

TAKU RIVER TLINGITS

MEMBERSHIP CODE

I. Introduction:

The code of the Taku river Tlingits is enacted by the members of the Taku river Tlingits at the general assembly of the members of Taku river Tlingits on June 23, 1987.

II. Definitions:

- A. TRT; the Taku River Tlingits.
- B. House; is a recognized traditional family group as stated in III. A. 2..
- C. Taku River Tlingit Ancestry; any person who is of Tlingit ancestry who is on the TRT list as of June 28, 1987.
- D. Commission; the appointed members as outlined in section V
- E. Associate Member; a person who is recognised as a member with associate member privileges.
- F. TRT Privileges; includes the rights to;
 - 1. vote in all Elections
 - 2. all social benefits administered by the TRT
 - 3. hunt fish and gather according to Taku River Tlingit Traditions
 - 4. any royalties or revenues acquired by the TRT
 - 5. any other benefits as defined by the TRT.
- G. Associate Member Privileges; includes the rights to;
 - 1. hunt fish and gather according to Taku River Tlingit Traditions
 - 2. any other benefits as defined by the TRT.
- H. Residency Privileges; includes only the right to reside on TRT lands.
- I. Council of Elders; a member of each House appointed by the respective house plus a member of Chief and Council.
- J. Matriarchs; the eldest female of each house.

This is Exhibit "A" referred to in the affidavit of MARK WEDGE sworn before me at Whitehorse, Yukon this 26th day of June 1987

[Signature]
 Secretary

MEMBERSHIP CODE

III. Membership Criteria:

A. Rules

1. Lineage will be based upon a matriarchal house system. That is, children will follow their mother's house and ancestry. Where the child's mother is non-Tlingit, the child's lineage will be determined by the membership commission.
2. The following are the existing houses;

Yanyeidi	Xooxetaan	Decitaan
Daxlawedi	Ganaxadi	Tietlhit
3. If at anytime one of the above houses has a disagreement or becomes too large for equal representation it can then make application to the membership commission and request to split the house into two houses. This method of forming a new house will be done through a ceremonial potlatch that is acceptable to the membership commission.
4. A person shall be registered as a house member of the Taku river Tlingits if;
 - a. His/her name appears on the list of Taku river Tlingits as of June 30, 1987, and has ancestral lineage to that house.
 - b. H/She is at least one quarter (1/4) blood of Taku River Tlingit Ancestry.
 - c. Under special situations is deemed by the Membership Commission to be eligible for registration within a house.
 - d. Is an adopted child under the age of (16) sixteen by an eligible person through Tlingit Tradition.
 - e. Is a person born after the Code is enacted, is a member of the Taku river Tlingits, and if that person has at least one parent who is a member of Taku river Tlingits.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

- 5. - The following persons are not entitled to be registered as house members;
 - a. A person who is registered in another Band or Indian membership, unless the person is married to a member of the Taku river Tlingits legally or by Tlingit Custom, and that person has applied within two years of the date of marriage and has been accepted by the Commission.
 - b. For greater certainty any non-native adopted child who has children, then those children shall not be entitled to be registered.

- 6. Any person not entitled to be registered, but is accepted into the TRT by a unanimous decision of the membership commission, shall be recognized as an associate member and shall enjoy only associate member privileges.

- 7. Notwithstanding any of the foregoing.
 - a. The membership rules may not deprive any person who had the right to have his name entered in the TRT List for that TRT, immediately prior to the time the rules were established, of the right to have his name so entered by reason only of a situation that existed or an action that was taken before the rules came into force.
 - b. For greater certainty, subsection 7(a) applies in respect of a person who was entitled to have his name entered in the TRT List under paragraph 11 (1)(c) of the Indian Act, immediately before the TRT assumed control of the TRT List if that person does not subsequently cease to be entitled to have his name entered in the TRT List.

IV. ENROLLMENT OFFICER

The Council of the Taku river Tlingits shall appoint a person to act as an enrollment officer who shall be responsible for:

- A. Maintaining the Taku river Tlingits membership roll.
- B. Processing applications according to the membership rules within a period no longer than (30) days of receipt of the application.

6

MEMBERSHIP CODE

- C. Notifying each applicant in writing, the results of the findings and determination of Eligibility.
- D. Providing information concerning the Membership Code.
- E. Communicating and arranging meetings of the Membership Commission.

V. THE MEMBERSHIP COMMISSION

The Membership commission shall be established and shall consist of one member from each house of the Taku river Tlingits plus a member of Chief and Council.

The Commission shall have the following responsibilities;

- A. Act as an information source for the enrolment officer.
- B. Making a unanimous decision within (60) sixty days of the notification of appeal.
- C. Ensuring the correct traditional names and lineage of the applicants and of TRT members.
- D. Make recommendations on matters related to the Membership Code.

VI. ELDERS COUNCIL

The Elders Council shall be established and shall consist of one member of each house appointed by that respective house plus a member of Chief and Council.

The Council shall have the following responsibilities:

- A. Act as advisors to the enrollment officer and the Membership Commission.
- B. Make a unanimous decision on an Appeal if the Membership commission cannot reach a unanimous decision within (60) sixty days.
- C. Make recommendations on matters relating to the Membership code.

MEMBERSHIP CODE

VII. MEMBERSHIP WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION

- A. Any member may withdraw his/her membership by written notice and upon acceptance by the Membership Commission within a period of (60) days.
- B. A person who renounces membership in the Taku river Tlingits and becomes a member of another Band.

VIII. APPEALS

- A. If application has been rejected by the enrolment officer the applicant may appeal to membership commission.
- B. If application does not receive unanimous approval by the membership commission a final appeal may be made to the Council of Elders.

IX. AMENDMENT AND REVIEW

- A. This code shall be reviewed by the Membership Commission and the Council within one year of its enactment and recommendations on amendments and additions be made to a General Assembly of the Taku River Tlingits.

