



Letter from Whitefish River First Nation Chief and Council Voting Proposed Election Code Amendments October 3, 2025

Aanii/ Boozhoo WRFN members,

On **November 8, 2025**, Whitefish River First Nation will come together to vote on proposed amendments to our **Custom Election Code**. This is more than a vote. It's a chance to shape governance that reflects the voices, needs, and wisdom of our community.

The proposals include creating **Youth and Elder seats on Council**. A Youth seat will bring lived experiences and fresh perspectives to the table, while an Elder seat honors the guidance, knowledge, and traditional teachings that have long steered our Nation.

Another amendment asks whether **staff should be allowed to serve on Council**, a question that has divided opinion in the past. This vote lets the community decide if the potential conflicts between employment and elected responsibilities are significant enough to limit participation.

Currently, only citizens may vote. The amendment would **expand eligibility**, allowing all members listed in Indigenous Services Canada's Indian Registry for Whitefish River First Nation to cast their ballots, no matter where they live.

Some members have felt that the amendment process itself could be stronger. The proposed change would require **two community meetings** whenever amendments are suggested, giving everyone more time to review, discuss, and share their voice before a vote.

Finally, with the ongoing Canada Post strike, physical voting packages **cannot be mailed in time**. Voting will continue as scheduled, with **packages emailed** to members who have current contact information on file. If you have not received yours, please contact the Ratification Officer directly.

Your voice matters. These amendments are more than rules. They are the tools by which our Nation grows, learns, and leads together. Please take the time to review the proposed Election Code with amendments and cast your ballot.

How You Can Vote

- **In-person voting:** November 8, 2025, from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. at the Whitefish River First Nation Community Centre.
- **Online voting through OneFeather:** October 25 – November 8, 2025, at <https://onefeather.ca/nations/whitefishriver>

Miigwech,

O'Gimaa Rodney Nahwegahbow

On behalf of Whitefish River First Nation Chief and Council

Whitefish River First Nation

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