

## Call for Wabun Youth Representative on the NAN Youth Council

The Wabun Tribal Council is seeking one Youth from our member First Nations to join the NAN Oshkaatisak Council. As a Youth Council we have the following objectives;

- To be recognized and affirmed as a voice for Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) youth living in First Nation communities and urban areas.
- To promote unity, strength, and success, amongst NAN Youth.
- To express diligence and resilience through written and spoken discourse.
- To be an advocating body on behalf of NAN youth at the communities, regional, national, and international level.
- To share ideas and successes of NAN youth, and other First Nations youth.
- To accept spirituality and religious beliefs as an important foundation for a healthy, balanced lifestyle.
- To be honest, understanding, and respectful of the diversity and uniqueness of others and our environment.
- To know the importance of maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle of physical and mental well-being in order to be a positive role model for present and future generations.
- To preserve and protect the abundance of First Nation's traditions and values in the NAN territory.
- To work in solidarity with NAN communities to achieve their respective objectives.
- To strive towards assisting NAN reaching its full potential through education, self-awareness, and commitment to well-being.

As a Youth Council member you will take part in council meetings up to 4 times per year and at times represent the Youth Council and advocate for youth issues through participating in meetings, you will be given a portfolio which aligns with your skills and interests and will attend meetings related to your portfolio (4 per year), monthly teleconference calls (third Tuesday of each month), events and other initiatives that directly impact youth within NAN.

Oshkaatisak Council members will serve a term of 4 years. All members of Oshkaatisak Council will sign a code of conduct.

Although this is a volunteer position Oshkaatisak Youth Council members are remunerated with an honorarium when attending Chiefs meetings. Honoraria for other meetings are paid at the discretion of the department requesting Youth representation and on levels budgets will allow. All travel and associated costs for travel on behalf of the Oshkaatisak Council are covered by the NAN and the NAN handle all travel arrangements for Youth Council members.

This is a three step process:

### **Step One: Prepare a letter of interest**

Prepare a letter of interest. In your letter please include the following:

- Your name
- Your Date of Birth
- Your occupation (If applicable)
- Level of education you have completed.
- How you are active in your community.
- What skills, gifts, talents, can you offer to the Oshkaatisak Council.
- What do you hope to learn/gain by participating on the Oshkaatisak Council?
- What are some of the issues you hope to address if you are selected to be a member of the Oshkaatisak Council

### **Step two: Ask a community member or leader for a letter of support**

Your letter of support can be from a respected community member; a leader, an Elder, a Teacher (past or current), a Minister, a NAPS officer, or band office staff member. This letter can include information about how they know you, why they think you would be a good candidate for the Oshkaatisak Youth Council.

### **Step three: Submit your application**

Submit your letter of interest and your support letter together. All applications are to be submitted either by email, fax, or hand delivered, no later than Friday July 5th, 2019.

**Please send all applications to:**

**Jason Batise, Executive Director, Wabun Tribal Council**

**Fax - 705-268-8554**

**Email - [jbatise@wabun.on.ca](mailto:jbatise@wabun.on.ca)**

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Nishnawbe Aski Nation

Oshkaatisak Youth Council

## CODE OF CONDUCT AND OFFICER CONTRACT

All members of the Oshkaatisak Youth Council who take responsibility to run the affairs of the Council are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct and Officer Contract – as follows:

### Code of Conduct

- Accept spirituality as an important foundation for a healthy, balanced lifestyle.
- Recognize that belief in our culture and preservation of our heritage give us strength and dignity;
- Will be honest, understanding and respectful of the diversity and uniqueness of self, others and our environment;
- Know the importance of refraining from the abuse of alcohol, smoking and use of drugs; to maintain physical and mental well-being in order to be a positive role model for present and future generations;
- And finally, make a personal commitment to strive toward reaching our full potential as young leaders.

### Officer Contract

As an officer of the Oshkaatisak Youth Council I will:

- Represent the interest of all people served by this Council;
- Not use the Council or my services on the Oshkaatisak Youth Council for my personal advantage or for the individual advantage of my friends or supporters;
- Keep confidential information strictly CONFIDENTIAL;
- Approach all Council Issues with an open mind. Be prepared to make the best decision for the council as a whole;
- Do nothing to violate the trust of those who elected me to the Oshkaatisak Youth Council;
- Focus on my efforts on the goals, objectives and the mission of the Council and put off my personal goals;

# NAN Corporate Services

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- Never exercise undue authority as an Oshkaatisak Youth Council Member – except when acting in a meeting with full council or if the Council delegates me;
- Attend all regular and special meetings of the Council to voice my concerns, provide advice and direction for the benefit of the Council, as well as take an active part in the Council's work
- I shall be prepared to commit sufficient time and energy to attend to Council business, including active participation for the entire duration of each regular and special Council meeting;
- Familiarize myself with all the information and Council meeting materials forwarded for my review and approval;
- Receive, discuss, and act on the decisions recommended by Council.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Term of Office from \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_  
D M Year D M Year

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness -Authorized Representative of Nishnawbe Aski Nation Corporate Services

Nishnawbe Aski Nation Oshkaatisak Council  
Amended 05/0615/20196

TERMS OF REFERENCE

**Article One: Name**

As carried by Resolution: 09/71, the name of this working group shall be the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Oshkaatisak Council

**Article Two: Objectives**

The objectives of this council shall consist of:

1. To be recognized and affirmed as a voice for Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN) youth living in First Nation communities and urban areas.
2. To promote unity, strength, and success, amongst NAN Youth.
3. To express diligence and resilience through written and spoken discourse.
4. To be an advocating body on behalf of NAN youth at the communities, regional, national, and international level.
5. To share ideas and successes of NAN youth, and other First Nations youth.
6. To accept spirituality and religious beliefs as an important foundation for a healthy, balanced lifestyle.
7. To be honest, understanding, and respectful of the diversity and uniqueness of others and our environment.
8. To know the importance of maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle of physical and mental well-being in order to be a positive role model for present and future generations.
9. To preserve and protect the abundance of First Nation's traditions and values in the NAN territory.
10. To work in solidarity with NAN communities to achieve their respective objectives.
11. And finally, to strive towards assisting NAN reaching its full potential through education, self-awareness and commitment to well-being.

**Article Three: Members**

Membership of the Oshkaatisak Council (10) shall consist of any members ~~of the~~ Nishnawbe Aski Nation living on reserve or off reserve, within the boundaries of Ontario. Responsibilities, including:

Section One

- Regularly attends meetings and other youth council activities
- Is committed to serving others and their community
- Exhibits mental, physical, spiritual, and emotional balance in life

- Must be between the ages of 18-~~29~~25 at the time of application; when a member turns 29 years of age during their term they will have between six months to a year to complete their work and train a replacement chair

## Section Two

Each member shall have the right to cast one (1) vote on any matter subject to a vote by the entire membership. There shall be one vote counted in the case of multiple Oshkaatisak members representing one NAN community.

Members who are not present for any voting matters, will be considered an abstention, thus will not be considered for quorum.

## **Article Four: Officers**

### Section One

The Executive Officers of the Oshkaatisak Council shall consist of the following:

- One (1) Political Chair
- One (1) Social Chair
- One (1) Child Welfare Chair
- One (1) Communications Chair
- One (1) Economic Chair
- One (1) Cultural Chair (including Languages)
- One (1) Recreational Chair
- One (1) Education Chair
- One (1) Health Chair
- One (1) Environment Chair
- One (1) Urban Chair
- One (1) Mental Health Chair
- One (1) Arts Chair
- One (1) Women's Chair
- One (1) Diverse Populations Chair (~~Lgbtq~~GBTQ2IA+, ~~2-~~*spirited, disabled, special needs*)

Two (2) Homelessness, Poverty Reduction, and Housing Chairs

~~One (1) Homelessness Chair~~

~~One (1) Poverty Reduction Chair~~

*These last two were added by previous Director Women's Department. They need to be adopted by the Youth Council as a whole.*

### Section Two

The Urban Chair shall be responsible for the Urban portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. This portfolio relates to issues affecting the increasing number of off-reserve, NAN member Youth. The Chair will prepare and submit annual work plans. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

### Section Three

The Political Chair shall be responsible for the Political portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. Portfolio participation relates to decision-making processes and distribution of power and giving youth a voice. The Chair will prepare and submit annual work plans. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

### Section Four (Shared)

The Social Chair shall be responsible for the Social portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. Social participation relates to family and community involvement and issues of self-esteem. The chair will prepare and submit annual work plan. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the Youth department in a timely manner.

### Section Five

The Economic Chair shall be responsible for the Economic portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. Economic participation relates to work and to development, requiring a solid education base. The Chair will prepare and submit annual work plan. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the Youth department in a timely manner.

### Section Six (Shared)

The Cultural Chair shall be responsible for the Cultural portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. Cultural participation relates to cultural values, and expression, and spirituality. The Chair will prepare and submit annual work plans. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the Youth department in a timely manner.

### Section Seven

The Recreation Chair shall be responsible for the Recreation portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. Cultural participation relates to sports, recreation, and leisure activities of all forms. The Chair will prepare and submit annual work plans. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

### Section Eight (Shared)

The Education Chair shall be responsible for the Education portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The Chair will work in partnership with students, parents, teachers and the Deputy Grand Chief in charge of Education on issues relating to secondary and post-secondary

education. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Nine

The Environmental Chair shall be responsible for the Environment portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The portfolio relates to land issues, protection of the environment, and, the protection and management of natural resources. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Ten (Shared)

The Health Chair shall be responsible for the Health portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. This portfolio promotes the enhancement of health and well-being, considering the whole person (physical, emotional, mental and spiritual), wellness-oriented lifestyle choices, take an active participation in personal health decisions and healing. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Eleven

The Arts Chair shall be responsible for the Arts portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The portfolio relates to arts initiatives, projects, and promoting the artistic talents of NAN youth. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Twelve

The Communications Chair shall be responsible for the Communications portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The portfolio relates to speaking on behalf of youth council when dealing with media and various youth groups. Also, promoting the NAN Oshkaatisak mandate in different areas mainly focusing on youth. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Thirteen

The Women's Chair shall be responsible for the Women's portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The portfolio relates to issues and initiatives specific to young NAN women and girls this portfolio holder will also be the youth rep on the NAN Women's Council. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Fourteen



The Diverse Populations Chair shall be responsible for the diverse populations, portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The portfolio relates to issues and initiatives specific to diverse youth populations within the NAN who identify as LGBTQ2S, disabled, and special needs. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Fifteen (Shared)

The Mental Health Chair shall be responsible for the Mental Health Portfolio and will advise membership on these matters. The portfolio relates to issues and initiatives specific to the population of Youth within NAN who identify as having Mental Health issues. Any Meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Sixteen (Shared, Two Chairs)

~~The two Chairs in Homelessness, Poverty Reduction, and Housing chair will attend the annual homelessness awareness/reduction summit. Will They will apprise themselves and the Youth Council as to the issue of homelessness and what the Youth can do to try to combat the issues that lead our populations to homelessness and how systems work against many NAN people and forces people into poverty which can lead to homelessness. Any meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner. The two Chairs will~~

#### Section Seventeen

~~Poverty Reduction chair will also further~~ apprise themselves and the Youth Council about ~~the~~ issue of ~~Poverty~~, and how it looks in the NAN Communities, and how Youth are affected by poverty. They will look at ways to reduce the levels of poverty through campaigns such as “stay in school education and awareness”, job seeking skills and workshops, enhancing employment opportunities through development, armed forces, post- secondary education, etc. Finally, the two Chairs will apprise themselves and the Youth Council about the issue of Housing, how it looks in NAN Communities, and how Youth are affected by housing issues, including by attending the Housing Forum. Any meetings attended or information gathered on behalf of the Oshkaatisak will be submitted to the NAN Youth department in a timely manner.

#### Section Seventeen

- All ten members will be nominated and elected for a term of four years.
- A general call for nominations will be sent to all NAN communities.
- Interested youth will submit a resume, letter of intent, and reference letter to the NAN Oshkaatisak Council and NAN staff.
- Nominees will be approved or disapproved by NAN Oshkaatisak Council.

- If there is an open seat on the NAN Oshkaatisak Council, the current council members can have the opportunity to fill the position by approaching eligible youth with valid reason, thus avoiding a nomination period.
- If there are two or more open seats on the NAN Oshkaatisak Council, then the Council and NAN staff are obligated to hold a call for nominations.

### Section Eighteen

Should the council require Advisors, the appointed advisor(s), at least one and no more than three, for the Oshkaatisak Council shall be members of Nishnawbe Aski Nation or other respected leaders/elders/youth who have demonstrated a commitment to youth empowerment issues. The Oshkaatisak Development Office of Nishnawbe Aski Nation will appoint each advisor.

### Section Nineteen

At least one advisor(s) can be present at all youth council meetings and function.

## **Article Five: Meetings**

### Section One

The Oshkaatisak Council, as a whole, shall meet four times per year, during each season of the year. A notice of time and place will be provided to all voting members prior to the next meeting and an agenda will be distributed two weeks prior to the scheduled meeting time. Previous meeting minutes will be distributed within one month after the meeting and the Council will keep a binder of minutes. Meetings may be held by conference call, videoconference, or by similar telecommunication of electronic means. Emergency meetings may be called if necessary.

### Section Two

Quorum will consist of at least 50% plus one of voting member;

### Section Three

All regular and special meetings of the Oshkaatisak Council shall be conducted as such:

1. Opening prayer
2. Welcome/introductions
3. Summary of previous meeting minutes
4. Reports of Chairs
5. Old Business

6. New Business
7. Announcements
8. Adjournment and Closing

#### Section Four

Any member who misses two meetings as a result of absenteeism or cancellation, as defined in article 6, section 1, within a one year period, without PRIOR notice, by telephone or in writing, and without a reasonable explanation, will be dismissed from the Council at the discretion of the NAN Oshkaatisak Council.

Any member who is late for meetings, three or more times within a one year period without good reason and without calling in will be dismissed.

If ~~you as a council member are~~ is not able to attend any given meeting, ~~he/she/they~~ may send in his ~~her/their~~ regrets. Regrets are giving sufficient notice declining an invitation based on previous engagements, commitments, or ~~an~~ emergency situations. Regrets are preferred in email format to the women and youth coordinator, with council members cc'ed.

Absenteeism is not giving notice of regrets, with no communication or confirmation. Cancellation is when a council member confirms attendance then cancels for whatever reason. Again these circumstances will be determined at the discretion of the NAN Oshkaatisak Council

#### **Article Six: Code of Conduct**

All members of the Oshkaatisak Council who take responsibility to run the affairs of the Council are expected to abide by the Oshkaatisak Council Officer Contract and Code of Conduct. The Nsishnawbe Aski Nation will hold members who violate this contract responsible on a case-by-case basis. Council members are responsible for following policies of NAN with regards to meeting participation and conduct

#### **{Article Seven: Travel**

*New Article*

##### Section One

Any member who ~~are~~ is late for travel two or more times within a one year period, without valid reason, will be dismissed.

##### Section Two

Any member who misses a scheduled travel two or more times within their term, without valid reason, will be dismissed.

##### Section Three

No member shall alter their itinerary unless with valid reason, and prior notice to NAN staff. If members miss flights for undue reasons they will be responsible for all associated return costs.

#### **Article Eight**

The bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the group by consensus, provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing.