

Open Meeting Rules and Guidelines

T'Sou-ke First Nation regular Chief and Council meetings shall be open to registered members of the band, with the exception of in-camera portions. Regular meetings of the council are open to all registered members of T'Sou-ke. No member of T'Sou-ke shall be excluded except for improper conduct.

Benefits to the community, Increased community awareness of Chief and Council decisions, Improved access to meetings and Enhanced transparency and accountability.

Open means

- At a place ordinarily considered a public place
- At a time, ordinarily considered a time to conduct public business.
- There is room/seating for the members.

The following guidelines shall be followed for meeting observers:

- **Members who attend Council Meetings are allowed to do so only as silent observers and have no rights to speak at the Council Meeting.**
- **The Chair shall not permit any disturbance or willful interruption of Council meetings. Persistent disruption by an individual or group or any conduct or statements that threaten the safety of any person(s) at the meeting shall be grounds for the exclusion for improper conduct. In such instances, the Chair may issue one warning to the individual or group responsible for the disturbance or interruption. If the disruptive behavior persists following the warning, expulsion from the meeting may be warranted.**
- **If, in the opinion of the Chair, anyone that is out of order a Council meeting, the Chair may give that person a warning; and if that person continues to be out of order following the warning, he or she will be expelled from the meeting.**
- **No person shall be permitted to attend a Council meeting while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. Individuals found to be under the influence will be asked to leave the meeting.**
- **Council meeting dates shall be published by posting a notice in the Band Office, in a conspicuous location, at least on (1) week prior to the meeting, or when it is not possible to do so due to exceptional circumstances. Meetings will be announced through official communication channels.**
- **Cell phones should not be used during Council Meetings. All cell phones should be turned off or put on vibrate during Council Meetings. For urgent matters or emergencies we ask that you step outside to take these calls.**
- **The content of T'Sou-ke First Nation Chief and Council Meetings is intended for T'Sou-ke registered members only.**
- **Meeting recorder will ensure that only confirmed T'Sou-ke First Nation members and approved public guests will be permitted to enter the Chief and Council meeting.**

Closed/ In-Camera means

Closed/in-Camera portions or meetings are closed to the public.

T'Sou-ke Chief and Council may close a meeting or part of a meeting by passing a motion that sets out the basis for closing the meeting to discuss any of the following:

- Issues related to employment (i.e. Labor/employee relations) at T'Sou-ke First Nation
- Issues of personal nature relating to any identifiable individuals of TFN
- Litigation or potential litigation impacting TFN.
- The receipt of legal advice
- Acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements if local government interests could be harmed by disclosure.
- Law enforcement, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the conduct of an investigation or enforcement of an enactment.
- Information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;

Live Streamed

- Regular Council Meetings will be live streamed via private links on platforms like Microsoft Teams or Zoom, accessible only with the provided link.
- Efforts will be made to ensure uninterrupted streaming, though technical difficulties may occur.
- In-camera sessions may be necessary on occasion, during which the live stream will cease. Confidential sessions will not be streamed or recorded.
- Attendees must keep cameras and microphones off.
- Access link distribution is prohibited, with consequences for violations outlined. Meeting content is intended for registered members only.
- Clerk will ensure that only confirmed T'Sou-ke registered members and approved public guests will be permitted to enter the live-streamed Chief and Council meeting. TFN members and public guests are prohibited from distributing the access link. Should the access link be distributed contrary to this policy, the following actions could take place:
 1. Occurrence 1: Written Warning outlining the offence under this policy and the progressive action steps for future occurrences.
 2. Occurrence 2: Ban from future Chief and Council meetings for a period of 3 months from the date of second occurrence.
 3. Occurrence 3: Ban from future Chief and Council meetings for a period of 1 year from the date of third occurrence. A written request to rejoin future Chief and Council meetings will be required.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining an open and civil environment during our meetings.

Following the Chief and Council meeting a Community Open Forum will be hosted. This Forum will allow any member to ask directly any member of Council questions related to any subject matter of the agenda. 10 minutes will be allotted and enforced via timer to respect the time of C&C, Staff and community.

X Lawrence Underwood

Lawrence Underwood
Chief

X Rose Dumont

Rose Dumont
Councillor

X Bonnie Hill

Bonnie Hill
Councillor

X Debra Lazzar

Debra Lazzar (Khumchishliá)
Councillor