

YUULU?IL?ATH GOVERNMENT

CITIZENSHIP ACT

YFNS 10/2011



OFFICIAL CONSOLIDATION – CURRENT TO MAY 10, 2023

This is a certified true copy of the consolidated Citizenship Act, YFNS 10/2011, current to May 10, 2023

Date: May 4, 2023

Signed: *Hamilton*
Law Clerk

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PREAMBLE

Yuulu?i?ath asserts that, since time immemorial, we have lived on our lands as self-governing peoples with our own laws and governance systems. Despite the arrival of settlers on our lands we have preserved and protected our traditional territory and have continued to exist as a distinct, self-governing Nation.

In the past, the government of Canada has imposed rules for determining who is and who is not a member of Yuulu?i?ath. As part of our renewed self-government, Yuulu?i?ath reclaims our inherent right to determine our own citizenship and, in doing so, we pledge to honour who we are and where we have come from as a peoples.

To assist with realizing these goals, Yuulu?i?ath wishes to establish a citizenship law that sets out the criteria for Yuulu?i?ath citizenship and enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty and establishes rules and procedures aimed at ensuring those criteria are applied fairly and consistently to all individuals.

Yuulu?i?ath adopts this Act based on these values.

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PART 1 - INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

Short title

1.1 This Act may be cited as the Citizenship Act.

Executive oversight

1.2 The member of the Executive holding the community services portfolio is responsible for the executive oversight of this Act.

Application

1.3 This Act applies to

- (a) the granting, renunciation and revocation of Yuulu?i?ath citizenship, and
- (b) after the initial enrolment period, the granting, renunciation and revocation of enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty.

Definitions

1.4 In this Act,

“Eligibility and Enrolment Chapter” means Chapter 26 Eligibility and Enrolment of the Maa-nulth Treaty;

“legal guardian” means,

- (a) in relation to a child, the child’s guardian within the meaning of the Family Relations Act (British Columbia), and
- (b) in relation to an adult, a person appointed as the adult’s committee under the Patients Property Act (British Columbia);

“registrar” means the citizenship and enrolment registrar;

“Yuulu?i?ath band list” means the “band list” of the Yuulu?i?ath First Nation within the meaning of section 2(1) of the Indian Act (Canada);

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PART 2 - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Citizenship eligibility criteria

- 2.1** (a) An individual is a Yuulu?il?ath citizen if that individual is a Yuulu?il?ath enrollee.
- (b) An individual is entitled to become a Yuulu?il?ath citizen if that individual
- (i) was on the Yuulu?il?ath band list as of the day immediately preceding the Maa-nulth Treaty effective date,
 - (ii) has been adopted as a child by a Yuulu?il?ath citizen under Canadian law, the Maa-nulth Treaty or in accordance with Nuu-chah-nulth custom,
 - (iii) is a descendant of a Yuulu?il?ath citizen, or
 - (iv) is accepted by the Yuulu?il?ath First Nation as a member of the Yuulu?il?ath First Nation in accordance with Nuu-chah-nulth custom and has a demonstrated attachment to the Yuulu?il?ath First Nation.

Dual citizenship not permitted

- 2.2** Despite section 2.1, an individual who is a citizen or member of another first nation may not at the same time be a Yuulu?il?ath citizen.

Enrolment eligibility criteria

- 2.3** An individual is entitled to become a Yuulu?il?ath enrollee if that individual meets the eligibility criteria under 26.1.1 of the Eligibility and Enrolment Chapter.

Dual enrolment not permitted

- 2.4** As provided in the Eligibility and Enrolment Chapter, despite section 2.3, an individual who is on the enrolment register of another Maa-nulth First Nation or enrolled under another land claims agreement may not at the same time be a Yuulu?il?ath enrollee.

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PART 3 - CITIZENSHIP AND ENROLMENT REGISTRAR

Office of the citizenship and enrolment registrar established

- 3.1**
- (a) The office of the citizenship and enrolment registrar is established as an office within the Department of Community Services.
 - (b) The director of operations must appoint an individual to hold the office of the registrar.
 - (c) The registrar reports to the community services manager.

Duties of the registrar

- 3.2** The registrar must perform the following duties:
- (a) provide application forms, information and assistance to individuals who wish to
 - (i) apply for Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty,
 - (ii) request a review of any decision of the citizenship and enrolment committee, or
 - (iii) renounce his or her Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty;
 - (b) maintain a permanent record of all
 - (i) applications to the citizenship and enrolment committee,
 - (ii) refusal notices delivered by the citizenship and enrolment committee,
 - (iii) renunciation notices received by the citizenship and enrolment committee,
 - (iv) revocation notices delivered by the citizenship and enrolment committee, and
 - (v) minutes of all meetings of the citizenship and enrolment committee;
 - (c) establish and maintain
 - (i) the Yuulu?il?ath citizenship register, and
 - (ii) the Yuulu?il?ath enrolment registerin accordance with this Act;

- (d) assist the citizenship and enrolment committee in the performance of its duties;
and
- (e) any other duties assigned or delegated to the registrar
 - (i) under this or any other Yuulu?il?ath enactment, or
 - (ii) by the community services manager.

Delegation authority

- 3.3**
- (a) Upon the approval of the community services manager, the registrar may delegate, in writing, the performance of any of the registrar’s duties or the exercise of any of the registrar’s powers to another Yuulu?il?ath government employee.
 - (b) Despite the delegation of any duties or powers under subsection (a), the registrar remains responsible for ensuring that the duties are performed properly and the powers are exercised appropriately.

PART 4 - [REPEALED]

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PART 5 - APPLICATION PROCESS

Citizenship application

- 5.1 (a) An individual described in section 2.1(b) who wishes to become a Yuulu?i?ath citizen must submit an application in the prescribed form to the citizenship and enrolment committee.
- (b) For certainty, a Yuulu?i?ath enrollee is automatically a Yuulu?i?ath citizen without having to submit an application under subsection (a).

Enrolment application

- 5.2 After the initial enrolment period, an individual described in section 2.3 who wishes to become a Yuulu?i?ath enrollee must submit an application in the prescribed form to the citizenship and enrolment committee.

Decision on application

- 5.3 (a) Subject to section 5.4, the citizenship and enrolment committee must grant Yuulu?i?ath citizenship to each applicant under section 5.1(a) if the citizenship and enrolment committee is satisfied that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under section 2.1.
- (b) Subject to section 5.5, the citizenship and enrolment committee must grant enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty to each applicant under section 5.2 if the citizenship and enrolment committee is satisfied that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under section 2.3.

Conditional grant of citizenship

- 5.4 (a) If an applicant under section 5.1(a) is, at the time of the application, an individual described in section 2.2, the citizenship and enrolment committee must conditionally grant Yuulu?i?ath citizenship to that applicant if the citizenship and enrolment committee is satisfied that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under section 2.1.
- (b) The registrar may, upon 90 days written notice to an applicant who has been conditionally granted Yuulu?i?ath citizenship under subsection (a), remove the applicant's name from the Yuulu?i?ath citizenship register unless, within the 90 day notice period, the applicant demonstrates that he or she is no longer an individual described in section 2.2.

Conditional grant of enrolment

- 5.5 (a) If an applicant under section 5.2 is, at the time of the application, an individual described in section 2.4, the citizenship and enrolment committee must

- conditionally grant enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty to that applicant if the citizenship and enrolment committee is satisfied that the applicant meets the eligibility criteria under section 2.3.
- (b) The registrar may, upon 90 days written notice to an applicant who has been conditionally granted enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty under subsection (a), remove the applicant's name from the Yuulu?il?ath enrolment register unless, within the 90 day notice period, the applicant demonstrates that he or she is no longer an individual described in section 2.4.

Refusal notice

- 5.6** If the citizenship and enrolment committee refuses to grant Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty to an applicant under section 5.1(a) or 5.2, the citizenship and enrolment committee must deliver in accordance with Yuulu?il?ath law notice of the refusal, with reasons, to the applicant.

Right to reapply

- 5.7** An individual who has renounced his or her Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty under section 6.1 may reapply for Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty under section 5.1(a) or 5.2.

PART 6 - RENUNCIATION AND REVOCATION PROCESSES

Renunciation of citizenship or enrolment

- 6.1** (a) In this section, “renunciation notice” means a notice under subsection (b) or (c).
- (b) An individual may renounce his or her Yuulu?i?ath citizenship by delivering a notice in the prescribed form to the citizenship and enrolment committee.
- (c) After the initial enrolment period, an individual may renounce his or her enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty by delivering a notice in the prescribed form to the citizenship and enrolment committee.
- (d) A renunciation notice takes effect when the citizenship and enrolment committee receives the notice.
- (e) If a renunciation notice is for a child or dependent adult, the renunciation notice may be submitted by the child or dependent adult’s legal guardian.

Revocation of citizenship or enrolment

- 6.2** (a) If the citizenship and enrolment committee has reason to believe that an individual
- (i) has been granted Yuulu?i?ath citizenship on the basis of a material error in the facts, or
- (ii) no longer meets the eligibility criteria under section 2.1 or 2.2,
- the citizenship and enrolment committee may deliver in accordance with Yuulu?i?ath law notice to that individual advising that it intends to revoke his or her Yuulu?i?ath citizenship.
- (b) If, after the initial enrolment period, the citizenship and enrolment committee has reason to believe that an individual
- (i) has been granted enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty on the basis of a material error in the facts, or
- (ii) no longer meets the eligibility criteria under section 2.3 or 2.4,
- the citizenship and enrolment committee may deliver in accordance with Yuulu?i?ath law notice to that individual advising that it intends to revoke his or her enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty.

Revocation notice

- 6.3** A written notice under section 6.2 must set out
- (a) the reasons for the proposed revocation, and
 - (b) that the individual is entitled to make representations regarding the proposed revocation by delivering a written response to the citizenship and enrolment committee within 30 days of receipt of the notice.

Revocation directive

- 6.4** (a) Upon considering any written response under section 6.3 and being satisfied that one or more of the circumstances described in section 6.2 exist, the citizenship and enrolment committee may, by directive, revoke the individual's Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty.
- (b) The citizenship and enrolment committee must deliver in accordance with Yuulu?il?ath law a copy of any directive under subsection (a) to the individual whose Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty was revoked as a result of the directive.

PART 7 - REVIEW PROCESS

Decisions final and binding

7.1 Subject to sections 7.2 to 7.4, all decisions of the citizenship and enrolment committee are final and binding.

New information

7.2 An individual whose

- (a) application for Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty has been refused, or
- (b) Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty has been revoked

by a decision of the citizenship and enrolment committee may submit new information to the citizenship and enrolment committee at any time and the citizenship and enrolment committee may reconsider its decision based on such new information.

Review of citizenship and enrolment committee decision

7.3 An individual whose

- (a) application for Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty has been refused, or
- (b) Yuulu?il?ath citizenship or enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty has been revoked

by a decision of the citizenship and enrolment committee may request a review of that decision under the Administrative Decisions Review Act.

Judicial review of Administrative Decisions Review Board decision

7.4 For certainty, as provided in 26.7.1 of the Eligibility and Enrolment Chapter and despite section 4.7(m) of the Administrative Decisions Review Act, an individual who requests a review under section 7.3 may apply to the Supreme Court to review and set aside the Administrative Decisions Review Board

- (a) acted without jurisdiction,
- (b) acted beyond its jurisdiction,
- (c) refused to exercise its jurisdiction,

- (d) failed to observe procedural fairness,
- (e) erred in law, or
- (f) based its decision on an erroneous finding of fact that it made in a perverse or capricious manner or without regard for the material before it.

PART 8 - CITIZENSHIP AND ENROLMENT REGISTERS

Citizenship register

8.1 The registrar must establish and maintain a Yuulu?il?ath citizenship register that contains the names of all individuals who are Yuulu?il?ath citizens.

Placement of names on citizenship register

- 8.2** (a) No individual's name may be placed on the Yuulu?il?ath citizenship register except in accordance with this section.
- (b) The registrar must place an individual's name on the Yuulu?il?ath citizenship register if
- (i) that individual is a Yuulu?il?ath enrollee,
 - (ii) that individual has been granted Yuulu?il?ath citizenship under section 5.3,
 - (iii) that individual has been conditionally granted Yuulu?il?ath citizenship under section 5.4, or
 - (iv) that individual's Yuulu?il?ath citizenship has been granted or reinstated as a result of
 - (A) a reconsideration under section 7.2,
 - (B) a review under section 7.3, or
 - (C) a judicial review under section 7.4.

Removal of names from citizenship register

- 8.3** (a) No individual's name may be removed from the Yuulu?il?ath citizenship register except in accordance with this section.
- (b) The registrar must remove an individual's name from the Yuulu?il?ath citizenship register
- (i) if that the individual has died,
 - (ii) if that individual has been conditionally granted Yuulu?il?ath citizenship under section 5.4 and fails to demonstrate within the time period required in section 5.4 that he or she is no longer an individual described in section 2.2,
 - (iii) on receipt of a notice of renunciation under section 6.1(b), or

- (iv) if that individual's Yuulu?i?ath citizenship has been revoked under section 6.4.

Enrolment register

8.4 After the initial enrolment period, the registrar must establish and maintain a Yuulu?i?ath enrolment register that contains the names of all individuals who are Yuulu?i?ath enrollees.

Placement of names on enrolment register

- 8.5**
- (a) No individual's name may be placed on the Yuulu?i?ath enrolment register except in accordance with this section.
 - (b) The registrar must place an individual's name on the Yuulu?i?ath enrolment register if
 - (i) on the last day of the initial enrolment period, that individual's name was on the enrolment register maintained by the Enrolment Committee,
 - (ii) that individual has been granted enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty under section 5.3,
 - (iii) that individual has been conditionally granted enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty under section 5.5, or
 - (iv) that individual's enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty has been granted or reinstated as a result of
 - (A) a reconsideration under section 7.2,
 - (B) a review under section 7.3, or
 - (C) a judicial review under section 7.4.

Removal of names from enrolment register

- 8.6**
- (a) No individual's name may be removed from the Yuulu?i?ath enrolment register except in accordance with this section.
 - (b) The registrar must remove an individual's name from the Yuulu?i?ath enrolment register
 - (i) if that the individual has died,
 - (ii) if that individual has been conditionally granted enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty under section 5.5 and fails to demonstrate within the

time period required in section 5.5 that he or she is no longer an individual described in section 2.4,

- (iii) on receipt of a notice of renunciation under section 6.1(c), or
- (iv) if that individual's enrolment under the Maa-nulth Treaty has been revoked under section 6.4.

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PART 9 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

Regulations

- 9.1 The Executive may make regulations which it considers necessary or advisable for the purposes of this Act.

Authority of legal guardians

- 9.2 For certainty, an individual's legal guardian may
- (a) submit an application under section 5.1 or 5.2,
 - (b) submit a renunciation notice under section 6.1,
 - (c) make representations under section 6.3,
 - (d) submit new information under section 7.2, or
 - (e) file a review request under section 7.3,
- on behalf of the individual for whom he or she is a legal guardian.

Limitation on actions

- 9.3 (a) For certainty and pursuant to 13.35.1 and 13.35.4 of Chapter 13 Governance of the Maa-nulth Treaty, no action for damages lies or may be commenced against any Yuulu?il?ath official or former Yuulu?il?ath official for anything done or omitted to be done under this Act.
- (b) Despite 13.35.2, 13.35.3, 13.35.5 and 13.35.6 of Chapter 13 Governance of the Maa-nulth Treaty, no action for damages lies or may be commenced against a Yuulu?il?ath institution, Yuulu?il?ath official or former Yuulu?il?ath official for anything done or omitted to be done under this Act if they acted in good faith in the performance of their duties or the exercise of their powers.

Offence

- 9.4 (a) An individual commits an offence under this Act if that individual, by false representation, fraud, or knowingly concealing a material fact
- (i) becomes a Yuulu?il?ath citizen or Yuulu?il?ath enrollee,
 - (ii) attempts to become a Yuulu?il?ath citizen or Yuulu?il?ath enrollee, or
 - (iii) assists another individual in becoming or attempting to become a Yuulu?il?ath citizen or Yuulu?il?ath enrollee.

- (b) An individual who commits an offence under subsection (a) is liable, on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months.

Commencement

9.5 This Act comes into force on the Maa-nulth Treaty effective date.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Citizenship Act YFNS 10/2011 enacted April 1, 2011

Amendments

Section	Amendment	In Force
3.2(b)(iv)	YFNS 44/2015, s.4.2(a)	April 14, 2015
6.2	YFNS 44/2015, s.4.2(b)	April 14, 2015
6.3	YFNS 44/2015, s.4.2(c)	April 14, 2015
6.4(a)	YFNS 44/2015, s.4.2(d)	April 14, 2015
6.4	YFNS 44/2015, s.4.2(e)	April 14, 2015
Preamble	YFNS 82/2023, s.2.1(a)	May 10, 2023
1.4	YFNS 82/2023, s.2.1(b)	May 10, 2023
3.2(d)	YFNS 82/2023, s.2.1(c)	May 10, 2023
Part 4	YFNS 82/2023, s.2.1(d)	May 10, 2023
3.2(a)(ii), 3.2(b)(i)-(v), 3.2(d), 5.1(a), 5.2, 5.3(a)-(b), 5.4(a), 5.5(a), 5.6, 6.1(b)-(d), 6.2(a)-(b), 6.3(b), 6.4(a)-(b), 7.1, 7.2 and 7.3	YFNS 82/2023, s.2.1(e)	May 10, 2023

Amending Acts:

YFNS 44/2015 Enforcement Framework Amendment Act No. 2 enacted April 14, 2015
YFNS 82/2023 Committee Structure Amendment Act enacted March 13, 2023

Regulations:

YFNR 1/2011 Citizenship and Enrolment Forms Regulation
YFNR 22/2013 Citizenship and Enrolment Forms Amendment Regulation

Orders: