

Chippewas of Rama First Nation



Land Code

Dated for Reference
September 27, 2017

CERTIFIED

By: Mathieu Courchene





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Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code

PREAMBLE

Whereas the Chippewas of Rama First Nation have a profound relationship with the Land that is rooted in respect for the spiritual value of the Earth and the gifts of the Creator and has a deep desire to preserve their relationship with the Land;

And Whereas fourteen First Nations and Canada concluded a government-to-government *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* on February 12, 1996;

And Whereas the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* provides the option to First Nations of withdrawing their reserve Land from the land management provisions of the *Indian Act* in order to exercise control over their Land and resources for the use and benefit of their Members;

And Whereas Canada ratified its commitment to the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* with the enactment of the *First Nations Land Management Act*, S.C. 1999, c.24;

And Whereas Chippewas of Rama First Nation became a signatory on February 12, 1996 to the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, as the Peoples of Chippewas of Rama First Nation wish to govern their Lands and resources under the *Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code*, rather than having its Land and resources managed on its behalf under the *Indian Act*;

And Whereas the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* acknowledges that Canada's special relationship with Chippewas of Rama First Nation will continue;

And Whereas the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management* is ratified by Chippewas of Rama First Nation through community approval of the *Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code*;

NOW THEREFORE, THIS *LAND CODE* IS HEREBY ENACTED AS THE FUNDAMENTAL LAND LAW OF THE CHIPPEWAS OF RAMA FIRST NATION.

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PART 1 PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Definitions

Clarification

- 1.1 Any words or terms used in this *Land Code* which are defined in the *Framework Agreement* shall have the same meaning as in the *Framework Agreement*, unless the context otherwise requires.

Definitions

- 1.2 The following definitions apply in this *Land Code*:

"Canada" means Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada;

"Chippewas of Rama First Nation" means the Chippewas of Rama First Nation and its Members;

"Common-Law Partnership" means the relationship between two (2) persons who are cohabiting in a conjugal relationship;

"Community Land" means any Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land in which all Members have a common interest;

"Council" means the Chief and Council of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation or any successor elected government of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation;

"Eligible Voter" means, for the purpose of voting in respect of Land matters under this *Land Code*, a Member who has attained eighteen (18) years of age on or before the day of the vote;

"Extended Family", in respect of a person, means the person's grandparent, uncle, aunt, first degree cousin, grandchild, and/or any other relation or relationship that Council may add by law;

"First Nation Lands Register" means the register established pursuant to clause 51 of the *Framework Agreement* and regulated by the *First Nations Land Registry Regulations*;

"*Framework Agreement*" means the *Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management*, entered into between Canada and the signatory First Nations on February 12, 1996;

"Immediate Relatives", in respect of a person, means the person's parent, sister, brother, child, and Spouse;

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"Individual Agreement" means the Individual Agreement providing for the specific of the transfer of administration made between Chippewas of Rama First Nation and Canada in accordance with clause 6.1 of the *Framework Agreement*;

"Interest", in relation to First Nation Land, means any Interest, right or estate of any nature in or to that Land, including a certificate of possession, certificate of entitlement, lease, easement, right of way, servitude, or profit à prendre, but does not include title to that Land;

"Land" or "Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land" means any reserve Land that is subject to this *Land Code*;

"Lands Committee" means the Rama First Nation Lands Committee established under part 6 of this *Land Code*;

"Licence" in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, means any right of use or occupation of that Land, other than an Interest in the Land;

"Member" means a person whose name appears or is entitled to appear on the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Band Membership List;

"Panel" means the Dispute Resolution Panel of three (3) panelists, selected from the Roster Panel, with jurisdiction to resolve disputes in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;

"Roster Panel" means the roster of panelists established under Part 8 of this *Land Code* which shall be composed of a maximum of twenty (20) panelists;

"Spouse" means a person who is married to another, whether by a traditional, religious or civil ceremony, and includes a Spouse by Common-Law Partnership.

2. Interpretation

Interpretation

2.1 In this Land Code:

- a) the *Land Code* shall be interpreted in a fair, large and liberal manner;
- b) the word 'shall' signifies an obligation that, unless this *Land Code* provides to the contrary, must be carried out as soon as practicable after this *Land Code* comes into effect or the event that gives rise to the obligation;
- c) unless it is otherwise clear from the context, the use of the word "including" means "including, but not limited to", and the use of the word "includes" means "includes, but is not limited to"; **CERTIFIED**

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- d) titles and headings have been inserted in the *Land Code* for convenience of reference only, and are not interpretive aids;
- e) unless it is otherwise clear from the context, the use of the masculine includes the feminine, and the use of the feminine includes the masculine;
- f) unless otherwise clear from the context, whenever the singular is used, it will include the plural, and the use of the plural includes the singular;
- g) all references to a time period of days means consecutive days and not business days;
- h) where the time limited for the doing of an act expires or falls on a Saturday or Sunday, or a First Nation, federal or provincial holiday, the act may be done on the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday;
- i) where the time limited for the doing of an act in the Chippewas of Rama First Nation administration building falls on a day when the office is not open, the act may be done on the next day that the office is open;
- j) where there is a reference to a number of days or a number of days between two events, in calculating that number of days, the days on which the events happen are excluded; and
- k) the principles set out in the Preamble to this *Land Code* may be used to interpret this *Land Code*.

Culture and traditions

- 2.2 The structures, organizations and procedures established by or under this *Land Code* shall be consistent with the methods already adopted by the Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

Language

- 2.3 The language of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation may be used to clarify the meaning of any provision in this *Land Code*, if the meaning of that provision is not otherwise clear in English.

Consistency with Framework Agreement

- 2.4 If there is an inconsistency or conflict between this *Land Code* and the *Framework Agreement*, the *Framework Agreement* will prevail to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

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Paramountcy

- 2.5 If there is an inconsistency or conflict between this *Land Code* and any other enactment of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, including a by-law enacted under section 81 of the *Indian Act*, this *Land Code* prevails to the extent of the inconsistency or conflict.

Rights not affected

- 2.6 This *Land Code* does not change:
- any Aboriginal, Treaty, inherent rights or other rights or freedoms that pertain now or in the future to the Chippewas of Rama First Nation or its Members; or
 - the fiduciary relationship between Canada and Chippewas of Rama First Nation and its Members; or
 - the by-law powers of Council pursuant to the Indian Act.

Lands and Interests affected

- 2.7 A reference to Land in this *Land Code* includes all the interests and rights, as well as the resources that belong to that Land to the extent these are under the jurisdiction of Canada and are part of that Land, and includes:
- the water, beds underlying water, riparian rights, and renewable and non-renewable natural resources in and of that Land, to the extent that these are under the jurisdiction of Canada;
 - all the Interests and Licences granted by Canada listed in the Individual Agreement; and
 - all the Interests and Licences granted by the Chippewas of Rama First Nation after this *Land Code* comes into effect.

Eligible Reserve Land

- 2.8 Only Land that is a reserve of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation is eligible to be governed by Chippewas of Rama First Nation as Land under this *Land Code*.

3. Authority to Govern

Origin of authority

- 3.1 From the beginning of time, the Anishinaabeg, one who was lowered by the Creator, have lived in harmony with the land, the water, the air, the sun and all of creation. The Anishinaabeg Migration Story is set out in the Annex to this Land Code, to assist in reminding us of our original instructions to care for the land.

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Flow of authority

- 3.2 The authority of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation to govern its Land and resources flows from the Creator to the people of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, and from the people to Council according to the culture, traditions, customs and laws of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

4. Purpose

Purpose

- 4.1 The purpose of this *Land Code* is to set out the principles, rules and administrative structures that apply to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and by which the Chippewas of Rama First Nation will exercise authority over that Land in accordance with the *Framework Agreement*.

5. Description of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land

Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land

- 5.1 The Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land that is subject to this *Land Code* is that Land known as Chippewas of Rama Indian Reserve No. 32 as listed in the Individual Agreement.

Description of Land

- 5.2 The Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land includes all reserve Lands described in Appendix "B" of this *Land Code* and any other reserve Lands or Interests of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation that are made subject to this *Land Code* by resolution.

Additional Lands

- 5.3 Council shall hold a meeting of Members prior to the amendment of the description of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land subject to this *Land Code* and Individual Agreement.

PART 2 FIRST NATION LEGISLATION

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6. Law-Making Powers

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Council may make Land laws

- 6.1 Council may, in accordance with this *Land Code*, make Land laws respecting:
- the development, conservation, protection, management, use and possession of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;

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- b) Interests and Licences in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land; and
- c) any matter necessary or ancillary to the making of Land laws in relation to the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Examples of Land laws

6.2 For greater certainty, Council may make Land laws including:

- a) regulation, control and prohibition of zoning, Land use, subdivision control and Land development;
- b) the creation, regulation and prohibition of Interests and Licences in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
- c) environmental assessment and protection;
- d) provision of local services in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and the imposition of equitable user charges;
- e) enforcement of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land laws; and
- f) provision of services for the resolution, outside the courts, of disputes in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Regulatory Instruments

6.3 For greater certainty, in addition to Land laws, Council may make other regulatory instruments, including rules, regulations, standards, codes and policies.

7. Law-Making Procedure

Introduction of Land laws

7.1 A proposed Land law may be introduced at a duly convened meeting of Council by:

- a) an Eligible Voter;
- b) the Chief;
- c) a Councillor; or
- d) a manager or director of a Rama First Nation Department, that may be authorized in writing by Council to do so.

Rationalization of Proposed Land law

7.2 Any proponent shall submit a written explanation of the reason for the proposed Land law.

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Lands Committee Review

- 7.3 Council shall refer a proposed Land law to the Lands Committee for review and comment.

Procedure upon receipt of Proposed Land law

- 7.4 Upon receipt of a proposed Land law, Council may:
- table the proposed Land law for further review or for enactment;
 - request that the proponent provide further information or attend a future meeting of Council to speak to the proposed Land law;
 - undertake or direct the preparation of a draft Land law concerning matters raised in the proposed Land law, for consideration by Council; or
 - reject the proposed Land law.

Tabling and posting of proposed Land laws

- 7.5 Before a proposed Land law may be enacted, Council shall:
- table the proposed Land law at a duly convened meeting of Council;
 - post it in public places and publish it online;
 - deposit the proposed Land law with the Lands Committee;
 - review comments and recommendations, provided by the Lands Committee; and
 - take any other steps to give notice of the proposed Land law that Council may consider appropriate.

Urgent matters

- 7.6 Council may enact a Land law without the preliminary steps ordinarily required, if Council is of the opinion that the Land law is needed urgently for public health and safety or to protect Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land or the Members however this Land law expires one hundred and twenty (120) days after its enactment unless re-enacted in accordance with the required preliminary steps.

Approval of Land law

- 7.7 Subject to this *Land Code*, a Land law is approved by a quorum of Council at a duly convened meeting of Council open to the Members.

Certification of Land laws

- 7.8 The original copy of any approved Land law or resolution concerning Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land shall be signed by a quorum of Council.

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Land laws taking effect

- 7.9 A Land law enacted by Council takes effect on the date of its enactment or such later date as specified in the Land law.

8. Publication of Land Laws

Publication

- 8.1 A Land law shall be:
- a) published in the minutes of the Council meeting at which it was enacted;
 - b) posted, as soon as practicable after enactment, in a location within the administrative office of Chippewas of Rama First Nation accessible to all Members;
 - c) published online; and
 - d) published by any additional method as Council may consider appropriate.

Registry of Land laws

- 8.2 Council shall cause to be kept, at the administrative offices of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, a register of all Land laws and resolutions, including Land laws and resolutions that have been repealed or are no longer in force.

Copies for any Person

- 8.3 Any person may obtain a copy of a Land law or resolution.

9. Enforcement of Land Laws

Enforceability of Land laws

- 9.1 To enforce its *Land Code* and its Land laws, Chippewas of Rama First Nation shall have the power to:
- a) establish offences that are punishable on summary conviction;
 - b) provide for fines, imprisonment, restitution, community services, and alternate means for achieving compliance;
 - c) establish comprehensive enforcement procedures consistent with federal law, including inspections, searches, seizures and compulsory sampling, testing and the production of information; and
 - d) enter into agreements with provincial or municipal governments with respect to any matter concerning the enforcement of its *Land Code* and Land laws.

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Prosecuting Offences

- 9.2 For the purpose of prosecuting offences, Chippewas of Rama First Nation may:
- retain its own prosecutor; and
 - make laws with respect to the appointment and authority of justices of the peace.

PART 3 COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND APPROVALS

10. Participation of Members

Participation of Members

- 10.1 Every Member is entitled to participate in the meeting of Members.

11. Participation of Eligible Voters

Participation of Eligible Voters

- 11.1 Every Eligible Voter is entitled to participate in community approvals.

12. Meeting of Members and Community Approval Procedure

Notice of meeting

- 12.1 Council shall give written notice of the meeting of Members and any matter requiring community approval at a meeting of Members, and include in the notice:
- the date, time and place of the meeting;
 - a brief description of the matter to be discussed;
 - a brief description of any matter that requires community approval; and
 - other information and material that Council considers appropriate.

Manner of notice

- 12.2 The notice shall be given to the Members before the meeting or vote, by:
- posting the notice in public places;
 - providing the notice to Members and taking reasonable steps to locate and inform Members who reside on and off-reserve;
 - posting the notice online; and
 - additional methods Council considers appropriate.

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Permission of Council

- 12.3 A person, other than a Member, authorized by Council may attend a meeting of Members.

Informed Decision

- 12.4 Council may schedule more than one meeting of Members as may be necessary to ensure that Members are well informed before making a decision on a proposed Land law or Land matter.

13. Community Meetings of Members

Community Meetings

- 13.1 Council shall call a meeting of Members prior to:
- declaring Land or an Interest to be subject to this *Land Code*;
 - enacting a Land law respecting a community plan or subdivision plan;
 - any development affecting a heritage site or an environmentally sensitive property;
 - enacting a Land law respecting environmental assessment and protection;
 - enacting a Land law respecting the transfer and assignment of rights and Interests in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - enacting a Land law respecting matrimonial real property on reserve;
 - enacting a Land law respecting the rate and criteria for the payment of fees or rent for Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land; and
 - respecting any other matter, Land law or class of law that Council, by Resolution, declares to be subject to this section.

No Quorum

- 13.2 No quorum or minimum level of participation is required at a meeting of Members.

14. Community Approval

Community approval

- 14.1 Community approval shall be obtained for the following:

- any master Land use plan;
- any new grant or disposition of an Interest or Licence in any Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land exceeding a term of thirty five (35) years;

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- c) any renewal of a grant or disposition of an Interest or Licence in any Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land that extends the original term beyond thirty five (35) years;
- d) any grant or disposition of any non-renewable natural resources on any Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land exceeding a term of five (5) years;
- e) any deletion of a heritage site;
- f) any voluntary exchange of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land; and
- g) any other matter, Land law or class of law that Council, by resolution, declares to be subject to this section.

Utility Permits Excepted

- 14.2 Community approval is not required for an easement, right of way or permit granted by Council for utilities, including telecommunications, water, electricity, natural gas, sewer services and ancillary services.

Method of Voting

- 14.3 Community approval shall be obtained by one or more of the following methods:
- a) establishing polling locations;
 - b) show of hands;
 - c) mail-in ballot;
 - d) alternative voting methods, such as electronic and telephone voting; or
 - e) any other method outlined in voting policies.

First Community Approval Vote

- 14.4 In order to obtain a quorum for community approval, at least ten percent (10%) of Eligible Voters shall participate.

Approval by Majority

- 14.5 For community approvals, a matter shall be considered approved if a majority of fifty percent plus one (50%+1) of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve the matter.

Second Community Approval Vote

- 14.6 If a quorum was not obtained at a first community approval, a second community approval vote may be called without any quorum requirement.

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Approval by Majority

- 14.7 A matter shall be considered approved at a second community approval vote, if a majority of fifty percent plus one (50%+1) of the participating Eligible Voters vote to approve the matter.

15. Ratification Votes

Community Approval by Ratification vote

- 15.1 Community approval by ratification vote shall be obtained for an amendment to this *Land Code*.

Exceptions

- 15.2 A community approval by ratification vote is not required for:
- a) an amendment to the description of Land of this *Land Code*;
 - b) revisions to this *Land Code* made pursuant to section 47; and
 - c) an amendment to, or renewal of, the Individual Agreement.

Ratification process

- 15.3 Any ratification vote required under this *Land Code* may be conducted in a similar manner as the *Chippewas of Rama First Nation Community Ratification Process*, which was used to ratify this *Land Code*.

No verifier

- 15.4 A verifier is not required in any ratification vote.

First Ratification Vote

- 15.5 In order to obtain a quorum for a community approval by ratification vote under this *Land Code* at least fifteen percent (15%) of Eligible Voters shall register to vote.

Approval by majority

- 15.6 A matter shall be considered approved at a ratification vote if a majority of fifty percent plus one (50%+1) of the participating registered Eligible Voters vote to approve the matter.

Second Ratification Vote

- 15.7 If a quorum was not obtained at a first ratification vote, a second ratification vote may be called.

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Second Ratification Vote Quorum

- 15.8 In order to obtain a quorum for community approval for a second attempt at a ratification vote under this *Land Code* at least ten percent (10%) of Eligible Voters shall register to vote.

Approval by Majority

- 15.9 A matter shall be considered approved at a second ratification vote if a majority of fifty percent plus one (50%+1) of the participating registered Eligible Voters vote to approve the matter.

Policies Consultation, Approval and Ratification

- 15.10 For greater certainty, Council may make Land laws or policies:
- for meetings of Members;
 - for community consultations;
 - for community approvals;
 - for ratification votes; and
 - respecting any other matter, that Council, by resolution, declares to be subject to part 3 of this *Land Code*.

PART 4 PROTECTION OF LAND

16. Prohibition on Expropriation

No Expropriation

- 16.1 There shall be no expropriation of any Interest or Licence in the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

17. Voluntary Exchange of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land

Conditions for a land exchange

- 17.1 The Chippewas of Rama First Nation may agree with another party to exchange a parcel of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land for a parcel of land from that other party in accordance with this *Land Code* and the *Framework Agreement*.

No effect

- 17.2 A land exchange is of no effect unless it receives community approval in accordance with this *Land Code* and with clause 14.2 of the *Framework Agreement*.

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Land to be received

- 17.3 No land exchange may occur unless the land to be received in the exchange meets the following conditions:
- a) it shall be equal to or greater than the area/ size of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to be exchanged;
 - b) it shall be at least comparable to the appraised value of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land; and
 - c) it shall become a reserve and Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land subject to this *Land Code*.

Negotiators

- 17.4 The person who will have authority to negotiate a land exchange agreement on behalf of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation shall be designated by resolution.

Additional land

- 17.5 The Chippewas of Rama First Nation may negotiate to receive other compensation, such as money or other additional parcels of land, in addition to the parcel which is intended to become a reserve. Such other parcels of land may be held by the Chippewas of Rama First Nation in fee simple or some other manner.

Federal Consent

- 17.6 Before the Chippewas of Rama First Nation concludes a land exchange agreement, it shall receive a written statement from Canada clearly stating that Canada:
- a) consents to set apart as a reserve the land to be received in exchange, as of the date of the land exchange or such later date as Council may specify; and
 - b) consents to the manner and form of the exchange as set out in the exchange agreement.

Community notice

- 17.7 Once negotiations on the land exchange agreement are concluded, Council shall provide the following information to Eligible Voters before the vote:
- a) a description of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to be exchanged;
 - b) a description of the land to be received in the exchange;
 - c) a description of any other compensation to be exchanged;
 - d) a report of a certified land appraiser setting out that the conditions for the land to be received in the exchange have been met;

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- e) a copy or summary of the exchange agreement; and
- f) a copy of Canada's consent.

Process of land exchange

17.8 The land exchange agreement shall provide that:

- a) the other party to the exchange must transfer to Canada the title to the land which is to be set apart as a reserve;
- b) Council must pass a resolution authorizing Canada to transfer title to the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land being exchanged, in accordance with the exchange agreement;
- c) a copy of the instruments transferring title to the relevant parcels of land must be registered in the First Nation Lands Register; and
- d) the land to be set apart as a reserve has been subject to an environmental audit, and clearance or remediation as necessary, or that Council is satisfied that adequate provisions have been made for such clearance or remediation at no cost to Chippewas of Rama First Nation, and with full indemnification to Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

PART 5 ACCOUNTABILITY

18. Conflict of Interest or Appearance of Conflict of Interest

Application of rules

18.1 The Conflict of Interest Policy of Chippewas of Rama First Nation shall be adhered to and shall apply to the following persons:

- a) each member of Council who is dealing with any matter before Council that is related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
- b) each person who is an employee of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation dealing with any matter that is related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
- c) each member of the Dispute Resolution Panel; and
- d) each person who is a member of a board, committee or other body of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation dealing with any matter that is related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

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Disputes

- 18.2 The Panel has the jurisdiction to hear and decide on any matter concerning a conflict of interest.

19. Financial Management

Application

- 19.1 This section applies only to financial matters relating to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and natural resources.

Financial policies

- 19.2 In accordance with this *Land Code*, the financial management of Land is governed by the Financial Policy of Chippewas of Rama First Nation, and any other laws or policies that are developed, adapted or adopted, that include:
- a) regulating the receipt, management and expenditure of moneys, including transfer payments, all capital and revenue moneys received from Canada, all Land revenue, and moneys received from a grant or disposition of any Interest or Licence in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and natural resources;
 - b) managing financial records and accounts;
 - c) preparing financial statements and audits;
 - d) preparing and implementing budgets and annual presentation of budgets;
 - e) determining the general investment strategy;
 - f) contract notes, loans and other indebtedness;
 - g) establishing fees, fines, charges and levies; and
 - h) establishing and maintaining a recordkeeping system that ensures confidentiality, security of records and document retention.

Administrative structure

- 19.3 Council shall establish the administrative structure:
- a) to implement all financial policies and procedures;
 - b) to oversee the day to day operational responsibilities for managing monies related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and natural resources;
 - c) to ensure the accuracy of the accounting records;
 - d) to reconcile, review and approve bank statements;
 - e) to present the annual budgets to Members;

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- f) to present annually an audit of the financial statements to the Members; and
- g) to prepare the annual report to Members.

20. Annual Report

Publish annual report

- 20.1 Council, on behalf of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, shall publish an annual report on Land matters.

Contents

- 20.2 The annual report shall include:
- a) an annual review of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and natural resources management;
 - b) annual budget;
 - c) a copy and explanation of the audit as it applies to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land and natural resources; and
 - d) any other matter as determined by Council or Lands Committee.

21. Access to Information

Access

- 21.1 Any person may, during normal business hours at the main administrative office of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, have reasonable access to:
- a) the register of Land laws;
 - b) the auditor's report; and
 - c) the annual report on Land and natural resources.

Copies for Members

- 21.2 Any Member may obtain a copy of the auditor's report or annual report.

Access to records

- 21.3 Any person authorized by Council may inspect the financial records of Chippewas of Rama First Nation related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

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PART 6 LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION

22. Land Staff

Administration

- 22.1 Council may delegate administrative authority to staff to carry out functions necessary for day to day administrative operations of Land and natural resources.

23. Lands Committee

Lands Committee established

- 23.1 The Lands Committee is hereby established for the following purposes:
- a) assist Council with the development of the Land administration system;
 - b) advise Council and its staff on matters respecting Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - c) recommend Land laws, resolutions, policies and practices respecting Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to Council;
 - d) consult with Members and non-Members on Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land issues, and to make recommendations on the resolution of those issues to Council;
 - e) assist in the flow of information on land issues between Members and Council;
 - f) oversee community meetings of Members, community approvals and ratification votes; and
 - g) perform such other duties as may be delegated or assigned by resolution or Land law under this *Land Code*.

Process to Implement Land laws

- 23.2 The Lands Committee shall, within a reasonable time after this *Land Code* takes effect, recommend to Council a community process to develop and implement Land laws.

Internal procedures

- 23.3 The Lands Committee may establish rules for the procedure at its meetings and generally for the conduct of its affairs, not inconsistent with those established by Council.

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24. Implementation of the Lands Committee

First Lands Committee

- 24.1 Immediately upon the coming into effect of this *Land Code*, Council shall select a Lands Committee to serve for a term of up to three (3) years until a policy governing the Lands Committee comes into force.

Policy Governing Successors to the First Lands Committee

- 24.2 As soon as possible after the coming into force of this *Land Code*, Council, in consultation with the Lands Committee, shall develop a policy providing for Member involvement in the selection, election, or appointment of Eligible Voters to serve on the Lands Committee, and dealing with such matters as number of members, composition, eligibility, Chair and Deputy Chair, functions of the Chair, term of office, remuneration, conditions of service, termination, vacancies arising during term and such other matters as Council deems appropriate to the operation of the Lands Committee.

PART 7 INTERESTS AND LICENCES IN LAND

25. Revenue from Land and Natural Resources

Determination of fees and rent

- 25.1 The Lands Committee shall, subject to the approval of Council, establish the process and recommend any Land laws, rules and policies for determining:
- the fees and rent for Interests and Licences in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - the fees for services provided in relation to any Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land; and
 - the fees and royalties to be paid for the taking of natural resources from Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

26. Registration of Interests and Licences

Enforcement of Interest and Licences

- 26.1 An Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land created or granted after this *Land Code* takes effect is not enforceable unless it is registered in the First Nation Lands Register.

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Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code

Registration of Consent or approval

- 26.2 An instrument granting an Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land that requires the consent of Council, or community approval, shall include a form of certificate indicating that the applicable consent or approval has been obtained.

Duty to deposit

- 26.3 A copy of the following instruments shall be deposited in the First Nation Lands Register:
- any grant of an Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - any transfer or assignment of an Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - every Land use plan, subdivision plan or resource use plan;
 - every Land law: and
 - this *Land Code* and any amendment to this *Land Code*.

27. Limits on Interests and Licences

All dispositions in writing

- 27.1 An Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land may only be created, granted, disposed of, assigned or transferred by a written document made in accordance with this *Land Code* and any relevant Land law.

Standards

- 27.2 Council may establish mandatory standards, criteria and forms for Interests and Licences in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Improper Transactions void

- 27.3 A deed, lease, contract, instrument, document or agreement of any kind, whether written or oral, by which the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, a Member or any other person purports to grant, dispose of, transfer or assign an Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land after the date this *Land Code* takes effect is void if it contravenes this *Land Code*.

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28. Existing Interests

By: Mathieu Courchene

Continuation of existing Interests and Licences

- 28.1 Any Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land that existed when this *Land Code* takes effect will, subject to this *Land Code*, continue in force in accordance with its terms and conditions.

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Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code

Voluntary replacement of existing Interests and Licences

- 28.2 For greater certainty, Interests or Licences previously issued under the *Indian Act* shall continue in effect after the coming into force of this *Land Code* unless the Member or non-Member voluntarily agrees to have the Interest or Licence replaced by a new Interest or Licence.

Replacing the role of the Minister

- 28.3 Immediately upon the coming into force of this *Land Code*, Canada transfers to Chippewas of Rama First Nation all the rights and obligations of Canada as grantor in respect of existing Interests and Licences in or in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Unregistered Interests

- 28.4 A policy shall be established as soon as practical after the coming into force of the *Land Code* to accommodate unregistered Interests.

29. New Interests and Licences

Authority to make Dispositions

- 29.1 Council may, on behalf of Chippewas of Rama First Nation, grant:
- a) Interests and Licences in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, including certificates of possession, member allocations, leases, permits, easements and rights-of-ways; and
 - b) Licences to take natural resources from Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, including cutting timber or removing minerals, stone, sand, gravel, clay, soil or other substances.

Conditional grant

- 29.2 The grant of an Interest or Licence may be made subject to the satisfaction of written conditions.

Role of the Lands Committee

- 29.3 The Lands Committee shall advise Council on the granting of Interests or Licences and may be authorized to act as a delegate of Council under this section.

30. Interests of Non-Members

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Grants to non-Members

- 30.1 A transfer or other disposition of all or any part of an Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to a person who is not a Member shall not be effective unless and until it is confirmed by a resolution of Council.



31. Certificates of Possession or Member Interests

Application

- 31.1 For greater certainty, certificates of possession or Member Interests previously issued under the *Indian Act* shall continue to exist after the coming into force of this *Land Code*.

32. Allocation of Land to Members

Policies and procedures for allocation of Land

- 32.1 Subject to the provisions of this *Land Code*, Council in consultation with the Lands Committee shall establish Land laws, policies and procedures for the allocation of Land to Members.

Allocation

- 32.2 Council may, in accordance with this *Land Code*:
- a) allocate Land to Members; or
 - b) issue a certificate for an interest to a Member for Land allocated to that Member.

No allocation of Land to non-Members

- 32.3 A person who is not a Member is not entitled to be allocated Land or to hold a permanent Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

33. Transfer and Assignment of Interests

Transfer of Member Interest

- 33.1 A Member may transfer or assign an Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to another Member without community approval or the consent of Council.

Consent of Council

- 33.2 There shall be no transfer or assignment of an interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land without the written consent of Council, except for:
- a) transfers between Members;
 - b) transfers that occur by operation of law, including transfers of estate by testamentary disposition; and
 - c) transfers in accordance with the matrimonial real property on reserve law.

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34. Limits on Mortgages and Seizures

Protections

34.1 In accordance with the *Framework Agreement*, the following provisions of the *Indian Act*, as amended from time to time, continue to apply to the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land:

- a) section 29;
- b) section 87;
- c) Sub-section 89(1); and
- d) Sub-section 89(2).

Mortgage of Allocated Land

34.2 The Interest of a Member in First Nation Land may be subject to a mortgage or charge, but only to a Member or, the Chippewas of Rama First Nation with the express written consent of Council.

Mortgages of leasehold Interests with consent

34.3 A leasehold Interest may be subject to charge or mortgage, but only with the express written consent of Council.

Time limit

34.4 The term of any charge or mortgage of a leasehold Interest shall not exceed the term of the lease.

Default in mortgage

34.5 In the event of default in the terms of a charge or mortgage of a leasehold Interest, the leasehold Interest is not subject to possession by the chargee or mortgagee, foreclosure, power of sale or any other form of execution or seizure, unless:

- a) the charge or mortgage received the written consent of Council;
- b) the charge or mortgage was registered in the First Nation Lands Register; and
- c) a reasonable opportunity to redeem the charge or mortgage is given to Council on behalf of Chippewas of Rama First Nation.

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Power of redemption

34.6 Subject to prior redemption by the lessee or Member, Council may redeem the charge or mortgage from the charger or mortgagor in possession and shall thereupon acquire all the rights and Interests of the charger or mortgagor and of the lessee or Member for all purposes after the date of the redemption.



Waiver of redemption

- 34.7 Council may waive its right to redemption for any charge or mortgage of a leasehold Interest or Licence.

35. Residency and Access Rights

Right of residence

- 35.1 The following persons have a right to reside on Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land:
- a) Members and their Spouses and children;
 - b) Members with a registered Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - c) any invitee of a Member referred to in clause a) or b);
 - d) lessees and permittees, in accordance with the provisions of the granting instrument; and
 - e) a person authorized in writing by Council, Lands Committee or by a Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land law.

Right of Access

- 35.2 The following persons have a right of access to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land:
- a) a lessee and his or her invitees;
 - b) a person granted a right of access under a permit;
 - c) Chippewas of Rama First Nation Members and their Spouses and children and his or her invitees;
 - d) a person who is authorized by a government body or any other public body, established by or under an enactment of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation, Parliament or the province to establish, operate or administer a public service, to construct or operate a public institution or to conduct a technical survey provided that the person received written authorization from Council; or
 - e) a person authorized in writing by Council or Lands Committee or by a Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land law.

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Public access

- 35.3 Any person may have access to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land for any social or business purposes, if:
- a) the person does not trespass on occupied Land and does not interfere with any Interest in Land;



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- b) the person complies with all applicable laws; and
c) no resolution has been enacted barring that person.

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Use of Roads

- 35.4 Any person may have the right of access to Chippewas of Rama First Nation public roads, subject to this *Land Code* and Land laws.

Trespass

- 35.5 Any person, who resides on, enters or remains on Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, other than in accordance with a residence or access right under this *Land Code*, is guilty of an offence.

Civil remedies

- 35.6 All civil remedies for trespass are preserved.

36. Transfers on Death

Indian Act application

- 36.1 Until Chippewas of Rama First Nation exercises jurisdiction in relation to wills and estates, the provision of the *Indian Act* dealing with wills and estates shall continue to apply with respect to Interests in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Registration of transfer

- 36.2 A person who receives an Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land by testamentary disposition or succession in accordance with a written decision of the Minister, or his or her designate, pursuant to the *Indian Act*, is entitled to have that Interest registered in the First Nation Lands Register.

Disposition of Interest

- 36.3 If no provision has been made by the deceased Member of the disposition of the Interest to another Member, the following rules apply:
- a) the Minister or his or her delegate may make application to Council requesting that an instrument evidencing lawful possession or occupation of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land be issued; or
 - b) a certificate for an Interest or other instrument may be issued in accordance with procedures established by Council, or application of the Minister or his or her delegate, if the beneficiary or purchaser is a Member of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation.



37. Matrimonial Real Property on Reserve Law

Development of rules and procedures

- 37.1 Council shall enact a matrimonial real property on reserve law providing rules and procedures applicable on the breakdown of a marriage, to:
- a) the use, occupancy and possession of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land;
 - b) the division of Interests in that Land; and
 - c) the division of the value of improvements in that Land.

Enactment of rules and procedures

- 37.2 The rules and procedures contained in the matrimonial real property on reserve law shall be developed by the Lands Committee in consultation with the Members.

Enactment deadline

- 37.3 The matrimonial real property on reserve law shall be enacted within twelve (12) months from the date this *Land Code* takes effect.

General principles

- 37.4 For greater certainty, the rules and procedures developed by the Lands Committee under this section shall respect the following general principles:
- a) each Spouse should have an equal right to possession of their matrimonial home;
 - b) each Spouse should be entitled to an undivided half Interest in their matrimonial home, as a tenant in common;
 - c) the rules and procedures shall not discriminate on the basis of sex; and
 - d) only Members are entitled to hold a permanent Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land or a charge against a permanent Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Interim Rules

- 37.5 The *Family Homes on Reserve and Matrimonial Interests or Rights Act* shall serve as the interim rules and its provisions regarding breakdown of marriage shall be repealed upon the coming into force of the matrimonial real property on reserve law enacted in accordance with the *Land Code*.

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PART 8 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

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38. Purpose

Intent

- 38.1 The intent of this part is to ensure that all persons entitled to possess, reside upon, use or otherwise occupy Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land do so harmoniously with due respect to the rights of Chippewas of Rama First Nation and to the rights of others with access to Chippewas of Rama First Nation procedures to resolve disputes.

Purpose

- 38.2 The purpose of these rules is to enable the parties to a dispute to achieve a just, speedy and inexpensive determination of matter in dispute, taking into account the values which distinguish dispute resolution from litigation.

39. Disputes

Dispute Prevention

- 39.1 The parties shall use best efforts to prevent disputes from arising and shall consider the use of dispute resolution processes at the earliest possible stage of any conflict.

Disputes Prior to Land Code

- 39.2 Disputes that arose before the *Land Code* takes effect could also be referred to this part.

Decision of Council or Lands Committee

- 39.3 If a Member, or a non-Member with an Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, has a dispute with respect to a decision of Council or the Lands Committee, the person shall first attempt to resolve that dispute with Council or the Lands Committee, before referring the dispute to the Panel.

Settle a Dispute

- 39.4 Nothing in this part shall be construed to limit the ability of any person to reach agreement to settle a dispute without recourse to this part.

Settlement Agreement

- 39.5 Any settlement reached through dispute resolution shall not be legally binding until it has been reduced to writing and properly executed by, or on behalf of, the parties.



Contractual Agreement

39.6 A contractual agreement made under this *Land Code* may establish that the dispute resolution outlined in this *Land Code* and its Land laws may be mandatory or may to some degree prescribe for alternate dispute resolution processes if there is consensual agreement by the parties involved in that agreement. The dispute resolution clause which forms part of a contract shall be treated as an agreement independent of the other terms of the contract.

Variation of Rules

39.7 The parties to a dispute to which these rules apply may to some degree, modify, vary or amend these rules by consensual agreement in writing, and notify the Panel in writing.

Civil Remedies

39.8 For greater certainty, nothing in this part shall be construed to prevent a party to a dispute from, at any stage of dispute resolution, applying to have the dispute resolved in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Challenge to Validity of Law

39.9 For greater certainty, nothing in this part shall be construed to prevent a party to a dispute from challenging the validity of a Land law, but such a challenge may be heard only in a court of competent jurisdiction.

40. Processes

Staged Processes

40.1 Chippewas of Rama First Nation intends that a dispute in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, except as otherwise provided, may progress through the following stages:

- a) facilitated discussions;
- b) mediation;
- c) negotiation; and
- d) final arbitration by the Dispute Resolution Panel.

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Procedure to File a Dispute

40.2 A person who wishes to resolve a dispute with another person or Chippewas of Rama First Nation in relation to the use or occupation of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land may file a written notice of dispute setting out:

- a) the nature of the dispute;
- b) a statement outlining the facts and supporting arguments of the dispute claim; and



Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code

- c) the relief that is sought.

Termination of Processes

40.3 Facilitated discussions, mediations and negotiations may be suspended upon any of the following occurrences:

- a) the parties reach an agreement;
- b) one of the parties refuses to continue with facilitated discussions, mediation or negotiations;
- c) the mediator assesses that nothing meaningful is to be gained in continuing the process; or
- d) upon the request of both parties.

Notice of Termination

40.4 A notice of termination is required when further facilitated discussions, negotiations or mediation shall not resolve the dispute. The dispute may progress to the next stage of the dispute resolution process or to final arbitration.

Dispute resolution not available

40.5 Dispute resolution is not available for disputes in relation to:

- a) administration or distribution of an estate;
- b) decisions relating to housing allocations;
- c) decisions of Council to grant or refuse to grant an Interest or Licence in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to a non-Member; and
- d) prosecution or conviction of an offence under a Land law or under criminal law.

Duty of Fairness

40.6 All persons involved in a dispute under this part shall be:

- a) treated fairly;
- b) given a full opportunity to present their case; and
- c) given reasons for a decision made under this part.

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Rules and Procedures

40.7 Council may prescribe such laws, resolutions, rules, policies, procedures, forms and reasonable fees not inconsistent with this *Land Code*, as may be necessary to give effect to this part including:

- a) facilitated discussions, mediations, negotiations and arbitrations;



Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code

- b) terms of office for panelists;
- c) remuneration of facilitators, mediators, arbitrators, panelists, expert advisors, professionals or other persons retained to assist in the resolution of disputes;
- d) code of conduct for facilitators, mediators, arbitrators, panelists, expert advisors, professionals or other persons retained to assist in the resolution of disputes;
- e) disclosure and confidentiality;
- f) imposition of time limitations for submitting a notice of dispute and referring a matter or dispute to the Panel;
- g) implementing recommendations of the Panel; and
- h) any other matter necessary to give effect to this part.

Waiver of Liability

- 40.8 By participating in this dispute resolution process, the parties agree that the facilitators, mediators, arbitrators and panelists shall not be liable to the parties for any act or omission in connection with the services provided by them in, or in relation to, the dispute resolution processes, unless the act or omission is fraudulent or involves willful misconduct.

41. Roster Panel Established

Appointment to Roster Panel

- 41.1 The Roster Panel shall be composed of a maximum of twenty (20) panelists.

Ineligible

- 41.2 Notwithstanding the general rules of conflict of interest in the *Land Code*, no Council member, or employee of Chippewas of Rama First Nation or person already serving on another board, body, or committee related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land shall sit on the Roster Panel.

Representation

- 41.3 Council shall appoint the Roster panelists, and shall ensure that, where possible, the Roster panelists represent the various elements of the community.

Rules of Roster Panel

- 41.4 The Roster Panel may establish rules for the procedure at its hearings and generally for the conduct of its affairs.

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42. Impartiality of the Dispute Resolution Panel

Duty to Act Impartially

42.1 The Panel shall act impartially and without bias or favour to any party in a dispute.

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Offence

42.2 It is an offence for a person to act, or attempt to act, in a way to improperly influence a decision of the Panel.

Rejection of Application

42.3 In addition to any other sanction, the Panel may reject an application without hearing it if the Panel believes that the applicant acted, or attempted to act, in a way to improperly influence its decision.

Rules of Conduct for Parties to a Dispute

42.4 The Roster Panel shall establish rules of conduct for the parties to a dispute.

43. Arbitration by the Dispute Resolution Panel

Disputes

43.1 Applications for resolution by the Panel shall be submitted to the Lands Department.

Panel of Three Chosen from Roster Panel

43.2 Disputes referred to the Roster Panel are to be heard by three (3) panelists chosen as follows:

- a) one (1) panelist is to be chosen by each of the two (2) parties to the dispute;
- b) one (1) panelist, who is to be the chairperson, shall be chosen by the rest of the Panel; and
- c) in the case of situations not adequately covered by clause (a) or (b), all three (3) panelists shall to be chosen by the Roster Panel as a whole.

Panel Established

43.3 The Panel is hereby established with jurisdiction to resolve disputes in relation to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Dispute resolution not available

43.4 For greater certainty, the Panel shall not hear disputes in respect of matters that are not subject to dispute resolution under this *Land Code*.



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44. Powers of the Dispute Resolution Panel

Power of the Panel

44.1 The Panel may, after hearing a dispute:

- a) confirm or reverse the decision, in whole or in part;
- b) substitute its own decision for the decision in dispute;
- c) direct that an action be taken or ceased;
- d) refer the matter or dispute back for a new decision; or
- e) make an order to give effect to its decision, including any necessary order for the survey of an Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, the registration of an Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land, and the allocation of the costs of any incidental measures to be taken to give effect to such an order.

Recommendations by Panel

44.2 In addition to making a determination in respect to a particular dispute, the Panel may recommend to Council:

- a) the suspension of any Land law or decision made by Council for such period as is necessary for Council to reconsider, amend or repeal such Land law or decision, provided that any amendment or repeal of a Land law is made in a manner consistent with this *Land Code*, or
- b) any other recommendation that it deems reasonable and necessary in the circumstances.

Interim Decisions

44.3 The Panel may, in relation to a dispute over which it has jurisdiction under this part, make any interim order it considers to be necessary as a matter of urgency to preserve the rights of the parties to the dispute or to preserve or protect an Interest in Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land.

Professional Services

44.4 The Panel may obtain the service of professionals to assist it in fulfilling its functions, in which case it shall make best efforts to use professional services available in the community.

Written Decisions

44.5 Decisions of the Panel shall be in writing, signed by the person chairing the Panel or by an officer designated by the Panel to do so. Where requested, the written decision shall be provided to a party to the proceeding within fourteen (14) days after the date of the decision.



Appeal of Decision

- 44.6 A decision of the Panel is binding but, subject to review by the Federal Court (Trial Division).

**PART 9
OTHER MATTERS**

CERTIFIED

By: Mathieu Courchene

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45. Liability

Liability Coverage

- 45.1 Council shall arrange, maintain and pay insurance coverage for its officers and employees engaged in carrying out any matter related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land to indemnify them against personal liability arising from the performance of those duties.

Extent of coverage

- 45.2 The extent of the insurance coverage shall be determined by Council.

46. Offences

Application of the Criminal Code

- 46.1 Unless some other procedure is provided for by a Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land law, the summary conviction procedures of part XXVII of the Criminal Code, as amended from time to time, apply to offences under this *Land Code* or under a First Nation Land law.

Fines & Imprisonment

- 46.2 Unless some other procedure is provided for by a Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land law, any person who commits an offence under this *Land Code* or a Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land law is liable to a fine not to exceed \$5,000 and to a term of imprisonment not to exceed six months or to both fine and imprisonment, provided however, that offences related to Chippewas of Rama First Nation environmental protection laws may carry penalties consistent with similar environmental protection laws in force in Canada.

47. Revisions to *Land Code*

Revisions

- 47.1 A ratification vote is not required for revisions made to this *Land Code* that do not change the substance of this *Land Code*. Council may, from time to time, arrange and revise this *Land Code*. Revisions include:
- a) an amendment of the description of Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land subject to this *Land Code* and Individual Agreement;



Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land Code

- b) a reference in this *Land Code* to a clause in another act or document that was amended and resulted in clause renumbering;
- c) a reference in this *Land Code* to an Act or parts thereof that have expired, have been repealed or suspended;
- d) changes in this *Land Code* as are required to reconcile seeming inconsistencies with other acts;
- e) minor improvements in the language as may be required to bring out more clearly the intention of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation without changing the substance of this *Land Code*; and
- f) correct editing, grammatical or typographical errors.

48. Commencement

Preconditions

- 48.1 This *Land Code* shall take effect if the community approves this *Land Code* and the Individual Agreement with Canada and this *Land Code* has been certified by the verifier pursuant to the *Framework Agreement*.

Commencement date

- 48.2 This *Land Code* shall take effect on the first day of the month following the certification of this *Land Code* by the verifier.

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By: Mathieu Courchene

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APPENDIX "A"

THE ANISHINAABEG MIGRATION STORY

From the beginning of time, the Anishinaabeg (one who was lowered here by the Creator) have lived in harmony with the land, the water, the air and the sun and all of creation. Our Creation Story reminds us that the Great Spirit placed many medicines on the land and in the water to help us endure our journey through this world. This teaching helps us to know that the Anishinaabeg were given original instruction directly by the Creator and were told to care for the magnificent creation that was provided. If we abandoned any part of the responsibility, it was foretold that we would suffer unduly.

Our oral history tells us that we came from a small island in the east surrounded by salt water. There, our prophets told us we would undertake a great migration, moving north and east when the ice began to melt. We were told that we would know our new homeland when we found a special sign. The sign we were to look for was a special place where food grew on top of the water. Our migration took a long time. We experienced many new things and we encountered many challenges along this path.

The Fish Fence: First Time Around

During this journey, we took time to travel north from a base camp at the great falls and met the Huron Nation. Our leadership and medicine people decided to travel beside the Huron for a time to understand their fish fence. It enabled them to bring large quantities of fish to the surface of the water. Many meetings were held with the Huron Nation and we developed a strong relationship with them. In our Chief and Councils, we held many meetings to discuss whether or not this was the special place that had been created for us. The Huron invited us to stay and it is said we stayed for such an extended time that we became brothers and allies to the Huron Nation.

Eventually, the greater Anishinaabeg Nation decided to move on. It was decided that the fish fence was a special site. But, it was not the place that was foretold for us. So our people continued the search. It is said that near the headwaters of Lake Superior (near Duluth) our people discovered ducks eating a food growing on top of the water. Our Elders and leaders decided that this, then, was the sign. From that time, Wild Rice has become a staple of our diet and we have made our homes in the basin of the Great Lakes.

CERTIFIED

By: Mathieu Courchene

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Second time Around: Mnjikaning

Finding the sign foretold for us did not end our journeys. Our people continued to travel and, eventually, came back to Georgian Bay where we re-encountered the descendants of the Huron Nation. At this meeting, we brought forth gifts we were given during an ancient ceremony with the Huron to prove we were long lost brothers and ancient allies. We quickly learned of the troubles the Huron had with the Iroquois and pledged our full support to the Huron cause. We engaged in their conflict and, eventually, pushed the Iroquois south. The Huron took heavy losses. Some decided to move to Lower Canada with relatives they had and there they remain to this day. Others were adopted by the Anishinaabeg.

At this time, the Anishinaabeg Nation assumed total responsibility for this region. We formed a community hub at the Narrows located between Lakes Couchiching and Simcoe. Several of our families chose to stay in the area to maintain the fish fence and to prepare the harvest. But the rest of our Anishinaabeg families chose to occupy strategic sites located throughout the region.

Each of these sites was a special place. Each was identified by us because particular resources could be found there which weren't available anywhere else. Berry bush camps, frog leg camps, fish camps, hunting camps, wild rice camps, maple sugar camps, birch bark harvest camps, flint camps, copper camps and water fowl camps were established. Muskrat and beaver trap lines were set up by each family along different inland watercourses. Family hunting grounds were established. Our families worked hard to maintain these natural resources. Each Anishinaabeg family assumed stewardship of large tracts of land and a wide range of products was harvested to be shared among our people.

The camp at the Narrows became a central meeting place (or village) because it was considered to be very special. It was a place of healing, where we learned techniques mastered by our Elders and taught this healing to any who came to use and asked. We recognized this special spirit of the place by taking particular care to maintain the site. The Bear Clan, known among us for its knowledge of healing, was charged with this responsibility. Their runners would keep all our families informed of upcoming meetings and what their agendas would be. Every clan family would make the effort to travel to the Narrows and stay for the duration of the meeting.

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By: Mathieu Courchene



The Seven Clans

The Bear Clan was responsible for policing the land. They patrolled the perimeter of the land base and, because of this, it is said that the Bear Clan knew where all the medicines grew. The Bear Clan was also responsible for the resolution of all disputes between the various clan families regarding the specific uses of the land. For this reason, the Bear Clan became the primary guardian of the land.

The main responsibility of the Marten Clan was the defence, protection and the safety of all Anishinaabeg families. This meant the Marten Clan travelled far and wide and, because of this, they came to have a great understanding of the location of the resources within the various family regions. The Marten Clan were great warriors, hunters and harvesters.

In all, it took seven clans working together to make our community function. With the Bear and the Marten Clans, we also have the Crane, the Fish, the Loon, the Hoof and the Bird Clan. Many of these Clans have sub-clans, e.g.: the Otter is a sub-clan of the Marten. The Hoff Clan, for example, worked very hard to provide the appropriate medicines for people with illnesses. With the combined effort of all the clans, we were able to provide food, medicine and a caring environment for the many sick people who visited us to enable them to regain their health.

Mnjikaning: A Healing Spirit

It is said that people came from great distances to spend time at our special camp at the Narrows. Not only was the Narrows a place of great mystery our people were also recognized for our generosity in sharing our healing abilities. All were welcomed here to be healed and to learn the healing techniques of our people. Over time, we were recognized for our contributions to others. "Because of this generosity, and because of the unique qualities of the Narrows and the abundance of food which maintained it, we and our place were given the life-long name of **"Mnjikaning."**

It is important to note that Mnjikaning is not a name we chose for the area. The name means **"place of the fence"** and it was given during a special ceremony by our neighbours and friends to honour the healing spirit which inhabited the place. At the special ceremony, our visitors spoke of the magic of the site at the Narrows. We were told Mnjikaning is a spirit name. The spirit is that of the ancient fish fence which calls the fish to gather and to hold Chief and Council at the Narrows. By taking part in this Chief and Council, the fish gave their lives to the Anishinaabeg to help sustain and rebuild all the people who were gathered. The name, Mnjikaning, describes a great mystery that helps people feel good when they spend time helping with all the chores at the Narrows.

The generosity that was recognized by our neighbours is still a part of our people. When the new people came and asked if they could have a bit of land to farm and to live on, we offered to share with them. We believed our new neighbours would become part of us and share their harvest with us as we had shared our bounty with them. Later, when



more new people came, we asked those we had already shared with to help us teach the others about the lands of which we were stewards. We signed treaties, understanding that these would protect us from the farmers who tried to run us of traditional hunting grounds because they didn't understand who we were.

Somehow, the spirit of these documents failed to convey the generosity we felt. Our histories, written on wampum belts, show we believed that the three races now inhabiting this land should walk into the future together. A special belt shows the three peoples (the Anishinaabeg, the English and the French) holding hands side-by-side. This was to signify the balance we sought to achieve – all three races walking together, no one leading, no one following and each race ready to offer a helping hand should one of the others ask it.

With this *Land Code* we have a chance to return to some of what has been lost through the various treaties we have signed. Once this *Land Code* is approved, we can start to catch up to those other two peoples and maybe, someday, begin to walk with them side-by-side once again.

CERTIFIED

By: Mathieu Courchene

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Courchene", written over a horizontal line.



APPENDIX "B"

Description of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation Land as listed as ANNEX "G" in the Individual Agreement on First Nation Land Management between Chippewas of Rama First Nation and Canada.

ANNEX "G"

CERTIFIED

By: Mathieu Courchene

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Chippewas of Rama First Nation

Land Description of the Extent of Reserve Lands that will be subject to the Land Code of the Chippewas of Rama First Nation under the First Nations Land Management Act.

Reserve Lands within the Geographic Township of Rama, County of Simcoe, Province of Ontario, Canada, described as follows:

FIRSTLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 5 and 6, Front Range, bounded by Plan 92305. Total area of lands contains 62.28 hectares (153.9 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

SECONDLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 5 and 6, Front Range, and Lot 25, Concession 1, bounded by Plan 92306. Total area of lands contains 39.53 hectares (97.7 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

THIRDLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 7, 8, 9, and 10, Front Range, and Lots 23, 24, and 25, Concession 2, bounded by Plan 92307. Total area of lands contains 139.48 hectares (344.7 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

FOURTHLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 7, 8, 9, and 10, Front Range, bounded by Plan 94239. Total area of lands contains 98.76 hectares (244.0 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

FIFTHLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 16 and 17, Front Range, bounded by Plan 94308. Total area of lands contains 33.88 hectares (83.7 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

SIXTHLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 26 and 27, Front Range, bounded by Plan 97408. Total area of lands contains 47.77 hectares (118.1 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

SEVENTHLY: All that parcel of land in Lot 32, Front Range, bounded by Plan 96405. Total area of lands contains 38.16 hectares (94.3 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.



EIGHTHLY: All those parcels of land in Lot 46, Front Range, bounded by Plan 96469. Total area of lands contains 34.16 hectares (84.4 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

NINTHLY: All those parcels of land in Lots 15 and 16, Concession 6, and Lot 16, Concession 7, bounded by Plan 96087. Total area of lands contains 182.50 hectares (451.0 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

TENTHLY: All those parcels of land in the South half of Lot 18, Concession 5, bounded by Plan 57593. Total area of lands contains 40.04 hectares (98.9 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

ELEVENTHLY: All those parcels of land and land under water in Lots 19 and 20, Concession 5, bounded by Plans 96223 and 97720. Total area of lands contains 107.69 hectares (266.1 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

TWELFTHLY: All those parcels of land and land under water in Lots 19 and 20, Concession 4, bounded by Plans 96225 and 97722. Total area of lands contains 77.58 hectares (191.7 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

THIRTEENTHLY: All those parcels of land and land under water in Lot 19, Concession 3, bounded by Plan 97005. Total area of lands contains 71.40 hectares (176.4 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

FOURTEENTHLY: All those parcels of land, being islands in Lake Couchiching, known as Chief Island and Ship Island, bounded by Plan 92636. Total area of lands contains 59.60 hectares (147.3 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

FIFTEENTHLY: All those parcels of land, being islands in Lake Couchiching, known as Islands No. 8 to 15, bounded by Plan 92634. Total area of lands contains 0.30 hectare (0.7 acre), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

SIXTEENTHLY: All that parcel of land, being an island in Lake Couchiching, known as Portage Island, bounded by Plan 92633. Total area of lands contains 694 square metres (0.17 acre), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

Reserve Lands within the Geographic Township of Orillia (North Division), County of Simcoe, Province of Ontario, Canada, described as follows:

SEVENTEENTHLY: All those parcels of land, being islands in Lake Couchiching, known as Green Island and Island No. 16, bounded by Plan 92635. Total area of lands contains 11.1 hectares (27.4 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

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By: Mathieu Courchene



EIGHTEENTHLY: All those parcels of land, being islands in Lake Couchiching, known as Islands No. 3, 5, 6, and 7, bounded by Plan 92633. Total area of lands contains 0.43 hectares (1.1 acres), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

Reserve Lands within the Geographic Township of Mara, County of Simcoe, Province of Ontario, Canada, described as follows:

NINETEENTHLY: All those parcels of land, being islands in Lake Couchiching, known as Nadie Island and Islands No. 1 and 2, bounded by Plan 92632. Total area of lands contains 0.30 hectares (0.7 acre), more or less. Mines and Minerals included.

Total lands, including all Mines and Minerals, containing 1045.0 hectares (2582 acres) more or less.

CERTIFIED

By: Mathieu Courchene

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