## **Whitecap Dakota First Nation**



**Ratification Land Law** 

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# Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law

#### 1. PREAMBLE

WHEREAS Whitecap Dakota First Nation exercises control over its lands and exercises self-government in relation to its lands and various governance activities;

AND WHEREAS Whitecap Dakota First Nation has the authority and capacity to enact processes, laws and regulations for the purpose of good governance practices;

NOW THEREFORE Whitecap Dakota First Nation enacts this Land Law for the orderly conduct of community approvals through ratification vote as provided for in the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Land Code (2009).

#### 2. TITLE AND PURPOSE

- 2.1 The title of this document is the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land
- The purpose of this Land Law is to set out the ratification process to be followed when a Ratification Vote is required by the Land Code.

#### 3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 In this Land Law.

"Ballot Question" means the question asked of the Voters in the Ratification Vote (Form 1).

"Band List" means the list of Whitecap Dakota First Nation Band Members compiled pursuant to the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Membership Code (2012), as amended from time to time.

"Council" means the duly elected Chief and Councillors of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation.

"Eligible Voter" means, for the purposes of voting, a Member who has attained eighteen (18) years of age as of the Voting Day.

"First Nation" means the Whitecap Dakota First Nation.

"Land Code" means the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Land Code (2009) as may be amended from time to time.

"Land Manager" means the First Nation employee responsible for the management of Whitecap Dakota First Nation Lands as defined in the Land Code.

"List of Eligible Voters" means the list of Eligible Voters prepared alphabetically according to Section 4.

"Member" means a person whose name appears or is entitled to appear on the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Band List pursuant to the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Membership Code (2012), as amended from time to time.

"Membership Clerk" means the person appointed by Council in accordance with Section 3 of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Membership Code (2012), as amended form time to time, to administer the Band List.

"Ratification Document" means the supporting document(s) for the matters referred to in the Ballot Question.

"Ratification Officer" means a person appointed by Chief and Council to conduct the Ratification Vote.

"Deputy Ratification Officer" means a person appointed by the Ratification Officer to assist the Ratification Officer in carrying out his or her duties.

"Ratification Vote" means a vote of the Eligible Voters to obtain community approval in accordance with Article 32 of the Land Code.

"Voting Day" means the day set for holding the Ratification Vote.

- 3.2 Any words defined in this Land Law have the same meaning as in the Land Code, unless otherwise indicated.
- 3.3 When calculating time, a reference to a number of days between two events is calculated by excluding the day on which the first event happens and including the day on which the second event happens.
- 3.4 Words in the singular include the plural and words in the plural include the singular.

#### 4. LIST OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS

- 4.1 The Membership Clerk, in consultation with Council, will ensure that a List of Eligible Voters is prepared alphabetically containing the full names and registry numbers of the Eligible Voters.
- 4.2 The List of Eligible Voters will be confirmed by Council Resolution and be provided to the Ratification Officer at least 42 days prior to the Voting Day.
- 4.3 Before providing a ballot to a person, the Ratification Officer may require the person to provide his or her current Certification of Indian Status card or adequate proof, in the Ratification Officer's opinion, of identification and age.
- 4.4 The Ratification Officer shall prepare and maintain a list of Eligible Voters.
- 4.5 The Ratification Officer is responsible for determining if a person is an Eligible Voter on Voting Day.
- 4.6 If the Ratification Officer determines that the name of a voter is incorrectly included on the List of Eligible Voters, he or she will remove the name of the voter and such removal will be final.

#### 5. FIRST NATION BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION

- 5.1 The Council shall pass a Resolution (Form 2):
  - a) To confirm the Ratification Officer:

- b) To confirm the list of Eligible Voters;
- c) To approve the Ratification Document(s);
- d) To set the date and order that the Ratification Vote be held to determine community approval; and
- e) To confirm the wording of the Ballot Question.

### 6. DUTIES OF RATIFICATION OFFICER AND APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT(S)

- 6.1 The Ratification Officer is responsible for overseeing the conduct of the Ratification Vote and has the powers necessary for this function.
- The Ratification Officer may appoint one or more Deputy Ratification Officer(s) and may delegate any of his or her duties set out in this Ratification Land Law to the Deputy Ratification Officer(s) with the exception of the following duties, which cannot be delegated:
  - Reject mail-in ballots that are not accompanied with a correctly completed Mail-In Ballot Declaration;
  - b) Deposit mail-in ballots that have a completed Mail-In Ballot Declaration into the ballot box; and
  - c) During counting, reject ballots that are not marked as directed on the ballot.
- On the appointment of a Deputy Ratification Officer, the Ratification Officer and each Deputy will implement an Appointment of a Deputy Ratification Officer (Form 3).
- 6.4 If for any reason the Ratification Officer is unable to perform his or her duties, the Council may appoint, by Band Council Resolution, an acting Ratification Officer to complete the process of the Ratification Vote.

#### 7. NOTICE OF VOTE

- 7.1 The Ratification Officer will post a Notice of Vote (Form 4) at least 35 days prior to the Voting Day in at least one or more visible places on the reserve where Members can read it.
- 7.2 The Notice of Vote will contain the following information:

- a) The date, place, and time of the Ratification Vote:
- b) The Ballot Question; and
- c) The name, office address, and telephone number of the Ratification Officer.

# 8. INFORMATION TO MEMBERS LIVING ON WHITECAP DAKOTA FIRST NATION LANDS AND THE CITY OF SASKATOON

- 8.1 The Ratification Officer will mail by regular mail or hand deliver the following to each Eligible Voter who resides on Whitecap Dakota First Nation Lands:
  - a) A copy of the "Notice of Vote"; and
  - b) A summary of the Ratification Document.
- The information outlined in Section 8.1 will also be mailed by regular mail to each Eligible Voter who resides in Saskatoon if the Eligible Voter has provided his or her mailing address to the Ratification Officer at least 42 days prior to the Voting Day.
- 8.3 The information referred to in 8.1 and 8.2 will be mailed to Eligible Voters at least 35 days prior to the Voting Day.
- 8.4 Council may authorize the distribution of additional information to Eligible Voters prior to the Voting Day.

#### 9. INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE

- 9.1 The Land Manager shall arrange at least one information meeting on Whitecap Dakota First Nation Lands to be held prior to Voting Day.
- 9.2 The Land Manager shall ensure that sufficient copies of the proposed Land Transaction(s) are available at the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Band Office for distribution to interested Members.
- 9.3 Any Member may, on request, obtain an information package regarding the vote from the Land Manager free of charge.

#### 10. PRELIMINARY PROCEDURES

- 10.1 The Ratification Officer will:
  - a) Obtain the List of Eligible Voters from the Membership Clerk;
  - b) Designate the place of the polling station;
  - c) Prepare a List of Eligible Voters for the purpose of recording mail-in ballots sent and returned, and for use at the polling station;
  - d) Prepare sufficient copies of the ballot(s) which will be uniform in size, appearance, quality and weight;
  - e) Prepare the inner mail-in ballot envelopes and pre-addressed postage-paid return envelopes ("Return Envelopes");
  - f) Prepare sufficient copies of the voting instructions;
  - g) Obtain a sufficient number of ballot boxes;
  - h) Provide a voting booth at the polling station where Eligible Voters can mark their ballot(s) free from observation;
  - i) Provide sufficient number of lead pencils or pens for marking the ballot; and
  - j) Ensure that a sample of the Ballot Question is posted or available for examination by voters at the polling station.

#### 11. MAIL-IN BALLOTS

- 11.1 Instead of attending a polling station, an Eligible Voter who resides outside of Whitecap Dakota First Nation Lands and the city of Saskatoon and who will not be able to visit the polling station on Voting Day may cast a ballot by mail-in ballot.
- 11.2 To participate in the Ratification Vote by mail-in ballot, an Eligible Voter must provide the Ratification officer with his or her mailing address no later than 42 days prior to Voting Day.
- 11.3 Eligible Voters who reside on Whitecap Dakota First Nation Lands or in Saskatoon may only vote by mail-in ballot if, in the opinion of the Ratification Officer, exceptional circumstances warrant. To be considered, such exceptional circumstances must be communicated to the Ratification Officer by the Eligible Voter no later than 42 days prior to Voting Day.

- 11.4 All Eligible Voters who have provided their mailing address to the Ratification Officer in accordance with Sections 11.2 and 11.3 shall receive documents about the Ratification Vote from the Ratification Officer.
- 11.5 The documents to be provided to Eligible Voters in accordance with Section 11.4 include:
  - a) the pre-folded ballot initialled by the Ratification Officer;
  - b) a Mail-In Ballot Declaration (Form 5);
  - c) a pre-addressed, postage-paid Return Envelope;
  - d) an additional inner envelope labelled "Ballot Envelope";
  - e) voting instructions;
  - f) a copy of the Notice of Vote; and
  - g) a summary of the Ratification Document(s).
- 11.6 The documents listed in Section 11.5 shall be mailed to the Eligible Voter by registered mail no later than 35 days prior to Voting Day.
- 11.7 To cast a mail-in ballot, an Eligible Voter must:
  - a) Mark the ballot by placing a cross (X) or check mark (✓) either in the box marked "YES" or in the box marked "NO";
  - b) Fold the ballot the same way it was received (so that the Ratification Officer's initials on the back are visible);
  - c) Insert the completed ballot into the inner enveloped labelled "Ballot Envelope";
  - d) Complete the Mail-in Ballot Declaration (Form 5); and
  - e) Insert the inner envelope labelled "Ballot Envelope" and the Mail-In Declaration into the Return Envelope and seal and mail immediately.
- 11.8 The Mail-In Ballot Declaration must be signed by both the voter and a witness, who can be anyone that is at least 18 years of age. If the Mail-In Ballot Declaration is not signed by both the voter and an eligible witness, the ballot will not be accepted and will be considered a Rejected Ballot as per 14.1.

- To be counted, the Ratification Officer must receive the mail-in ballot and Mail-In Ballot Declaration by the close of the polling station on Voting Day.
- 11.10 Upon receipt of a mail-in ballot the Ratification Officer will:
  - a) Verify each Mail-In Ballot Declaration and that the sender is an Eligible Voter;
  - b) Record on the list of Eligible Voters that the mail-in ballot was returned; and
  - c) Deposit the mail-in ballot in its original unopened envelope labelled "Ballot Envelope" in a locked ballot box or container kept for this purpose.
- 11.11 The Ratification Officer is personally responsible for the safekeeping of the mailin ballots and will ensure that they are kept in a locked container until such time as the ballots are deposited into the ballot box after the close of polling station on Voting Day.
- 11.12 The Ratification Officer will execute a Declaration of Ratification Officer Opening of the Polling Station (Form 6) in accordance with this Land Law.

#### 12. VOTING PROCEDURES AT POLLING STATION ON VOTING DAY

- 12.1 This section applies to voting at the polling stations.
- 12.2 The polling stations shall be kept open from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on the Voting Day.
- 12.3 All voting at the polling stations will be by secret ballot only.
- 12.4 At the polling station, prior to opening of the polling station, the Ratification Officer will:
  - a) Open each ballot box and ask two (2) Eligible Voters to witness that each ballot box is empty before any votes are cast;
  - b) Properly seal and lock the ballot box and place his or her signature on the seal in front of the two (2) witnesses;
  - Keep the ballot box in view for the reception of the ballot papers; and

- d) Execute a Declaration of Ratification Officer Opening of the Polling Station and ensure that the required witnesses also sign (Form 6).
- 12.5 When a person arrives at the polling station to vote, the Ratification Officer will:
  - a) Ensure that the person is an Eligible Voter;
  - b) Check the List of Eligible Voters to ensure that the person has not already voted in person or by mail-in ballot;
  - c) Mark an "X" on the List of Eligible Voters in the comments section beside the name of the Eligible Voter receiving a ballot and draw a line through the voter's name; and
  - d) Provide the Eligible Voter with a ballot, on the back of which are affixed the Ratification Officer's initials so that the initials can be seen when the ballot is folded.
- 12.6 The Ratification Officer will explain the method of voting upon request.
- 12.7 An Eligible Voter may request special assistance from the Ratification Officer at a polling station if the voter declares that he or she:
  - a) Is not able to read;
  - b) Is incapacitated by blindness or other physical cause; or
  - c) Requires assistance for any other reason.
- 12.8 The Ratification Officer will, on request, provide special assistance to an Eligible Voter by marking his or her ballot in secret as directed by the voter and immediately folding and depositing it into the ballot box.
- 12.9 The Ratification Officer, after providing special assistance to an Eligible Voter, will make an entry on the List of Eligible Voters opposite the name of the voter indicating that the ballot was marked by the Ratification Officer at the request of the voter and the reason for the voter's request.
- 12.10 Except for a voter requiring special assistance, every Eligible Voter receiving a ballot will:
  - a) Proceed immediately to a voting booth;

- b) Mark the ballot by placing a cross ( X ) or check mark ( ✓ ) either in the box marked "YES" or in the box marked "NO":
- c) Fold the ballot to conceal the mark and to expose the initials of the Ratification Officer; and
- d) Immediately give the folded ballot to the Ratification Officer or Deputy Ratification Officer.
- 12.11 Upon receiving a marked ballot, the Ratification Officer or Deputy Ratification Officer, without unfolding it, will:
  - a) Verify his or her initials; and
  - b) Deposit the ballot into the ballot box.
- 12.12 An Eligible Voter at a polling station who receives a spoiled or improperly printed ballot, or who accidentally spoils his or her ballot when marking it, is entitled to receive another ballot from the Ratification Officer after returning the original ballot. The returned ballot will be recorded as spoiled.
- 12.13 An Eligible Voter at a polling station who receives a ballot and does not return it to the Ratification Officer will forfeit the right to vote. Such a ballot will be counted as a rejected ballot and the Eligible Voter shall be recorded as having participated in the vote. The Ratification Officer will make an entry on the List of Eligible Voters stating that the voter left the voting booth without delivering the ballot to the Ratification Officer.
- 12.14 At the time set for closing the polling station, the Ratification Officer will declare the polling station closed, and entry will be denied to the polling station until all remaining Eligible Voters in the polling station at that time have voted.

#### 13. ORDERLY VOTING

13.1 The Ratification Officer, with the assistance of law enforcement if necessary, will ensure that peace and good order are maintained at the polling station.

- 13.2 The Ratification Officer will allow only one Eligible Voter at a time into a voting booth, except for a voter receiving special assistance.
- 13.3 An Eligible Voter who is inside the polling station before the set closing time will be entitled to vote.

#### 13.4 No person shall:

- Interfere or attempt to interfere with an Eligible Voter when he or she is voting;
- b) Obtain or attempt to obtain information as to how an Eligible Voter is about to vote or has voted at the polling station; or
- c) Mark a ballot in a way that identifies the voter.

#### 14. REJECTED BALLOTS

- 14.1 A cast ballot will be rejected if it:
  - a) Was not supplied by the Ratification Officer or the Deputy Ratification Officer;
  - b) Was not marked as either "YES" or "NO";
  - c) Was marked as both "YES" and "NO";
  - d) Was not marked in the box marked "YES" or "NO";
  - e) Was dealt with in accordance with section 12.13; or
  - f) Has any writing or mark which can identify the voter.
- 14.2 A ballot marked with something other than a cross ( X ) or check mark ( ✓ ) in the box will not be rejected if, in the opinion of the Ratification Officer.:
  - a) The mark does not identify the voter; and
  - b) The intent of the voter is clear.

#### 15. OPENING MAIL-IN BALLOTS

- 15.1 After the close of the polling station on the Voting Day, the Ratification Officer, in the presence of any Eligible Voters who may be present, will:
  - a) Open the locked/sealed container with the mail-in ballots:

- b) Examine the Mail-In Ballot Declarations (Form 5) that are witnessed and signed by each voter;
- c) Confirm the authenticity of the mail-in ballots by checking the affixed initials of the Ratification Officer;
- d) Refer to the List of Eligible Voters used at the polling station to ensure that the mail-in voter has not already voted in person. If they have not, the Ratification Officer will then draw a line through the voter's name on the List of Eligible Voters and mark an X in the comments section; and
- e) Deposit the ballot, without opening it or showing it to anyone, in the ballot box used at the polling station.

#### 16. COUNTING OF RESULTS

- 16.1 After the mail-in ballots have been deposited in a ballot box, the Ratification Officer or Deputy Ratification Officer(s), in the presence of any Eligible Voters who may be present, will:
  - a) Examine each ballot contained in the ballot box(es);
  - b) Reject any ballots as required by Section 14;
  - c) Count the number of ballots marked "YES", the number marked "NO", and the number of rejected ballots.
- 16.2 When the results of the Ratification Vote have been determined, the Ratification Officer will execute the Report by Ratification Officer (Form 7) as soon as is practicable, and in any case, no later than 20 days after the Ratification Vote.
- 16.3 The Ratification Officer will seal, in separate envelopes, the spoiled ballots, the rejected ballots, and the ballots cast and counted. The Ratification Officer will then affix his or her signature to the seals and retain these envelopes for at least 60 days.
- 16.4 The ballots may only be destroyed 60 days after Voting Day.

#### 17. PROCEDURAL AMENDMENTS

- 17.1 In order to give effect to and carry out the objectives and purpose of the Ratification Vote, the Ratification Officer and a delegate of the Council may agree on a departure from the procedural requirements of this Ratification Process if they deem it necessary and believe it will not result in any substantive change.
- 17.2 The Ratification Officer and delegate of the Council will state in writing the nature and basis of such departure and make a copy of the statement publicly available.

#### 18. OBJECTIONS

- 18.1 An Eligible Voter may file an objection with the chairperson of the Lands Advisory Committee if the person has reasonable grounds for believing that:
  - a) There was a violation of the Ratification Land Law or an irregularity in that process; and
  - b) The final result of the Ratification Vote might have been different but for the violation or irregularity.
- 18.2 The objection must be received by the Lands Advisory Committee within 5 days from the Voting Day.
- 18.3 An objection must be in writing and must:
  - a) Identify the name and address and any telephone number of the objector;
  - b) Summarize the grounds for the objection; and
  - c) Be accompanied by a statutory declaration setting out the grounds for the objection.
- 18.4 If an objection is filed under this section, the Lands Advisory Committee will, within 15 days of Voting Day, determine whether the objection is valid.
- 18.5 The Lands Advisory Committee may, if the material provided under this section is not sufficient to decide the validity of the grounds of the objection, conduct such further investigation as it deems necessary.

- 18.6 Subject to Section 18.7, the Lands Advisory Committee may dispose of an objection by allowing it and calling another vote.
- 18.7 The Lands Advisory Committee will dismiss the objection if of the opinion that:
  - a) There was neither a violation of the Ratification Land Law nor any irregularity in that process; or
  - b) There was a violation or an irregularity but the final result of the Ratification Vote was not affected by it.

#### 19. CERTIFICATION OF A RATIFICATION VOTE

19.1 A successful ratification vote shall be deemed to occur when 50% plus one of Eligible Voters who cast a ballot voted in favour of the Ballot Question. The Ratification Officer shall post a copy of the results of the vote at the Band Office within one day of the Voting Day.

We, the undersigned, being a quorum of the Band Council, acknowledge and declare that we have, at a duly convened Band Council meeting, approved this Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law effective the \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 2015.

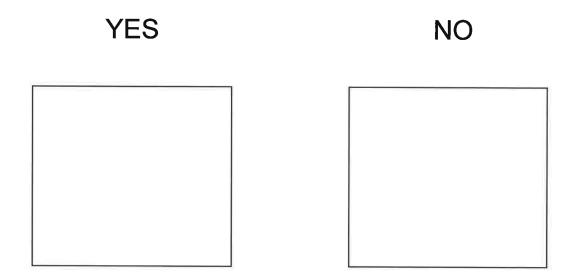
Chief Darcy Bear

Councillor Frank D. Royal

Councillor Dwayne Eagle

#### **FORM 1 - BALLOT QUESTION**

Do you approve or authorize the proposed Land Transaction(s)?



Mark this Ballot by placing a cross ( X ) or check mark ( ✓ ) in one of the above boxes.

#### **EXPLANATION:**

"YES" means the Land Transaction(s) proceed(s).

"NO" means the Land Transaction(s) does/do not proceed.

## FORM 2 – WHITECAP DAKOTA FIRST NATION COUNCIL RESOLUTION (Commencement of Vote)

The Chief and Council of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation, pursuant to Section 5 of the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law, do hereby resolve to:

1.	. Confirm as	the Ratification Officer;
2.	. Confirm the List of Eligible Voters;	
3.	Hold a Ratification Vote to determine if the community Transaction(s);	authorizes the proposed Land
4.	Confirm the Ballot Question in the Form 1 attached;	
5.	Confirm the wording of the Ballot Question; and	
6.	Set the Voting Day to be	
Dated	d at Whitecap Dakota First Nation on the day o	f
	um (2)	,
Chief		
Counc	cillor	
Counc	cillor	

### FORM 3 – APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY RATIFICATION OFFICER

l,		;	duly a	ppointed	Ratification	n Officer	for
the Whitecap Dakota Fi							
	, 20, do h	ereby appo	int, pu	rsuant to	the White	cap Dako	ota
First Nation Ratification L							
Name:							
<del></del>							
Address:							
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Dated at		, this	d	ay of			,
20							
Signature of Ratification (	 Officer						
-							
							_
T							
To be completed by the D	Deputy Ratification Of	fficer:					
I agree to diligently carry	out my duties as Dep	outy Ratifica	tion Of	ficer for t	he purpose	of the	
Ratification Vote and pro	nise to carry out all a	issigned dut	ties to t	he best o	of my abilitie	es and in	
accordance with the Whit	ecap Dakota First Na	ation Ratifica	ation La	and Law.			
Signature of Deputy Ratif	ication Officer	E					

### **FORM 4 - NOTICE OF VOTE**

TO: Members of Whitecap Dakota First Nation
TAKE NOTICE that a Ratification Vote will be held pursuant to the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law on the day of, 20, in order to determine if the Eligible Voters of Whitecap Dakota First Nation authorize the proposed Land Transaction(s).
The following question will be asked of the Eligible Voters of Whitecap Dakota First Nation by secret ballot:
"Do you authorize the proposed Land Transaction(s) dated for reference on the day of, 20?"
The Ratification Vote will take place on the day of, 20, from 9:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. local time at the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Elementary School Gymnasium.
Copies of the proposed Land Transaction(s) may be obtained from:  Whitecap Dakota First Nation Land Manager:
Telephone:
Dated at, in the Province of Saskatchewan this
day of, 20
Ratification Officer

#### **FORM 5 – MAIL-IN BALLOT DECLARATION**

In the matter of Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Vote held in accordance with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law: I, \_\_\_\_\_ solemnly declare that: (full registered name) 1. I am a member of Whitecap Dakota First Nation Band; 2. My status number is \_\_\_\_\_\_; 3. My date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_\_; 4. I currently reside at \_\_\_\_\_\_; I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it has the same force and effect as if made under oath. I understand that it is an offence to make a false statement in this declaration. (date) (signature of registered voter) Declared before me \_\_ (witness print full name) (witness signature) (address) (telephone number of witness)

## FORM 6 – DECLARATION OF RATIFICATION OFFICER OPENING OF THE POLLING STATION

In the matter of the Ratification Vote of the V	Vhitecap	Dakota Fir	st Nation, we,	
(Print Name)	and		(Print Name)	
hereby declare that on	t	he	day of	
20, at 9:00 a.m., we did witness that was/were properly sealed and locked. We without the seals or locks being broken.				-
Signature of Witness	i i	Signature of	Ratification Office	er
Signature of Witness				

## FORM 7 – REPORT BY RATIFICATION OFFICER (Conclusion of Vote)

I, the Pr	, Ratification Officer of Whitecap Dakota First Nation, in ovince of Saskatchewan, DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:
1	I was present at Whitecap Dakota First Nation on, 20, when Eligible Voters of Whitecap Dakota First Nation voted in the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Vote in accordance with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law.
2.	A true copy of the Notice of Vote is attached as Exhibit "1" to this declaration.
3.	In accordance with Section 7, a Notice of Vote was posted at least 35 days prior to the Voting Day.
4.	In accordance with Section 8, a copy of the Notice of Vote together with a summary of the Ratification Documents were sent to each Eligible Voter residing on Whitecap Dakota First Nation Lands or in the city of Saskatoon who had provided their address to me at least 42 days prior to the Voting Day.
5.	The voting procedure, including the handling of mail-in ballots and the counting of results, was conducted in accordance with the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law.
6.	The results of the Ratification Vote are as follows:
	a) Mail-in ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with Section 11;
	b) Regular ballots were cast in the Ratification Vote in accordance with Sections 12 and 13;
	c) ballots were rejected in accordance with Section 14;
	d) ballots were marked "YES" for the Ballot Question; and
	e) ballots were marked "NO" for the Ballot Question.
7.	The proposed Land Transaction(s) was/were approved/not approved by the Eligible Voters.
8.	All section references in this declaration refer to the Whitecap Dakota First Nation Ratification Land Law.
Date	Ratification Officer