

"Ktunaxa Traditional Territory" means all of those lands which extend from the Big Bend of the Columbia River north of Donald Station, then south including all of the Kootenay sinuosisties to Missoula, Montana, then west to Bonner's Ferry, Idaho then north to the Upper Arrow Lakes area of British Columbia then east across the Big Bend of the Columbia River to the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains;

"kamnintik (child)" means a person under 19 years of age who is:

- (a) born in or out of wedlock,
- (b) a legal kitakłikinił (adoptee), or
- (c) an kitakłikinił (adoptee) in accordance with Ktunaxa custom;

"Membership Clerk" means the person appointed by ?aqam to the position of Membership Clerk;

- "?aqam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List)" means the list of all persons who are either an ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, also known as the "Band List" that the Membership Clerk must maintain in accordance with Qasil qalsa (Part 3) of this ?a·knumu¢titlil (Law) and subsections 10(9)-(11) of the *Indian Act*;
- "Status Registration Number" means a number that ISC assigns to a person for the purpose of documenting that:
 - (a) the person is registered in Canada's Indian Register,

(b) Canada considers that person to be eligible for benefits through ISC funded programs and services that are only available to persons registered in the Indian Register, and

(c) Canada allows that person to exercise rights or receive certain benefits under the *Indian Act* that are only available to persons registered in the Indian Register; and

"tiłnamu?tmu (common-law)" means a conjugal relationship between two (2) persons who are not married but they:

(a) have lived together in a kałałtitnam-like (marriage-like) relationship for a period of not less than five (5) years,

(b) live together in a kałałtitnam-like (marriage-like) relationship and have a łkamnintik (child) together, or

(b) live together in a kałałtitnam-like (marriage-like) relationship where one of the partners has a łkamnintik (child) and the other partner regularly cares for that łkamnintik (child) and stands in the place of a ?akiniknam (parent) for that łkamnintik (child).

Ku¢inlilat (Interpretation)

3. This ?a knumu¢titiii (Law) must be interpreted in a fair, large, and liberal manner.

4. In this ?a·knumu¢titlil (Law):

(a) the use of the word "must" denotes an obligation that, unless this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) provides to the contrary, must be carried out as soon as practicable after this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) comes into effect or an event gives rise to the obligation under this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) occurs;

(b) headings and subheadings are for convenience only, do not form a part of this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) and in no way define, limit, alter or enlarge the scope or meaning of any provision of this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law);

- (c) unless it is otherwise clear from the context:
 - (i) the use of the word "including" means "including, but not limited to", and the use of the word "includes" means "includes, but is not limited to,"
 - (ii) the use of the singular includes the plural, and the use of the plural includes the singular, and
 - (iii) the use of the masculine includes the feminine, and the use of the feminine includes the masculine;

(d) a reference to a statute includes every amendment to it, every regulation made under it and any law enacted in substitution for it or in replacement of it;

(e) where a time is expressed to begin or end at, on or with a specified day, or to continue to or until a specified day, the time includes that day;

(f) where a time is expressed to begin after or to be from a specified day, the time does not include that day; and

(g) where anything is to be done within a time after, from, of or before a specified day, the time does not include that day.

Ńitnumu¢tiłni ?a·knumu¢tiłił (Application of Law)

5. This ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) applies to all persons.

6. Where any law or regulation of Canada or any other ?aqam law applies to any matter covered by this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law), compliance with this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law) does not relieve the person from also complying with the provisions of the other applicable laws.

7. If any provision of this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid provision must be severed from and must not affect the remaining provisions of this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law).

QASIŁ QĄŁSA (PART 3) ?ITQAWXAWI¢IKIMIK ?AQAMNIK KITUQŁIŁQAŁ (MEMBERSHIP LISTS)

Sqałi·kinmik khakiłkin (Membership Clerk Duty) k¢ (to) hakiłwi¢kił ?iłqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqłiłqałs (Maintain Membership List)

8. The Membership Clerk must maintain a ?aqam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqiiiqai (Membership List) that contains:

(a) the full legal name of every ?aqamnik (member) and Associate Member, organized in alphabetical order by surname;

- (b) for each ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, their:
 - (i) date of birth,
 - (ii) Status Registration Number, if applicable,
 - (iii) ?aqamnik Number,
 - (iv) mailing address, email addresses and phone number, and
 - (v) the name of any other "band" that they are a member of;

(c) the date each ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member's name is added to the ?aqam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqiiqai (Membership List); and

(d) where applicable, the date each ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member's name is deleted from the ?aqam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List).

Existing Membership List Continued

9. A person whose name appears on the ?adam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?adamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List) at the time this ?a knumu¢titlil (Law) comes into force continues to be a ?adamnik (member) and is entitled to have their name entered on the ?adam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?adamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List) as a ?adamnik (member).

Use of Membership List

10. (1) ?aqam shall not, without the consent of the individual to whom it relates, use or disclose information contained in the Membership List, except:

- (a) for the purpose of administering or enforcing any law or carrying out a lawful investigation, under a law of British Columbia, Canada or ?aqam;
- (b) for the purpose of administering any program of ?aqam;
- (c) for the purpose of complying with a subpoena or warrant issued or order made by a court, person, or other body with jurisdiction to compel the production of information;
- (d) to a member of Council for the purpose of assisting the individual to whom the information relates in resolving a problem; and
- (e) for a purpose where, in the opinion of ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council):
 - (i) the benefits to ?aqam of the disclosure clearly outweigh any invasion of privacy that could result from the disclosure, and
 - (ii) the disclosure would clearly benefit the individual to whom the information relates.

(2) ?aqam shall provide written notice to any person named on the ?aqam ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List) whom it, without their consent, uses or discloses personal information about from that list.

?aqamnik (member) / Associate Member Duty to Provide Contact Information

11. Every ?aqamnik (member) and Associate Member is responsible for ensuring that the Membership Clerk has their current mailing address, email address, and phone number, for use by ?aqam for the delivery of legal and other notices that it must provide to an ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member.

QASIŁ XA·ĆA (PART 4) WIŁQANAXU?MIK ?AQAMNIK NIŃTIK (MEMBERSHIP) YUNAĆQANAQA (TYPES), ENTITLEMENT, AND RESTRICTIONS

Entitlement to be a ?aqamnik (Member)

12. (1) A person is entitled to be a ?aqamnik (member) if the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) is satisfied that they:

- (a) have Ktunaxa ancestry;
- (b) are a kamnintik (child) and at least one of their parents is already a ?aqamnik (member); or

(c) have Ktunaxa ancestry and they have actively engaged in contributing to the best interests of ?aqam by way of volunteer work or other manner of support for at least five (5) years prior to their application to become a ?aqamnik (member).

(2) If a parent is deceased at the time their child applies to become a ?aqamnik (member), and that deceased parent was either a ?aqamnik (member) or eligible to be a ?aqamnik (member) at the time of their death, then the deceased parent is deemed to be a ?aqamnik (member) under subsection (1)(b).

Entitlement to be an Associate Member

13. (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a person is entitled to be an Associate Member if the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) is satisfied that they:

(a) are the spouse or tilnamu?tmu (common-law) partner of a ?aqamnik (member); and

(b)have actively engaged in supporting ?aqam by way of volunteer work or other manner of support for at least five (5) years prior to their application to become an Associate Member.

(2) Despite subsection (1), a person is not entitled to be an Associate Member if the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) is satisfied that it is more likely than not the person:

(a) is in prison, on parole or on probation, or serving a sentence for a criminal offence;

(b) has been convicted of an indictable offence in Canada or outside of Canada within the four (4) years before they apply to be an Associate Member;

(c) has been charged with, is on trial for, or is involved in an appeal of an indictable offence in Canada, or an offence outside of Canada; or

(d) has made false statements, submitted false information or documents, or lied to ?aqam in their application to be an Associate Member.

(3) Subsections (2)(a), (b) and (c) do not apply to a person who is imprisoned, on parole or probation, convicted of or on trial for an offence relating to their advocacy for, or protection of, the rights of Indigenous peoples under:

(a) the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; or

(b) section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, being Schedule B to the *Canada Act 1982* (UK), 1982, c 11.

Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities of Associate Members

14. (1) An Associate Member has all of the same rights, privileges, and authorities as a ?aqamnik (member), except that they are not eligible to:

(a) be a member of an ?aqam Committee, or participate in a ratification vote, relating to the governance of ?aqam; or

(b) exercise any rights, privileges, or authorities of a ?aqamnik (member) pursuant to the *St. Mary's Indian Band Custom Election Regulation, 2016*, the *?aqam Amended Land Code, 2016*, or any other law of ?aqam.

(2) Despite subsection (1) and subject to subsection (3) and any regulations made under subsection (4), if an Associate Member has a łkamnintik (child) who is a ?aqamnik (member) and their ?akinmałka?nam (spouse) who is both a ?aqamnik (member) and the parent of that łkamnintik (child) is deceased, that Associate Member has all the same rights, privileges, and authorities of a ?aqamnik (member) to the extent necessary for them to directly advocate for or uphold the rights of that łkamnintik (child).

(3) An Associate Member may only exercise the right, privilege, or authority of a ?aqamnik (member) under subsection (2) until such time as their łkamnintik (child) turns 19 years of age, and their exercise of that right, privilege, or authority must be completed in the best interest of their łkamnintik (child).

(4) No later than two years after this Law comes into force, Council must, in collaboration with the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee), create regulations:

(a) respecting the prerequisites that must exist before an Associate Member may exercise the rights, privileges, and authorities of a ?aqamnik (member) under subsection (2);

(b)prescribing how a ?aqamnik (member) may challenge the right of an Associate Member to exercise the rights, privileges, and authorities of a ?aqamnik (member) under subsection (2); and

(c) respecting the practices and procedures that apply to any challenges that a ?aqamnik (member) makes to the right of an Associate Member to exercise the rights, privileges, and authorities of a ?aqamnik (member) under subsection (2).

15. Every Associate Member must:

(a) make themselves familiar with and observe all ?aqam laws, policies, and procedures; and

(b) commit themselves to learning and passing on the history, language, and culture of the Ktunaxa peoples.

Dual Membership Allowed

16. A person is not restricted from becoming a ?aqamnik (member) or an Associate Member due to their status as a "member of a band" in another "band," as those terms are defined in the *Indian Act*.

QASIŁ YI·KU (PART 5) ?AQANAXUNIYAM K¢XAK¢AWAS (MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE)

Committee Composition

17. The ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) that exists under the *Kootenay Nations St. Mary's Indian Band Membership Laws* on the day immediately before this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) comes into effect is deemed to be the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) from the day this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law) comes into effect until such time as a new ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) is appointed to fill their spot in accordance with this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law).

18. The first ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) established under this ?a·knumu¢titłił (Law), and every ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) thereafter, must be composed of five (5) people:

(a) each of whom must be a ?aqamnik (member);

(b) at least one (1) of whom must be a member of ?iiwatna?is ?aqam (Council); and

(c) at least one (1) of whom must be a member of the Language Speakers and Knowledge Holders Group.

Term of Office

19. (1) Subject to subsection (2) and section 42, each ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member's term in office will:

(a) commence on the date they are appointed to the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) by ?iłwałna?is ?aqam (Council); and

(b) end on the earlier of:

(i) two (2) years following the day they are appointed to the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee),

(ii) the date of the third (3rd) consecutive committee meeting they fail to attend, or

(iii) the date on which they cease to be a ?aqamnik (member).

(2) ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) may, for the purpose of establishing a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) with staggered terms in office, set a different term in office for up to three (3) of those persons who make up the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee).

Authority to Appoint ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee)

20. ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) has exclusive authority to appoint ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Members.

Process for Appointment of a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee)

21. (1) Where a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member's position is vacant, and at least twenty (20) days prior to the expiration of their term in office, ?iłwałna?is ?aqam (Council) must:

(a) prepare or cause to be prepared an expression of interest document that sets out:

(i) ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) is seeking persons interested in being on the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee),

(ii) the objectives of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee),

(iii) a description of the position that is vacant on the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee),

(iv) the ?itiłkałi?tił (eligibility) criteria for persons who may apply to be a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member,

(v) a statement inviting eligible persons to express their interest to be a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member in writing to ?iłwatna?is ?aq̃am (Council),

(vi) information regarding the form in which such expression of interest must be provided,

(vii) the name of the person to whom the expression of interest must be directed, and

(viii) the expiry date by which eligible persons must express their interest to be a ?aqanaxuniyam $k \notin xak \notin awas$ (Membership Committee) Member, which must be no earlier than fourteen (14) days after the date that the notice is posted and distributed in accordance with paragraphs (b) and (c);

(b) post the expression of interest:

- (i) on the ?aqam website,
- (ii) in a conspicuous spot within the ?aqam administration office, and
- (iii) at all other locations designated by ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council);

(c) mail or deliver the expression of interest to each person who is eligible to fulfill the vacant ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) seat, at their last known address; and

(d) after the expiry date for the receipt of expressions of interest, appoint the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member.

(2) Where ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) is deciding on who to appoint as a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member, they must consider:

(a) all expressions of interest received;

(b) the applicant's experience in interpreting and applying ?aqam laws; and

(c) the applicant's knowledge of Ktunaxa genealogy, culture, language, history, and Ktunaxa Traditional Territory.

?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Structure

22. The member of ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) who is appointed to the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) must act as the chair of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee).

23. The chair of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) must report directly to ?iłwałna?is ?aqam (Council) on all matters relating to wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nińtik (membership).

Frequency of ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Meetings

24. (1) Subject to subsection (2), the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) must hold a committee meeting at least one (1) time per calendar month.

(2) In circumstances where there is no business for the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) to undertake, the chair of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) may waive a committee meeting by providing at least two (2) days written notice to each Committee Member.

?aqsanam (Quorum)

25. Quorum for a committee meeting must be at least three (3) ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Members.

Kitnum¢tilil (Decision Making)

26. Decisions of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) must be made by a majority vote of those ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Members present at a committee meeting.

?aqałikniyi?is (Powers), Duties and Functions of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee)

27. The powers, duties, and functions of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) are to:

(a) assess and make decisions about applications to become a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member;

(b) make recommendations to ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) regarding policies and procedures necessary for the effective implementation of this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law).

Responsibilities of the Membership Clerk Related to ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Business

28. The Membership Clerk, in consultation with the chair, must:

(a) at least fourteen (14) days in advance of the date on which a ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) meeting will be held, schedule that meeting and notify all ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Members of the date, location and time of that meeting;

(b) set the agenda for the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) meeting, which must include the following items:

(i) review and official acceptance of the minutes of the previous ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) meeting as a true record,

(ii) a report from each ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member on outstanding tasks assigned to them,

- (iii) unfinished business,
- (iv) new business, and
- (v) adjournment;

(c) ensure that minutes of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) meeting are taken;

(d) within fourteen (14) days of the date on which a meeting is held, deliver the minutes from that meeting to each ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) Member;

(e) assess all membership applications for completeness, gather information from applicants and others knowledgeable of Ktunaxa genealogy, as necessary, and provide all completed applications for

membership to the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) for their reviews and assessments of eligibility; and

(c) complete a report, to be included in the ?aqam Annual Report, that sets out:

(i) the number of meetings held by ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee),

(ii) the total number of ?aqamnik (members) and Associate Members on the ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List),

(iii) the number of membership applications that have been received since the last report,

(iv) the number of membership applications that have been accepted since the last report,

(v) the number of membership applications that have been denied since the last report, and

(vi) the number of persons whose names were removed from the ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqlilqal (Membership List) since the last report.

QĄSIŁ ?IŊMISA (PART 6) YA QAŁWIY ØXAŁ ?IN ?AQAMNIK (APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP)

Ya qałwiy ¢xał ?in ?aqamnik (Application for Membership)

29. (1) A person may apply to become a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member by delivering to the Membership Clerk:

(a) an application, in a form prescribed by ?iłwaźna?is ?aḍam (Council);

(b) proof of their entitlement to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member;

(c) details regarding their wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) in any other "bands" as that term is defined in the *Indian Act*; and

(d) if that person is applying to become an Associate Member, a copy of a criminal record check dated no more than one month prior to the date of their application.

(2) An application under subsection (1) made on behalf of a łkamnintik (child) must be signed by either the parent or the legal guardian of that łkamnintik (child), and if that application is made on behalf of a łkamnintik (child) who is between 14 and 18 years of age, that łkamnintik (child) must co-sign the application.

(3) Any parent who makes an application on behalf of a łkamnintik (child) must, at the request of the Membership Clerk, provide the Membership Clerk with a court order or custody agreement that proves they are the legal guardian of that łkamnintik (child).

Membership Committee Review and Decision

30. The ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) must:

(a) review all applications made under section 29; and

(b) determine whether they are satisfied the applicant is entitled to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member.

Reasons for Decision to Deny Application for wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (Membership)

31. If the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) is not satisfied that an applicant is entitled to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, the chair of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) must:

(a) prepare written reasons for the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) decision; and

(b) deliver a copy of those written reasons to ?iiwatna?is ?aqam (Council), the Membership Clerk and the applicant.

Report to ?iłwałna?is ?aḍam (Council) and Addition of Name to ?iłqawxawi¢ikimik ?aḍamnik kituqłiłqał (Membership List)

32. No later than thirty (30) days after the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) decides they are satisfied an applicant is entitled to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, the Membership Clerk must:

(a) deliver a report to ?iłwałna?is ?aqam (Council) setting out the names of each person who has applied to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, and attach to that report a copy of the written decision of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee); and

(b) add the name of the applicant to the ?itqawxawi¢ikimik ?aqamnik kituqiiqai (Membership List).

Notice to Other Indian Act Band

33. Where a person is accepted as a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, and they have indicated in their application that they are also a member of another *Indian Act* band, the Membership Clerk must provide a copy of this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law) to that *Indian Act* band, along with a written notice setting out that the applicant has been accepted as a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member in accordance with this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law).

QASIŁ WISTAŁA (PART 7) KUPXUŁ ?AKIKŁIYAM (REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP)

Involuntary Revocation of Membership

34. (1) A ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member's membership may be revoked by ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) if:

(a) that person provided false information to ?aqam in their application for wilqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership);

(b) that person is an Associate Member, they no longer meet the entitlement criteria in subsection 12, and ?iłwaina?is ?aqam (Council) believes revoking their wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) is in the best interests of ?aqam; or

(c) the following three conditions exist:

(i) that ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member is not of Ktunaxa ancestry,

(ii) that ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member became a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member because they kałałtitnam (married) or entered into a tiłnamu?tmu (common-law) relationship with a ?aqamnik (member), and

(iii) that ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member either:

(A) divorced or separated from the ?aqamnik (member) they kałałtitnam (married) or were in a tiłnamu?tmu (common-law) relationship with,

(B) has lived separate and apart from the ?aqamnik (member) they kałałtitnam (married) or were in a tiłnamu?tmu (common-law) relationship with, for a period of more than one (1) year with no intention of reconciling that relationship, or

(C) are widowed by the ?aqamnik (member) they kałałtitnam (married) or were in a tiłnamu?tmu (common-law) relationship with and then they either kałałtitnam (married) or enter into a tiłnamu?tmu (common-law) relationship with a person who is not a ?aqamnik (member).

(2) Before ?iłwałna?is ?adam (Council) decides under subsection (1) to revoke the wiłqanaxu?mik ?adamnik nintik (membership) of a ?adamnik (member) or Associate Member, they must provide that ?adamnik (member) or Associate Member with:

(a) reasonable notice of the date on which ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) intends to make that decision;

(b) copies of all information on which ?iłwaina?is ?aqam (Council) will base their decision; and

(c) an opportunity to make written or oral submissions to ?iiwatna?is ?aqam (Council) regarding the proposed revocation of their wilqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership).

(3) As soon as practical after ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) makes a decision under subsection (1), they must provide:

(a) written reasons for their decision to the ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member to whom the decision relates; and

(b) a copy of that written decision to the Membership Clerk.

Voluntary Revocation of Membership

35. (1) A person may voluntarily revoke their status as a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member by providing to the Membership Clerk a written notice that:

(a) is signed by both them and a witness who is at least eighteen (18) years of age; and

(b) sets out the person's:

- (i) full legal name and birthdate;
- (ii) ?aqamnik Number;
- (iii) intention to revoke their status as a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member; and

(iv) the date on which they intend for their status as a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member to cease.

(2) An application under subsection (1) made on behalf of a łkamnintik (child) must be signed in the same manner as is set out at subparagraphs 29(2) and (3).

(3) A person who delivers a notice in accordance with subsection (1) ceases to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member on the date stated in their written notice to the Membership Clerk.

QASIŁ WUXA·¢A (PART 8) KŁA ?AKUKINIŁ (APPEALS)

Establishment of Appeals Committee

36. (1) ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) must appoint an Appeals Committee to hear kła ?akukinił (appeals) under this Part, which must be composed of five (5) people, each of whom must have knowledge of Ktunaxa history and genealogy.

(2) In appointing the Appeals Committee, ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) may exercise preferences to ensure a broad representation of persons from the following groups:

(a) former members of ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council);

(b) former members of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee), or a person who formerly acted as the Membership Clerk;

(c) members of the ?aqam Language Speakers and Knowledge Holders Group; and

(d) persons who are a ?aqamnik (member) between the ages of 19 and 29 years.

(3) The terms of office for Appeals Committee Members must be set by ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) at the time of their appointment.

(4) ?iłwaina?is ?aqam (Council) must appoint one (1) person to act as the chair of the Appeals Committee.

(5) The Appeals Committee must operate with the same quorum and decision-making rules as the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee).

Procedure for Appointment of Appeals Committee Members

37. In establishing an Appeals Committee, ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) must use the same expression of interest procedure as is used for the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee).

Initiating an Appeal

38. (1) A person who is incorrectly denied their application to be a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member, or whose status as an Associate Member is incorrectly revoked may, within thirty (30) days of being informed of that decision, initiate an appeal of that decision by delivering a notice of appeal to the Membership Clerk.

(2) An appeal initiated under subsection (1) must:

(a) be made in writing or in another form authorized by ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council);

(b) identify the decision that is being appealed;

(c) state why the decision is incorrect or why it should be changed, with specific reference to the section in this ?a knumu¢titlil (Law) they believe was incorrectly applied in that decision;

(d) state the outcome requested;

(e) include the name, address, and telephone number of the appellant;

(f) if the appellant has an agent to act on the appellant's behalf in respect of the appeal, include the name of the agent and a telephone number at which the agent may be contacted during regular business hours;

(g) include an address for delivery of any notices in respect of the appeal; and

(h) be signed by the appellant or the appellant's agent.

(3) When an appeal is initiated under subsection (1), the Membership Clerk must promptly deliver a copy of that notice of appeal to the chair of the Appeals Committee and the chair of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee).

Powers, Duties and Functions of the Appeals Committee

39. (1) The powers, duties and functions of the Appeals Committee are to:

(a) review decisions made under this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law) regarding the approval or revocation of a person's status as a ?aqamnik (member) or Associate Member; and

(b) where those decisions are incorrect, make orders to remedy those decisions.

(2) In exercising its powers under subsection (1), the Appeals Committee must act impartially, without bias, and with an open mind based solely on the materials before it.

Practice and Procedure of the Appeals Committee

40. (1) The Appeals Committee must

(a) provide notice of the Appeals Committee meeting to the person whose wilqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) is at issue in the appeal, disclosing the date, time, and location of the Appeals Committee meeting;

(b) ensure the person whose wilqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) is at issue in the appeal is provided access to all written materials before the Appeals Committee;

(c) provide the person whose wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) is at issue in the appeal an opportunity to be heard orally or in writing with regard to the decision that is to be made;

(d) advise the person whose wiłqanaxu?mik ?aqamnik nintik (membership) is at issue in the appeal of the reason for the Appeals Committee's decision and the factors used in making that decision; and

(e) if any members of the Appeals Committee set a legitimate expectation that a certain procedure will be followed or a certain outcome will be reached in their decision making, they must comply with that procedure or reach that outcome.

(2) ?iiwatna?is ?aqam (Council) may make policies and procedures necessary for the effective function of the Appeals Committee.

Decisions of Appeals Committee Final and Binding

41. All decisions of the Appeals Committee are final and binding and not subject to review in any court.

QASIŁ QAYKITWU (PART 9) QAPI QAPSIN (GENERAL)

Oath of Office, Confidentiality Agreement and Conflict of Interest Agreement

42. (1) A member of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) and Appeals Committee is not deemed to be a member of that committee until after they have signed an Oath of Office, Confidentiality Agreement and Conflict of Interest Agreement in the form set out in Schedule "A" Forms and provided those signed documents to the Membership Clerk.

(2) If a newly appointed member of the ?aqanaxuniyam k¢xak¢awas (Membership Committee) or Appeals Committee does not comply with subsection (1):

- (a) that person is deemed to have withdrawn their appointment to that committee; and
- (b) ?iłwatna?is ?aqam (Council) must appoint a new member to that committee.

QASIŁ ?IŤWU PART 10 K¢IKMAŁINKINIŁ ¢ KŁA SU·KINIŁ (REPEAL & AMENDMENTS)

43. Any k¢ikmałinkinił (repeal) of or kła su kinił (amendment) to this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law) must be initiated by either:

- (a) the signatures of at least 10% of all eligible electors of ?aqam in support of the petition; or
- (b) a band council resolution.

44. A k¢ikmałinkinił (repeal) of or kła su kinił (amendment) to this ?a knumu¢titłił (Law) is approved if:

(a) at least 25% of eligible electors participate in a ratification vote on whether to approve that k¢ikmałinkinił (repeal) or kła su kinił (amendment);

(b) the same procedures set out in the *Community Ratification Process* document used for enactment of this ?a·knumu¢titlil (Law) are followed in that ratification vote; and

(c) a majority of eligible electors who participate in that ratification vote approve that (repeal) or kła su kinił (amendment).

QASIŁ ?IŤWUM ŁA ?UKI (PART 11) YISUSAŁ ĆINAKNIŁKI (EFFECTIVE DATE)

45. This ?a·knumu¢titi! (Law) comes into force on the date that it is approved in accordance with the *Community Ratification Process*.

SCHEDULE "A" FORMS

Form 1 Committee Member's Oath of Office

I, [<u>Committee Member's Name</u>], do solemnly and sincerely [<u>swear / declare</u>] that I must be a true and faithful servant to ?aqam, as a member the [<u>Membership Committee / Appeals Committee</u>] established under the ?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024 and that I will:

- (a) in all actions taken by me, as a member of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] and in my personal capacity, comply with the laws of ?aqam, Canada, and the Province;
- (b) serve ?aqam duly and faithfully, and to the best of my ability fulfill the responsibilities and trust granted to me as a member of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee]; and
- (c) keep confidential all matters dealt with by the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee], and not disclose such matters to any person other than another member of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee], or as authorized by Council or as required in the lawful discharge of my duties a member of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee].

THIS OATH has been duly [<u>sworn/declared</u>] and executed by the [<u>Membership Committee / Appeals</u> <u>Committee</u>] Member on the _____day of [_____], [20__].

)))))))

)

[<u>Membership Committee / Appeals</u> <u>Committee</u>] Member Information	
Name	_
Address	_
Occupation	

Witness Name: _____

Form 2 [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member's Confidentiality Agreement

This AGREEMENT dated the [____] day of [___], 20[_] by and

BETWEEN:

?aqam, [Address] an Indian Band under section 2 of the *Indian Act*

(hereinafter referred to as "?aqam")

AND:

[Name of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member [Address] [City, Province Postal Code]

(hereinafter referred to as the "[Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member")

WHEREAS:

- A. the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member was appointed to the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] pursuant to [Part X / section X] of the Paqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024;
- B. it is intended that the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member will have access to Confidential Information in their exercise of duties under the *?aq́amnik (Membership) Law, 2024*; and
- C. prior to exercising any duties under the *?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024*, the [Membership <u>Committee / Appeals Committee</u>] Member must sign a confidentiality agreement relating to their position on that committee,

NOW, THEREFORE, I do hereby acknowledge, covenant and agree as follows:

?akłikyaxwum (Definitions)

- 1. For the purpose of this Agreement, the following ?akłikyaxwum (definitions) apply:
 - (a) "**Confidential Information**" means any non-public information relating to ?aqam Membership and the administration of the *?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024*, including any information identified by Council as confidential;

- (b) "yisusał ¢inakniłki (effective date)" means the date that the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member executes this agreement, his or her Oath of Office and the Code of Conduct; and
- (c) "Law" means any law of Canada, the Province or ?aqam.

Term

2. The term of this Agreement must commence on the yisusał ¢inakniłki (effective date) and must survive the expiry or termination of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member's term in office.

Use of Confidential Information

- 3. The [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member agrees to use Confidential Information solely for the purpose of fulfilling the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member's duties under the *?aqamnik (Membership) Law, 2024*.
- 4. The [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member agrees not to use the Confidential Information for his or her own benefit or the benefit of any entity in which he or she is associated.

Disclosure of Confidential Information

- 5. Unless required by Law, the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member must not directly or indirectly disclose, divulge, reveal, report, publish or transfer Confidential Information in any manner whatsoever, in whole or in part, regardless of the nature or source of the information or of the fact that others may share the knowledge, and must not divulge any such information unless disclosure except:
 - (a) in accordance with a clear duty to do so under a ?aqam law or policy;
 - (b) where required by Law, to any other party; or
 - (c) with Council's prior authorization, to any other party.

Storage of Confidential Information

- 6. The [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member must store Confidential Information in a secure manner that protects it from unauthorized use, access or disclosure.
- 7. The [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member must ensure access to electronic documents and folders containing confidential information is password protected and that such passwords are not directly or indirectly disclose, divulge, reveal, report, publish or transfer Confidential Information in any manner whatsoever, in whole or in part, to any person.

Breach of Confidentiality

- 8. In the event of an actual, potential, or threatened breach of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member's obligations related to the use or disclosure of Confidential Information, they must notify Council of such breach and take all necessary actions to restrain the current and future use or disclosure of such Confidential Information.
- 9. The [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member's failure to comply with this Agreement may lead to their removal as a [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member.

Return of Confidential Information

- **10.** The [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member must deliver to ?aqam any and all Confidential Information that is in their possession or control:
 - (a) at the request of Council; and
 - (b) at the termination or expiry of their tenure of office.

Governing Law

11. This Agreement must be governed by, interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of ?aq́am, the Province of British Columbia and the laws of Canada, as applicable.

Entire Agreement

12. This Agreement is the entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes and cancels all previous negotiations, agreements, commitments and writings in respect of the subject-matter hereof and there are no understandings, representations, conditions made or assumed by the Parties, other than those expressly contained in this Agreement.

THIS AGREEMENT has been duly executed by the [<u>Membership Committee / Appeals Committee</u>] Member on the _____day of [_____], [20__].

))	
)) Witness Name:	
))	
)	
))))))))))))

Form 3 Conflict of Interest Agreement

On this [____] day of [___], 20[_], in the City of [Name], in the Province of British Columbia, I [Committee Member's Full Name], agree as follows:

Conflict of Interest

1. I understand that I have a "conflict of interest" when I:

(a) perform a [<u>Membership Committee / Appeals Committee</u>] duty and at the same time know or ought reasonably to know that in the performance of the Council duty there is an opportunity to benefit my <u>private interests</u>; or

(b) participate in any personal or business activity outside my position on the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] that may interfere with the fulfillment or performance of my [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] duties, or conflict with the interests of ?aqam.

- 2. I understand that I have an "apparent conflict of interest" if a reasonable well-informed person would perceive that:
 - (a) my ability to exercise a Council duty must be affected by my private interests; or

(b) a personal or business activity I am involved in outside my Council duties must interfere with the fulfillment or performance of my [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] duties, or conflict with the interests of ?aqam.

- **3.** I understand that my "private interests" include all of my personal and business interests and include the personal and business interests of:
 - (a) my immediate family;

(b) a person under the age of eighteen (18) years in respect of whom myself or my spouse is acting as parent or guardian;

(c) a dependent adult in respect of whom myself or my spouse is acting as parent or guardian;

(d) a person, other than myself, who is financially dependent upon myself or my spouse or on whom I am financially dependent; and

- (e) any entity in which I have a controlling interest.
- 4. I understand that my "immediate family" means my:
 - (a) spouse or common-law partner;
 - (b) father and mother and the spouse or common-law partner of my father or mother;

- (c) child(ren) and the child(ren) of my spouse or common-law partner;
- (d) grandchild(ren);
- (e) brothers and sisters;
- (f) grandfather and grandmother; and
- (g) spouse or common-law partner's father or mother.
- 5. I understand that "common-law partner" means a person who has been cohabiting with me in a conjugal relationship for at least one (1) year.

Agreement to Avoid and Mitigate Real, Perceived or Potential Conflicts of Interest

- 6. I agree to avoid circumstances that could result in me having a conflict of interest or an apparent conflict of interest.
- 7. I agree to avoid placing myself in circumstances where my ability to exercise my [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] duties may be influenced by my private interests.

Agreement to Disclose Conflict of Interest

- 8. If I believe I have a conflict of interest, I agree to disclose the circumstances in writing as soon as practical to the rest of the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee].
- **9.** If I am in a meeting and I believe I have a conflict of interest, I agree to disclose that I am in a conflict of interest and to leave the room.
- **10.** I agree to refrain from participating in any discussions or decision-making, or actions, respecting the circumstances of the conflict of interest.

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Breach of Agreement

13. I understand that my failure to comply with this Agreement may lead to my removal as a [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member.

THIS AGREEMENT has been duly executed by the [Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member on the _____day of [_____], [20__].

>))

)

))

[Membership Committee / Appeals Committee] Member Information	
Name	-
Address	-
	-

Witness Name: _____

Occupation