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Ya'qit ?a·knuq̣li 'it

Land Code

Dated for Reference: April 3, 2024

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY
This is Exhibit 1 to the Affidavit/Declaration
of Richard B. Krehbiel, sworn before me
this 2nd day of May, 2024.

*Nathalie
Neal*

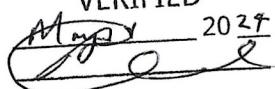


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YAQIT ?A·KNUQE'I 'IT LAND CODE

Whereas The leaders of the Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it will, by example, be supportive, understanding, respectful, honest and cooperative. Their decision-making will be non-judgmental and consistent. With the direction, guidance, patience, and confidence of the Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it citizens, the leaders will continue to be responsible and committed to their roles as leaders;

And Whereas the *Framework Agreement on Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it Land Management* provides the option to Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it's of withdrawing their reserve land from the land management provisions of the *Indian Act* in order to exercise control over their land and resources for the use and benefit of their Members;

And Whereas under the *Framework Agreement*, Canada recognizes that Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it's have a unique connection to and constitutionally protected interest in their lands, including decision-making, governance, jurisdiction, legal traditions, and fiscal relations associated with those lands;

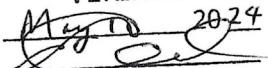
And Whereas under the *Framework Agreement*, Canada affirms its commitment to implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in a manner consistent with the Canadian Constitution, and the *Framework Agreement* acknowledges that Canada's special relationship with Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it will continue;

And Whereas Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it became a signatory to the *Framework Agreement* on July 13, 2021, and wishes to govern lands and resources under a Land Code, rather than under the *Indian Act*;

And Whereas the *Framework Agreement* is ratified by Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it through community approval of the Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it Land Code.

NOW THEREFORE, THIS LAND CODE IS ENACTED AS THE FUNDAMENTAL LAND LAW OF THE YAQIT ?A·KNUQE'I 'IT.

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PART I

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS

1. Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it's Rights not Affected

- 1.1 This *Land Code* does not define or prejudice Aboriginal rights, Aboriginal title, treaty rights, inherent rights, or any other rights of Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it to control their lands or resources or preclude other actions or negotiations in respect of those rights.
- 1.2 This *Land Code* does not affect any rights of the Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it under the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- 1.3 This *Land Code* does not affect any lands, or any rights in lands, that are not subject to this *Land Code*.
- 1.4 This *Land Code* does not change the fiduciary relationship between Canada and Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it and its Members.
- 1.5 This *Land Code* does not affect the constitutional obligations and duties Canada owes Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it, including but not limited to the duty to consult and accommodate Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it.
- 1.6 This *Land Code* does not affect the by-law making powers of Council under the *Indian Act*.

PART II

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

2. Definitions

- 2.1 Any words or terms used in this *Land Code* which are defined in the *Framework Agreement* shall have the same meaning as in the *Framework Agreement* unless the context otherwise requires.
- 2.2 The following definitions apply in this *Land Code*:

“*Adjudicator*” means a person appointed pursuant to section 26.2 of this *Land Code* to hear and resolve disputes in relation to Lands, in accordance with this *Land Code*, *Land Laws*, and any other applicable laws and policies;

“*Community Lands*” means Lands, other than Member Lands, that are held by Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it on behalf of and for the benefit of all Members;

“*Council*” means the Chief and Council of the Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it;

“*Council Resolution*” or “*BCR*” means a band council resolution approved by a quorum of Council;

“*Director of Lands and Natural Resources*” means the director of the Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it lands and natural resources office, or such other Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it employee that is assigned that title by Council;

“*Eligible Voter*” means a Member who has attained 18 years of age on or before the last day of a Vote;

“*Framework Agreement*” means the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, entered into between Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it and Canada on July 13, 2021, as amended from time to time;

“*Individual Agreement*” means the Individual Agreement providing for the specifics of the transfer of administration made between Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it and Canada in accordance with the Framework Agreement;

“*Interests*” means any interest, right, or estate of any nature in or to Lands, including a Member Only Interest, mortgage, lease, life estate, easement, right of way, permit, and a section 28(2) permit under the *Indian Act*, but does not include:

- (a) Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it title to the Land, including Aboriginal Title; and
- (b) Licenses;

“*Land*” or “*Lands*” means any reserve land that is subject to this *Land Code*, including Community Lands and Member Lands;

“*Land Code*” means this *Land Code* as amended from time to time;

“*Land Laws*” mean:

- (a) this *Land Code*; and
- (b) any other laws enacted under this *Land Code* and within Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it authority under the *Framework Agreement*, as those laws are amended from time to time;

“*Lands Committee*” means the committee established under the ‘*Lands Committee*’ provisions of this *Land Code*;

“*Lands Meeting*” means a meeting open to the participation of Members for purposes set out in this *Land Code*;

“*Lands Office*” means the Yaqt ?a·knuqli ‘it lands office;

“*Lands Register*” means the lands register established pursuant to the *Framework Agreement* or any successor lands register that may be established to replace the Lands Register;

“*License*” means any temporary right of use or occupation of Lands for a term of five (5) years or less but does not include a business license, building permit, or similar instrument;

“*Member*” means a person on the *Yaqt ?a·knuqli* ‘it membership list or who, in accordance with the *Yaqt ?a·knuqli* ‘it membership code, is entitled to be on that list;

“*Member Lands*” means Lands, other than Community Lands, that are Lands held by Members under a Member Only Interest;

“*Member Only Interests*” means allotments, certificates of possession, and any other permanent Interests in Land which can only be held by Members under this Land Code and any applicable Land Laws;

“*Membership Registrar*” means the person who, in collaboration with the Lands Office, is responsible for maintaining an up-to-date list of Members and Eligible Voters, in accordance with section 10.4 of this *Land Code*;

“*Natural Resources*” means renewable and non-renewable natural resources, including: timber, oil, gas, groundwater, water, plants, animals, minerals, stone, sand, gravel, clay, soil, and similar substances on, under, or in Lands which, when removed, have economic or other value;

“*Policy*” means a *Yaqt ?a·knuqli* ‘it policy that is currently in force, and “*Policies*” means all of the *Yaqt ?a·knuqli* ‘it policies currently in force;

“*Publish*” means to make information available to Members by posting the information online and in the *Yaqt ?a·knuqli* ‘it administration office;

“*Spouse*” means a person who is married, whether by a traditional, religious, or civil ceremony, and includes a Spouse by common-law relationship; and

“*Vote*” means a vote for purposes set out in this *Land Code* in which all Eligible Voters are entitled to participate.

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3. Interpretation

3.1 In this *Land Code*:

- (a) the Preamble and the *Yaqit ?a-knuqli* 'it's language may be used to interpret this *Land Code*;
- (b) titles and headings are for convenience only and are not to be used to interpret this *Land Code*;
- (c) unless it is otherwise clear from the context, the use of the word "including" means "including, but not limited to", and the use of the word "include" means "includes, but not limited to";
- (d) unless otherwise clear from the context, whenever the singular is used, it will include the plural, and the use of the plural includes the singular; and
- (e) where a time limit falls on a weekend, or any holiday, the time limit is extended to the next business day.

3.2 If there is an inconsistency or conflict between this *Land Code* and the *Framework Agreement*, the *Framework Agreement* prevails to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

3.3 If there is an inconsistency or conflict between this *Land Code* and any other Land Law, or by-law under the *Indian Act*, this *Land Code* prevails to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

3.4 Any reference to a court in this *Land Code* includes a justice of the peace appointed by *Yaqit ?a-knuqli* 'it with authority in respect of this *Land Code* and Land Laws.

PART III

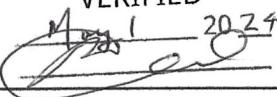
LANDS

4. Description of Lands

4.1 This *Land Code* applies to the following Lands of *Yaqit ?a-knuqli* 'it:

- (a) the lands described in "Appendix G" of the Individual Agreement with Canada;
- (b) any lands set aside by Canada as *Yaqit ?a-knuqli* 'it's reserve lands after this *Land Code* comes into force;
- (c) any lands added to *Yaqit ?a-knuqli* 'it's reserve lands through a land exchange in accordance with this *Land Code*; and

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(d) any lands acquired by Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it's after this Land Code comes into force, whether by land claim, purchase, or other process, provided an environmental inspection determines the lands are free of environmental hazards and safe for community use, and provided the lands are set aside as Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it's reserve lands.

4.2 The Lands include:

- (a) all the Natural Resources on, under, or otherwise of the lands described in section 4.1 above to the extent those resources are under the jurisdiction of Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it or Canada;
- (b) the water, and the beds underlying the water;
- (c) all the rights that are part of or that attach to the Land, including riparian rights; and
- (d) all Interests and Licenses relating to the Lands, including those previously granted by Canada before this *Land Code* came into force.

PART IV

LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

5. Lands Office

5.1 Council can pass a BCR that identifies positions in the Lands Office as Lands Office staff positions. Lands Office staff positions could be filled by employees, contractors, volunteers, or other persons.

5.2 For any Lands Office staff member, Council can use a BCR to specify:

- (a) the Lands Office staff member's authority for managing Lands; and
- (b) whether the Lands Office staff member has the authority to register Lands instruments in the Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it Lands Register on behalf of Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it.

5.3 Unless Council passes a BCR that says otherwise, the Lands Office is responsible for:

- (a) advising Council on the development and amendment of Land Laws;
- (b) arranging Lands Meetings and Votes in accordance with this *Land Code*;
- (c) proposing the annual Lands workplan and budget to Council;

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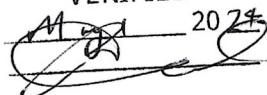
- (d) providing input on Yaqit ?a·knuqtli 'it's annual reports in respect of Lands revenues and activities; and
- (e) the Land administration system, such as record keeping, data management, and approved forms and procedures.

5.4 The Lands Office will assist with the work of the Lands Committee, and consider advice provided by the Lands Committee in carrying out Lands Office responsibilities.

6. Lands Committee

- 6.1 Council is responsible for establishing the Lands Committee and appointing its members in accordance with this *Land Code*.
- 6.2 Council must ensure that there are always at least three (3) members appointed to the Lands Committee and Council may renew the appointments of members.
- 6.3 As soon as possible after this *Land Code* comes into effect, Council must pass a BCR appointing interim members of the Lands Committee who will serve until they are:
 - (a) appointed to three (3) year terms; or
 - (b) replaced by other individuals appointed to three (3) year terms.
- 6.4 No later than 12 months after this *Land Code* comes into effect, Council must pass a BCR appointing all of the Lands Committee members for three (3) year terms so there are no more interim members.
- 6.5 Council must pass a BCR establishing terms of reference for the Lands Committee regarding committee composition, eligibility, remuneration of members, and any similar matters.
- 6.6 In addition to any other responsibilities of the Lands Committee under this *Land Code*, the Lands Committee may advise Council and the Lands Office on:
 - (a) Land related matters, including the granting of Interests and Licenses;
 - (b) Land use plans;
 - (c) Lands related policies and Land Laws; and
 - (d) Members' and others' recommendations regarding Lands and environment concerns and priorities.

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- 6.7 Council can pass a BCR that delegates Lands related authorities, other than enacting Land Laws, to the Lands Committee, including authorities related to particular Lands projects, developments, or activities.
- 6.8 Council may, by way of a BCR, terminate the appointment of a member of the Lands Committee if they fail to:
 - (a) attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Lands Committee without the approval of the Lands Committee chair;
 - (b) perform their Lands Committee member duties under this *Land Code*; or
 - (c) comply with the terms of reference or any code of conduct for the Lands Committee.

PART V

YAQIT ?A-KNUQEI 'IT LEGISLATION

7. Law-Making Powers

- 7.1 In accordance with the law-making powers set out in the *Framework Agreement*, Council may make Land Laws:
 - (a) regarding Lands, the environment, and Natural Resources;
 - (b) establishing charges and fees, including development cost charges, or similar charges or fees related to the development of Lands;
 - (c) establishing offences punishable on summary conviction and other enforcement measures;
 - (d) regarding any matter necessary to give effect to the Land Code; and
 - (e) regarding any matter necessary or ancillary to a Land Law or the making of a Land Law.

8. Law-Making Procedure

- 8.1 This law-making procedure applies whenever a new Land Law is proposed, or an existing Land Law is to be repealed or amended.
- 8.2 This law-making procedure does not apply to regulations if a Land Law sets out a different procedure for making those regulations.
- 8.3 The Lands Office must get direction from Council before developing a draft of a new or amended Land Law.

8.4 Prior to a new Land Law being enacted or an existing Land Law being amended or repealed, except where Council is enacting an emergency Land Law using this *Land Code*, the Lands Office:

- (a) must consult with the Lands Committee about the proposed new Land Law, amendment, or repeal and consider advice provided by the Lands Committee;
- (b) must ensure that a draft of the proposed new or amended Land Law is available to Members by posting it online and in the Yağıt ?a·knuqli 'it administration office until a final decision is made in respect of the proposed new or amended Land Law;
- (c) must hold one (1) or more Lands Meetings in accordance with this *Land Code*;
- (d) may provide other information to Members that the Lands Office considers appropriate; and
- (e) may adjust the draft of a proposed new or amended Land Law that is posted online and in the Yağıt ?a·knuqli 'it administration office, including as a result of input provided by Members and the Lands Committee.

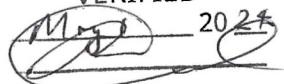
8.5 When the Lands Office has finalized the draft of a new or amended Land Law after taking the steps in section 8.4, the Lands Office must present the draft Land Law to Council for consideration with a summary of the input received from Members and the Lands Committee.

8.6 After Council has received a draft of a new or amended Land Law from the Lands Office, Council may:

- (a) pass the draft Land Law as presented by the Lands Office by Council Resolution;
- (b) pass the draft Land Law after making small changes to the draft Land Law, such as changes to the title or headings, correcting typos or grammar errors, and small changes to align the draft Land Law with other laws of the Yağıt ?a·knuqli 'it, by Council Resolution; or
- (c) ask the Lands Office to do further work on the draft Land Law before it is reconsidered by Council.

8.7 Where Council asks the Lands Office to do further work on a draft Land Law, the Lands Office must take the same steps to get input from Members and the Lands Committee that were followed for the first draft of the Land Law and present a revised draft Land Law to Council for reconsideration.

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- 8.8 If Council decides that an emergency Land Law is needed to protect the environment, public health, safety, Lands, or Members, Council may immediately pass that emergency Land Law without completing the law-making procedures in this *Land Code*.
- 8.9 If Council decides that an emergency Land Law should be changed or renewed to continue to protect the environment, public health, safety, Lands, or Members, Council may change or renew that emergency Land Law without a Lands Meeting or completing the other law-making procedures in this *Land Code*.
- 8.10 Emergency Land Laws expire 120 calendar days after being passed, unless Council decides the matter is still urgent and renews that emergency Land Law before it expires for a maximum of an additional 120 calendar days from the date of renewal.
- 8.11 Any emergency Land Law, including changes and renewals, must be Published in the same manner as other Land Laws enacted under this *Land Code*.
- 8.12 Land Laws must be passed and signed by a quorum of Council.
- 8.13 Land Laws come into force on the date they are passed and signed by a quorum of Council, or a later date set out in the Land Law.

9. Publication of *Land Code* and Land Laws

- 9.1 Yaqt? *?a·knuqli* 'it must Publish, register, and keep in the Land Register the following:
 - (a) all Land Laws, including emergency Land Laws, as changed from time to time, which are currently in force; and
 - (b) where applicable, the last two (2) previous versions of Land Laws, including emergency Land Laws, as changed from time to time.
- 9.2 Council must provide notice of its intention to make a family homes and matrimonial interests Land Law to the Attorney General of British Columbia, as well as a copy of that Land Law as enacted by Council.

PART VI

LANDS MEETINGS AND VOTES

10. Lands Meetings and Votes

- 10.1 The Lands Office must hold a Lands Meeting:

- (a) whenever the Lands Office seeks community input on a proposed Land Law;

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- (b) prior to holding a Vote required under this *Land Code*; and
- (c) prior to Council authorizing to grant or renew easements, rights of way, permits or Licenses issued by Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it for any type of utilities.

10.2 A Vote is required to determine whether a majority of participating Eligible Voters approve:

- (a) adopting a land use plan;
- (b) a voluntary exchange of Lands; or
- (c) amendments to this *Land Code* which require approval of the Members.

10.3 Council may require a Vote to determine whether a majority of participating Eligible Voters authorize Council to grant or renew an Interest or License.

10.4 For the purpose of a Vote to authorize Council to grant or renew an Interest or License under section 10.3, the Lands Office may determine that the total term of the Interest or License includes any grant or renewal to:

- (a) a successor corporation or business;
- (b) a person who is a director, operator, or shareholder of the original Interest or License holder;
- (c) an immediate relative of the original Interest or License holder, including a person's parent, sister, brother, child, stepchild, or Spouse; or
- (d) a similar closely related person or entity.

10.5 In collaboration with the Membership Registrar, the Lands Office must maintain an up-to-date list of Members and Eligible Voters, including their addresses or other contact information, for the purposes of Lands Meetings and Votes.

10.6 At least 14 calendar days before a Lands Meeting or Vote, the Lands Office must provide Members or Eligible Voters with notice of the Lands Meeting or Vote by:

- (a) posting a notice online;
- (b) posting a notice in the Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it administration office; and
- (c) contacting Members or Eligible Voters by mail, or alternatively contacting them by email if authorized to do so.

10.7 A notice of a Lands Meeting or Vote that is provided in accordance with section 10.6 must include:

- (a) the purpose, date, time, and location of the Lands Meeting or Vote;

- (b) whether a minimum participation or approval threshold has been set for a Vote;
- (c) a statement that every Member is entitled to participate in the case of a Lands Meeting and that every Eligible Voter is entitled to participate in the case of a Vote;
- (d) whether participation in a Lands Meeting or Vote by non-Members is allowed; and
- (e) methods of participation, including by telephone, online, in-person, mail-in ballot, or any combination of those methods.

10.8 A person must not interfere with a Vote in any way, including by:

- (a) inducing or rewarding a person to vote or refrain from voting, or vote or refrain from voting for a particular option or result;
- (b) interfering with another person's right to vote or preventing them from voting, including by any form of threat, intimidation, or bribe; and
- (c) accepting an inducement or reward for voting or refraining from voting or voting or refraining from voting for a particular option or result.

10.9 Any person who interferes with a Vote under this section, is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalties provided for under this *Land Code*.

PART VII

PROTECTION OF LAND

11. Expropriation

11.1 *Yaqit ?a·knuqtì* 'it may only expropriate an Interest or License if:

- (a) an expropriation Land Law has been enacted in accordance with this *Land Code*; and
- (b) all requirements regarding expropriation under the *Framework Agreement* and the expropriation Land Law have been met.

12. Voluntary Exchange of Lands

12.1 Lands may only be exchanged for new land which will become Lands subject to this *Land Code*.

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12.2 Any exchange of Lands for new lands is subject to the following requirements:

- (a) the area of the new land and its value must be of equal or greater value than the Lands which will cease to be Lands;
- (b) a Vote must be held in which a majority of the participating Eligible Voters approve of the land exchange;
- (c) prior to a Vote on a land exchange, an environmental inspection being performed to determine if the new land is free of environmental hazards and safe for community use; and
- (d) prior to a Vote on a land exchange, the Eligible Voters must be informed of the total compensation, including monetary or other compensation, as well as the area, value, and environmental condition of the new land as determined by the environmental inspection.

PART VIII**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST****13. Conflict of Interest Obligations**

- 13.1 The conflict-of-interest provisions of this *Land Code* apply to:
 - (a) Council;
 - (b) employees and contractors;
 - (c) members of a board, committee, or other body established by Yaqt? a·knuqt?it;
 - (d) any person appointed in a dispute resolution process involving 11.1 Yaqt? a·knuqt?it; and
 - (e) any other person with authority from Yaqt? a·knuqt?it to deal with matters related to Lands.
- 13.2 The conflict-of-interest obligation provisions in this section continue to apply for 18 months after a person ceases to hold their position or contract with Yaqt? a·knuqt?it.
- 13.3 Any person listed in section 13.1 who has an actual or perceived conflict-of-interest related to Lands must:
 - (a) disclose that conflict of interest to the person or body which is considering or voting on the matter related to Lands; and

- (b) not take part in any further consideration of that matter nor vote on that matter.

13.4 A person has a perceived conflict-of-interest if it would be reasonable to assume that the person's ability to deliberate or decide on the Lands related matter, will be compromised, or has been affected by:

- (a) the person's private interest; or
- (b) the private interest of an immediate relative, including a person's parent, sister, brother, child, stepchild, or Spouse.

13.5 If a board, committee, or other body is unable to act in respect of a Lands related matter, due to an actual or perceived conflict-of-interest, the matter must be referred to Council.

13.6 If Council is unable to vote on a Lands related matter or a proposed Land Law, due to an actual or perceived conflict-of-interest, Council must refer the matter or proposed Land Law to the Members for a decision at a Vote.

13.7 A question regarding a potential conflict of interest may be referred by any person to dispute resolution under this *Land Code*.

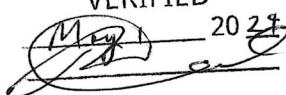
13.8 Council may establish additional conflict-of-interest rules in a financial administration law or other Land Law.

14. Accountability for Conflicts of Interest

14.1 The accountability for conflict-of-interest provisions in this section apply to persons who have actual or perceived conflicts of interest in Lands related matters, and continue to apply after they cease to hold a position or contract with Yağıt ḡa·knuqti 'it.

14.2 A person fails to meet the conflict-of-interest obligations under this *Land Code*, where that person:

- (a) fails to declare a conflict-of-interest;
- (b) provides incomplete or misleading information regarding a conflict-of-interest;
- (c) improperly participates in a decision where there is a conflict-of-interest; or
- (d) otherwise fails to comply with any conflict-of-interest rule established by Council.

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14.3 A person who fails to meet the conflict-of-interest obligations in this *Land Code* is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalties in this *Land Code*.

14.4 If a person fails to meet the conflict-of-interest obligations under this *Land Code*, Yağıt ?a·knuqlı 'it, Council, or a Eligible Voter may apply to a court for any of the following:

- (a) an order that the person pay to Yağıt ?a·knuqlı 'it an amount equal to the total funds received as a result of the conflict-of-interest;
- (b) an award of damages;
- (c) an order that the person no longer hold any office, employment, or any other position with Yağıt ?a·knuqlı 'it for such period as the court considers appropriate; and
- (d) any other remedy the court considers appropriate;

and the court may impose any of these remedies whether or not that person has been found guilty of an offence in any other proceeding for failing to meet the conflict-of-interest obligations under this *Land Code*.

14.5 If a person fails to meet the conflict-of-interest obligations under this *Land Code*, Council may, by majority vote, decide that the person is subject to any of the following:

- (a) removal from Council;
- (b) termination as an employee or contractor;
- (c) removal from any board, committee, or other body established by Yağıt ?a·knuqlı 'it;
- (d) removal from any dispute resolution process involving Yağıt ?a·knuqlı 'it; and
- (e) disqualification from holding office, employment, or any other position with Yağıt ?a·knuqlı 'it for any time period Council deems appropriate;

and Council may impose any of these measures whether or not a court in any proceeding has determined that the person has failed to meet the conflict-of-interest obligations in this *Land Code*.

VERIFIED
May 1 2024

PART IX

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

15. Financial Management

- 15.1 This Part only applies to financial matters related to Lands that are administered under this *Land Code*.
- 15.2 This Part does not apply to the extent it is inconsistent with a *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* financial administration law enacted by *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* under the *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it's Fiscal Management Act*.
- 15.3 The fiscal year for *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* ends at midnight on March 31st of each year, unless a different date is specified under a *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* law.
- 15.4 Council must establish one (1) or more accounts dedicated only to Lands at an accredited bank or financial institution.
- 15.5 Council, or a person authorized by Council, must deposit in the accounts dedicated only to Lands, all Lands revenues other than taxes received by *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it*, including:
 - (a) capital and revenue monies and any other transfer payments received from Canada;
 - (b) moneys received by *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* from Interests or Licenses; and
 - (c) fees, fines, charges, and other monies collected by the *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* in respect of Lands, including under any Land Laws.
- 15.6 Council must pass a BCR appointing at least three (3) signing officers with authority to issue cheques or approve the transfers of *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* funds.
- 15.7 The following persons are eligible to be appointed by Council as signing officers:
 - (a) any member of Council; and
 - (b) any employee of *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* or other person selected by a majority of Council.
- 15.8 No cheque is valid unless it is signed by at least two (2) appointed signing officers.
- 15.9 No other transfer of *Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it* funds is valid unless it is approved in writing by at least two (2) signing officers.

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15.10 A signing officer must not, in relation to Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it funds, issue cheques, or carry out other transfers to themselves or to any entity in which they have an ownership interest or are a director.

15.11 A person ceases to be a signing officer, if the person ceases to be on Council, ceases employment with Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it, or their appointment as a signing officer is terminated.

15.12 Council may establish limits on the authority of signing officers including:

- maximum dollar amount of signing authority; and
- conflict-of-interest rules applicable to signing cheques or transferring funds.

15.13 Council must:

- pass a BCR establishing security screening and training processes for signing officers; and
- periodically review security screening and training processes, and revise those processes as needed.

15.14 Council will, prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, adopt an annual Lands budget for all revenues and expenditures relating to Lands.

15.15 During a fiscal year, Council may adopt one (1) or more supplementary Lands budgets for that fiscal year.

15.16 After adopting an annual Lands budget or supplementary budget, Council must Publish the budget or direct the Lands Office to Publish the budget.

15.17 If Council fails to adopt an annual Lands budget, the Lands budget for the previous fiscal year, including any supplementary budget, will continue to apply until a new Lands budget is adopted.

15.18 No person or body shall spend moneys, or make financial commitments, related to Community Lands unless the spending is authorized under a Lands budget.

15.19 Any person or body who spends moneys or makes financial commitments with respect to Community Lands that are not authorized under a Lands budget is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalties provided for under this *Land Code*.

15.20 Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it must keep financial records in relation to Lands in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

15.21 Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it must prepare and publish the annual audited financial statements in relation to Lands within 120 days of the end of the fiscal year.

15.22 Annual audited financial statements in relation to Lands may be included in the consolidated audited financial statements of Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it, provided that Members can obtain information regarding Lands expenditures and revenues in those consolidated statements.

15.23 Council must pass a BCR appointing a duly accredited auditor for the purpose of:

- (a) preparing the annual audited financial statements under this *Land Code*; and
- (b) preparing any other audit that may be required by Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it.

15.24 Council must ensure that the remuneration paid to an auditor in relation to this *Land Code* is disclosed within the BCR appointing the auditor and in the annual audited financial statements.

15.25 The auditor may at all reasonable times inspect any Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it financial records, including those relating to Lands.

15.26 The auditor may apply to a court for an order to produce other financial records required to carry out the auditor's duties under this *Land Code*.

15.27 Any person who:

- (a) impedes or obstructs an auditor from exercising a right to inspect Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it financial records; or
- (b) fails to give reasonable assistance to an auditor exercising a right to inspect Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it financial records;

is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalties in this *Land Code*.

16 Annual Report

16.1 The Lands Office must prepare and publish an annual report on Lands governance within 160 days of the end of each fiscal year.

16.2 The annual report must include:

- (a) summary of Lands governance activities;
- (b) a copy and explanation of the annual audited financial statements as it applies to Lands; and
- (c) other matters as may be directed by Council.

VERIFIED

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PART X**INTERESTS AND LICENSES IN LAND****17 Revenue from Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it Land**

17.1 The Lands Committee must advise Council about establishing Land Laws, rules, and policies for determining administrative fees, rent, royalties, or other amounts to be paid for or in relation to:

- (a) Interests and Licenses;
- (b) services provided in relation to Land, including fees for applications, registrations, and transfers; and
- (c) the taking of Natural Resources.

17.2 Council, in consultation with the Land Committee, will establish Land Laws, rules, or policies for determining administrative fees, rent, royalties, or other amounts to be paid for or in relation to the matters set out in section 17.1 above.

18 Registration of Interests and Licenses

18.1 A deed, lease, contract, instrument, document, or agreement of any kind by which Council, Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it, a Member, or any other person purports to grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign an Interest or License after this *Land Code* comes into force is void if:

- (a) it is not registered in the Lands Register;
- (b) it is registered in contravention of this *Land Code*; or
- (c) it is otherwise in contravention of this *Land Code*.

18.2 No person can register in the Lands Register any document claiming to grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign an Interest or License unless it is accompanied by an approval, by Council or by Vote, if required under this *Land Code*.

19 Existing Interests

19.1 Any Interest or License that exists when this *Land Code* comes into force must continue in force in accordance with its terms and conditions.

19.2 Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it is not liable for any decrease in value, or any impact on the use, of an Interest or License arising from any exercise of authority under this *Land Code* and Land Laws.

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- 19.3 This *Land Code* and *Land Laws* apply to all Interests or Licenses, whether granted, disposed of, transferred, renewed, or assigned before or after this *Land Code* comes into force.
- 19.4 Council may establish a policy regarding the identification and governance of unregistered and traditional land holdings and may consider any advice provided by the Lands Committee or the Lands Office regarding that policy.

20 Member Only Interests

- 20.1 Council may, in consultation with the Lands Committee and Lands Office, establish *Land Laws*, policies, and procedures respecting Interests and Licenses and the extent and manner by which:
 - (a) a Member may grant, transfer, assign, devise, or otherwise dispose of a Member Only Interest to another Member; and
 - (b) a non-Member may grant, transfer, assign, devise, or otherwise dispose of an Interest or License,

and may consider any advice provided by the Lands Committee or Lands Office regarding those matters.

- 20.2 For greater certainty, a non-Member can never acquire or hold a Member Only Interest.

21. Interests and Licenses

- 21.1 By Council Resolution, Council may, on behalf of *Yaqit ?a·knuqtì 'it*, grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign Interests and Licenses in Community Lands.
- 21.2 Notwithstanding any other provision of this *Land Code*, the approval of Council by BCR is required for a grant or disposition of an Interest or Licence to a non-Member.
- 21.3 In consultation with the Lands Committee, and in accordance with this *Land Code* and any applicable *Land Laws*, a Member may:
 - (a) grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign a Member Only Interest that they hold to another Member;
 - (b) grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign a License or Interest, other than a Member Only Interest, that they hold to any person or entity; and

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- (c) in the case of a lease that they hold, grant a sub-lease, easement, permit, or Licence provided that the grant is permitted by the terms of the lease and the term does not exceed the duration of the lease.

21.4 In consultation with the Lands Committee and subject to the approval of Council by BCR, and in accordance with this Land Code, any applicable Land Laws, and the terms of the Interest or License, a non-Member may:

- (a) grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign an Interest or License that they hold to any person or entity; and
- (b) in the case of a lease that they hold, grant a sub-lease, easement, permit or License provided that the grant is permitted by the terms of the lease and the term does not exceed the duration of the lease.

21.5 Council may, at its sole discretion, waive the requirement of consent of Council for any grant, disposition, transfer, renewal, or assignment of an Interest or License, including those related to a will, intestacy, or a court order.

21.6 All Natural Resources on Community Lands belong to Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it and, in accordance with this *Land Code* and any Land Laws, Council may grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign Licenses to take Natural Resources from those Community Lands.

21.7 Subject to section 21.8, all Natural Resources on, under, or in a Member's Lands belong to that Member and, with the approval of Council by BCR, and in accordance with this *Land Code* and any applicable Land Laws and Policies, that Member may grant, dispose of, transfer, renew, or assign Licenses to take Natural Resources from their Lands.

21.8 Notwithstanding section 21.7 or any other provision of this Land Code:

- (a) commercial benefits derived from Natural Resources on, under, or in Member's Lands are to be shared between that Member and Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it; and
- (b) commercial use of Natural Resources, including the extraction, development, harvesting, mining, etc. of Natural Resources for commercial purposes, requires a License or permit from Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it and the payment of fees or royalties or both to Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it.

21.9 Council can pass a BCR to delegate to the Lands Committee or to the Lands Office, Council's authority under this section in respect of any grant, disposition, transfer, renewal, or assignment of an Interest or Licenses.

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22. Limits on Mortgages and Seizure

- 22.1 As provided in section 15 of the *Framework Agreement*, the restrictions on seizure of land and personal property in sections 29 and 89 of the *Indian Act* continue to apply to all Lands, including Community Lands and Member Lands.
- 22.2 A Member Only Interest can only be subject to a mortgage or charge in favor of Yaqit ?a·knuqli 'it or another Member.
- 22.3 The term of any mortgage or charge of a leasehold Interest must not exceed the term of the lease.
- 22.4 A Member's leasehold Interest may be subject to a mortgage or charge, in accordance with any approval requirements for charges or mortgages under any applicable Land Law.
- 22.5 A non-Member's leasehold Interest may be subject to a mortgage or charge in accordance with any approval requirements for charges or mortgages under any applicable Land Law.
- 22.6 Members can lease Lands to themselves.
- 22.7 If a person defaults on the terms of a mortgage or charge of a leasehold Interest, the leasehold Interest is not subject to possession by the mortgagee or chargee, foreclosure, power of sale, or any other form of execution or seizure, unless:
 - (a) the mortgagee or chargee received the written consent of Council, if required under this *Land Code*;
 - (b) the mortgagee or chargee received approval, if required under any Land Law;
 - (c) the mortgage or charge was registered in the Lands Register; and
 - (d) Council has had written notice of the default, has had 120 calendar days to redeem the mortgage or charge, and neither Council nor the person in default has redeemed the mortgage or charge.
- 22.8 If Council redeems a mortgage or charge on a leasehold Interest, Yaqit ?a·knuqli 'it becomes the lessee of the Land and takes the position of the mortgagor or charge holder for all purposes after the date of redemption.
- 22.9 If Council redeems a mortgage or charge, compensation may be paid to the Member or non-Member who defaulted on that mortgage or charge if a Land Law has been enacted requiring such compensation, and the amount of compensation, if any, must be determined in accordance with that Land Law.

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22.10 Council may waive its 120 calendar day right of redemption for any mortgage or charge of a leasehold Interest.

22.11 If Council fails to exercise its power of redemption with respect to a leasehold Interest within 120 calendar days, then the mortgagee or chargee may seize the leasehold Interest and subsequently transfer or assign that Interest to a third party without the consent of Council or any other approval required for a transfer or assignment of a leasehold Interest under a Land Law.

22.12 If a leasehold Interest is seized and transferred or assigned to a third party under this *Land Code*, consent of Council or any other approval for a mortgage or charge under a Land Law is not required for that third party to obtain a mortgage or charge on that leasehold Interest, provided that:

- (a) the mortgage or charge is obtained within 60 calendar days of the transfer or assignment of the leasehold Interest;
- (b) the proposed mortgagee or chargee qualifies as an “approved lender” for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation insured mortgages;
- (c) the mortgage must be for the purpose of purchasing the leasehold Interest, or construction or repair on the leasehold Interest;
- (d) the principal amount secured by the mortgage does not exceed the total value of the leasehold Interest or the construction or repair costs, as the case may be; and
- (e) the mortgage amortization period is no more than 30 years.

23. Registration of Mortgages and Charges

23.1 A mortgage or charge made after this *Land Code* comes into force is void if:

- (a) it is not registered in the Lands Register;
- (b) it is registered in contravention of this *Land Code*; or
- (c) it is otherwise in contravention of this *Land Code*.

23.2 No person can register any mortgage or charge in the Lands Register unless it is accompanied by an approval showing the mortgage or charge was approved by Council or by Vote if such approval by Council or by Vote is required under this *Land Code* or a Land Law.

VERIFIED
M. J. 2024

24. Residency and Access Rights

24.1 Subject to any Land Laws, a Member, their Spouse and children, as well as the Member's invitees have a right to reside on Lands for which that Member has a Member Only Interest.

24.2 Subject to any Land Laws, Members and Non-Members that hold an Interest or Licence for Lands may have a right to reside on those Lands, in accordance with the terms of that Interest or License.

24.3 Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it Land is not open to public access by any persons, except to the extent provided for in this *Land Code* and any Land Law.

24.4 Subject to any Land Laws, the following persons have a right of access to the following Lands:

- (a) a Member, their Spouse and children, as well as the Member's invitees in respect of Community Lands, the Lands for which that Member has a Member Only Interest, and on Lands for which that Member has a right to reside or access;
- (b) Interest or Licence holders, and their invitees, on the Lands set out in the Interest or License, and other Lands to the extent necessary to access the Lands set out in the Interest or License, in accordance with the terms of the Interest or License;
- (c) peace officers, and officials responding to natural disasters, emergencies, or urgent health and safety matters on Lands, or acting under federal, provincial, or Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it law on Lands; and
- (d) non-Members for social or business purposes, including delivery of goods and services, provided that they do not interfere with any Interest, License, or any other use or occupation of Land, and that no Council Resolution has been adopted barring access by that person.

24.5 Notwithstanding any other provision of this *Land Code*, Council:

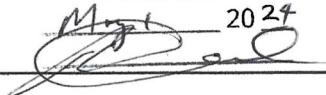
- (a) can pass a BCR to impose a temporary closure or restrictions on access to any Lands to protect those Lands, or to protect health, safety, environment or cultural assets; and
- (b) must Publish a notice of any such closure or restrictions and may use any other means Council deems appropriate for notifying the public.

24.6 Any person who, contrary to this *Land Code*, enters onto or stays on Lands:

- (a) without a right to reside on those Lands;

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(b) without a right of access to those Lands; or
(c) in violation of a temporary closure or restriction on access on those Lands;
is guilty of an offence.

24.7 Where a person is found guilty of an offence under this *Land Code* relating to a right to reside on Lands, right of access to Lands, or violation of a temporary closure or restriction on access, a court may, in addition to any other penalty:

- (a) order that person to leave or vacate any Lands; and
- (b) order that person not to enter or stay on any Lands.

24.8 All civil remedies for trespass of Lands are preserved.

24.9 Yaqt *Qa·knuqtli* 'it is not liable for injuries or damages suffered by any person because of:

- (a) the condition or state of Lands;
- (b) any exercise of a right to reside on Lands or a right of access to Lands;
- (c) any entry or stay on Lands in violation of a temporary closure or restriction on access; or
- (d) any other lawful or unlawful entry or stay on Lands.

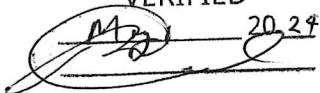
24.10 A right to reside on Lands or a right to access Lands does not create any financial obligation on the part of Yaqt *Qa·knuqtli* 'it.

25. Wills and Estates

25.1 In accordance with any applicable Land Laws, the following persons are entitled to have their Interest registered in the Lands Register, provided they are entitled to hold that Interest under this *Land Code* and any applicable Land Laws, or a court order:

- (a) a Member who receives an Interest under a will or estate, or pursuant to a court order;
- (b) a non-Member who receives an Interest, other than a Member Only Interest, under a will or estate, or pursuant to a court order;
- (c) a person who holds an Interest on behalf of a minor or a mentally incompetent person.

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25.2 A Land Law may establish required procedures and documents to register Interests arising from wills and estates.

PART XI

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

26. Disputes

26.1 Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it intends that whenever possible, a dispute in relation to Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it Lands shall be resolved through informal discussion by the parties to the dispute and nothing in this part shall be construed to limit the ability of parties to a dispute to settle the dispute on their own before using this part.

26.2 When a dispute in relation to Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it Lands cannot be resolved through informal discussions, Council may appoint an Adjudicator to hear and resolve the dispute in accordance with this *Land Code*, Land Laws, and any other applicable laws and policies.

26.3 The Adjudicator shall be a Barrister and Solicitor and a member of the Law Society of British Columbia who is independent of the parties to a dispute and to other interests in the dispute.

26.4 The following persons may notify the Director of Lands and Natural Resources that they wish to refer a dispute to the Adjudicator for resolution under this part:

- (a) a Member who claims an Interest in Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it Lands based on a registered Interest;
- (b) a person who has a dispute with another person or with Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it in relation to the possession, use, or occupation of ?Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it Lands;
- (c) Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it when asserting an interest in ?Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it Lands; and
- (d) ?Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it when disputing the possession, use, or occupation of ?Yaqt ?a·knuqti 'it Lands.

26.5 Dispute resolution processes under this Land Code are not available under this part for disputes in relation to:

- (a) mortgages of leases;
- (b) decisions relating to housing allocation; or

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(c) decisions of Council to grant or refuse to grant an Interest or License in
?Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it Lands.

26.6 Disputes that originated before the date this Land Code comes into force may be decided under this part.

26.7 Persons applying for adjudication under section 26.4 shall demonstrate that they have already made reasonable efforts to resolve the dispute informally.

26.8 Parties may request a referral to the Adjudicator no later than:

- 60 days after the day the decision, act or omission that is the subject of the dispute occurred; or
- 30 days after an attempt to resolve the dispute informally, in accordance with section 26.7, has failed.

26.9 In consultation with the Lands Office and Council, the Director of Lands and Natural Resources shall establish procedures for referring disputes to an Adjudicator.

26.10 Subject to section 26.11, the Director of Lands and Natural Resources shall, in a timely manner as required to settle the dispute, appoint the Adjudicator in accordance with the procedures to be established by Council.

26.11 The Director of Lands and Natural Resources shall not refer a dispute to the Adjudicator unless all parties to the dispute agree to be bound by the decision of the Adjudicator, in a form prescribed by Council in consultation with the Adjudicator and Director of Lands and Natural Resources.

26.12 The Adjudicator shall act impartially and without bias or favour to any party in a dispute.

26.13 It is an offence for a person to act, or attempt to act, in an improper way to influence the decision of the Adjudicator.

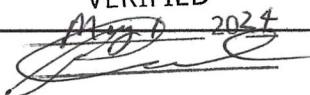
26.14 In addition to any other penalty provided for an offence under section 26.13, the Adjudicator may refuse to hear or decide an application if, regardless of whether a person has been found to have committed an offence under section 26.13, the Adjudicator reasonably concludes that the applicant acted, or attempted to act, in a way to improperly influence the Adjudicator's decision.

26.15 The Adjudicator may, consistent with this *Land Code*, establish rules for the procedure at hearings and for the general conduct of proceedings.

26.16 Prior to retaining the services of any professionals to assist in fulfilling his or her functions, the Adjudicator shall notify the parties to the dispute of the proposed professionals and their estimated services and costs.

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26.17 Upon agreement of the parties, the Adjudicator may retain the services of professionals to assist in fulfilling his or her functions, in which case they shall make best efforts to use professional services available in the community who do not have a conflict of interest.

26.18 The Adjudicator may refuse to hear or decide an application if one (1) or more of the parties refuse to accept the Adjudicator's proposal to retain professionals who are, in the reasonable opinion of the Adjudicator, required to resolve the dispute.

26.19 The Adjudicator may, after hearing a dispute:

- (a) confirm or reverse the decision in dispute, in whole or in part;
- (b) substitute the Adjudicator's own decision for the decision in dispute;
- (c) direct that an action be taken or ceased;
- (d) refer the matter or dispute for reconsideration by the decision-maker; or
- (e) refer the matter to a court of competent jurisdiction or other forum.

26.20 The Adjudicator shall give written reasons for all their decisions and shall sign the written reasons.

26.21 Subject to an appeal under section 26.26, a decision of the Adjudicator is binding.

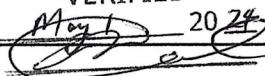
26.22 An order from an Adjudicator may be entered into a court of competent jurisdiction and enforced through that court.

26.23 Unless otherwise ordered by the Adjudicator under section 26.24 or by an appellate court, the parties to a dispute shall bear their own costs and an equal share of the costs of the adjudication process.

26.24 The Adjudicator has the authority to order one (1), both, or all of the parties to pay some or all of the costs of the adjudication process, including but not limited to the costs of the Adjudicator and any professionals retained, taking into account:

- (a) the reasonableness of the parties in their positions;
- (b) the conduct of the parties;
- (c) the result of the adjudication;
- (d) the use of professional services; and
- (e) any other relevant factor.

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26.25 For greater certainty, Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it shall not be liable or responsible for the costs of adjudication under this part, or of any dispute resolution process, where the ?Yaqt ?a·knuqli 'it is not a party.

26.26 Subject to any exception established by a law, including a Land Law, a decision of the Adjudicator may be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction.

26.27 Nothing in this part precludes Council from establishing additional processes or laws, including Land Laws, for resolving disputes, which processes may include facilitated discussion, mediation, administrative appeals, or referral to another forum.

26.28 Council may establish processes, or enact Land Laws, for the resolution of disputes in respect of any matter related to Land.

PART XII

OTHER MATTERS

27. Enforcement

27.1 Any person who commits an offence under this *Land Code* is liable on summary conviction to fines, imprisonment, restitution, community service, and alternative means for achieving compliance.

27.2 An officer, director, employee, or agent of an organization or corporation which commits an offence under this *Land Code* may be convicted of that same offence even if the organization or corporation is also convicted of the offence.

28. Liability

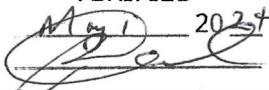
28.1 Council must arrange, maintain, and pay insurance coverage that Council considers appropriate for its officers and employees engaged in carrying out any matter related to Land to indemnify them against personal liability arising from the performance of those duties.

29. Amendments to *Land Code*

29.1 Council can pass a BCR to make amendments to this *Land Code* that do not change the substance of this *Land Code*, including:

(a) changes in this *Land Code* required to address inconsistencies with the *Framework Agreement*;

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- (b) minor improvements to bring out more clearly the intention of the Yaqt? a·knuqli 'it without changing the substance of this *Land Code*; and
- (c) corrections to typos and grammar errors.

29.2 A Vote is required for any amendments to this *Land Code* other than the amendments Council can make with a BCR under section 29.1.

30 Severability

30.1 If any provision of this *Land Code* or any Land Law is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or unenforceable, that invalid provision will be considered separate and severable, and the legality or enforceability of the remaining provisions will not be affected by that determination.

31 Commencement

31.1 This Land Code has been approved by a Vote held on the _____ day of _____, 20____.

31.2 This Land Code will come into force on the later of:

- (a) first day of the month following certification of this Land Code by the Verifier; or
- (b) the date the Individual Agreement is executed by Canada.

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[Signature] 2024