



LAND DESIGNATION VOTES

Q & A

Current as of: September 26, 2023

What are we voting on?

Members are being asked to decide on land designation for two parcels of land:

1. Gas Station and Convenience Store
2. Ironhead Golf and Country Club and Surrounding Lands

These are being proposed to increase on-reserve services and commercial businesses, create jobs for Members, and generate revenue for Paul First Nation.

What is land designation?

It is a process to support First Nations in the management of reserve land. A designation includes:

- The purpose the land will be used for
- How long the land will be designated for this new use
- A legal description of the land area
- Any other conditions set forth by Paul First Nation

Lands that are designated remain part of the reserve.

Paul First Nation will be the primary owner of any facilities developed on our reserve land, regardless of any partnerships we agree to. These developments are being proposed to generate income for the Nation and create job opportunities for our membership.

Why designate lands?

In community engagement sessions held in 2018 and 2019, Members said they wanted to see more on-reserve development to create jobs and revenue and increase services.

These designations will pave the way for potential development by Paul First Nation.

What is the process?

A designation is conducted in accordance with the rules set out in Sections 37 to 41 of the Indian Act and the Indian Referendum Regulations. There are specific procedures and requirements, which ensure that First Nation Members have the opportunity to vote on the terms and conditions of the designation. A designation can only occur if the electors of the First Nation approve through a formal vote:

- Before any vote on a designation, Members must be provided with information regarding the designation process and of any proposed projects or developments. They have the right and opportunity to ask questions and get information about the proposed designation so that they can make an informed decision to accept or reject the proposed designation.
- In this case, there will be two separate votes – one for each proposed designation. The votes will take place at the same time, but there will be two separate ballots. A vote in favour of one designation does not mean a vote in favour of both, and a vote against one designation does not mean a vote against the other.
- Each vote must be passed by a "simple majority" of the eligible voters. This means that a majority of those who vote for a designation, must vote in favour of that designation for it to pass. If the majority vote against, the designation will fail.
- Members of the Nation who live off-reserve are also entitled to vote. Indigenous Services Canada has mailed Information packages to each eligible off-reserve voter for whom an address is known. These packages contain two mail-in ballots, one for each of the designations, which the off-reserve voter can fill out and return in the self-addressed return envelope provided.

When and where can I vote?

You can vote in person at the Wihnemnè (New) School Gymnasium **on Wednesday, October 25, 2023** from 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM.

Off-reserve Members can vote by mail. Indigenous Services Canada has mailed voting packages to eligible off-reserve Members that Paul First Nation has mailing addresses for.



What is the deadline to vote by mail?

Mail-in ballots must be **received by the close of the vote on October 25, 2023 (8:00 PM)** to be counted.

Please allow enough time for mail delivery. Thank you.

I live off-reserve, but I haven't received a package? Can I still get one?

Yes. Please contact us to provide your name and mailing address:

Phone: 1-844-PAULFN1 (728-5361)

Email: PFNlanddesignation@cmrconsulting.ca

We will arrange for Indigenous Services Canada to mail a voting package to you.

I have changed my home address, who should I contact?

Please contact us:

Phone: 1-844-PAULFN1 (728-5361)

Email: PFNlanddesignation@cmrconsulting.ca

We will arrange for Indigenous Services Canada to mail a voting package to you.

Who is allowed to vote?

All Paul First Nation Members who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to vote.

How many Member votes are needed for approval?

Each vote must be passed by a "simple majority" of the eligible voters. This means that a majority of those who vote for a designation, must vote in favour of that designation for it to pass. If the majority vote against it, the designation will fail.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact us by phone at **1-844-PaulFN1 (728-5361)** or
Email PFNlanddesignation@cmrconsulting.ca

***Thank you for exercising your right to vote as a Member of
Paul First Nation***

