



ANISHINABEK SELF-DETERMINATION E'DBENDAAGZIIG



Dr. Jeannette Corbiere Lavell
Commissioner on Citizenship



COLLABORATIVE PROCESS ON THE 2ND GENERATION CUT-OFF & SECTION 10 VOTING THRESHOLD

- Led by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), the collaborative process was launched in November 2023. [Collaboration Plan](#)
- From Canada's Action Plan, Chapter 2, First Nation Priorities:
 - “Co-develop a collaborative consultation process on a suite of broader reforms relating to registration and band membership issues, prior to any transition away from the *Indian Act*...
 - The government is seeking to make the Act's Registration and band membership provisions more consistent with the UN Declaration, until a clear consensus on a way forward on comprehensive change or the Act's repeal is possible.”
- A strong, proactive response to Canada's Collaborative Process by Anishinabek.





ANISHINABEK NATION DECLARATION ON E'DBENDAAGZIIG

- The draft Anishinabek Nation Declaration comes from the hearts and minds of participants at our E'Dbendaagzijig Gathering, January 29, 2025.
- There are 7 core principles that were boiled down from many statements acceptable to the participants.
- Other important and clarifying statements are included as an Addendum to the draft Declaration.





ANISHINAABE DECLARATION ON E'DBENDAAGZIIG (Draft)

1. Creator placed Anishinaabe on earth along with gift of spirituality.
2. Creator gave us sovereignty to govern ourselves.
3. We belong to the land and follow our own laws.
4. We have the right to determine who our people are.
5. Through our own governance principles and structures, we decide who belongs.
6. Together, all of us, we take care of each other, earth, water, air, fire, and all our relations.
7. We assert and exercise our inherent right of self-determination for the protection of our lands and our E'Dbendaagzijig, as affirmed by the Anishinabek Nation E'Dbendaagzijig Naaknigewin, 2008.





ADDENDUM (Draft)

- We have been on this land and governed this land since time immemorial.
- Our treaty rights shall be protected and practiced by our E'Dbendaagzijig.
- We will assert our Doodemaag System and adoption laws according to our kinships and customs with the key principles of inclusion and equality.
- We will reinforce our traditional governance, principles, and structures.
- We will continue to teach our children our laws and traditional ways as Anishinabek to protect the seventh generation.





ADDENDUM (Continued)

- As Anishinaabe people we unite to address the changing landscapes of external government policies as they affect the Anishinabek Nation, our land rights, and our inherent rights.
- We will continue to practice and protect our spiritual laws as this is our connection to Creator and this is who we are.
- Further the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP) reinforces our inherent right of self-determination:

(Ref. Articles 3,4,8,9,33,39,42,46)





NEXT STEPS

- Information on Canada's agenda and its Collaborative Process on the 2nd Generation Cut-Off and the Section 10 Voting Threshold.
- Virtual engagement sessions in each of the 4 Regions for more discussion and more support for the Anishinaabe Declaration on E'Dbendaagzijig.
- Ratification by the Anishinabek Nation at a duly convened Grand Council Assembly – June 2025

