

Survey questions from the reservations of the MCT

White Earth

What do people think of either doing away with absentee voting or returning it to the original way it was intended? Please give your opinion. The original intention was for people in the military, hospitals or away at school and cannot get home to vote.

Should we speak up when leadership is going beyond the scope of their authority and doing things contrary to the Constitution?

Mille Lacs

Are you aware the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe is currently involved in a Constitutional Convention process to consider making changes to the MCT Constitution that all Bands must follow?

Yes

no

Do you think changes should be made to the MCT Constitution?

Yes

no

uncertain

Why or why not? (please provide a brief answer in the space below)

Are you aware that the MCT required all Bands to choose delegates to represent each Band at the MCT Constitution Reform discussions, and that a Mille Lacs Band Delegation Committee is currently representing Band Members during these MCT Constitution Reform discussions?

Yes

no

The MLB Delegation Committee is responsible for providing updates and information to Band Members concerning the MCT Constitution Reform discussions. How would you like to receive these updates? Circle all that apply:

Facebook MLB website mail band newspaper in-person at meetings

Other (please write answer)

How often would you like to receive updates? (please circle one)

Weekly monthly quarterly

not interested

Grand Portage

What do you think the MCT feel is most important to our people?

Should each band of the MCT have their own constitution?

Should each band of the MCT be able to determine their own membership?

Fond du Lac

What is the purpose of the constitution?

How do we shape our efforts to reflect our culture?

Bois Forte

What will be the name? ie Anishinabe, Ojibwe, Chippewa

Should we remain within the MCT?

Yes

no

Should the current requirement of one quarter MCT blood quantum be abolished?

Leech Lake

Do you live on the reservation/urban areas/district?

Are you aware of Constitutional Convention?

Group Questions

Group 1

Should the role of the MCT remain the same?

We came to the understanding among our group that we have confusion about the TEC and MCT
So we cannot ask that question outright without refinement.

Currently we are recognized as both MCT and our own individual bands. Should this structure of recognition remain the same?

Group 2

Do you have enough information to make an informed decision?

When we speak tour people we need to let them know why we are going to contact them. Explain why we are doing the survey and what we are going to do with the results.

Ask who, what, why and work on the format of survey document. Find out respondents' geographical location.

Have you read and understood the constitution?

How can we help you understand the constitution?

Can you make informed decision?

There is a need for committees from each band to receive the surveys. There is a multitude of logistical and internal issues to figure out.

Group 3

What do you expect from the MCT?

What do you expect from government in general?

What should your government do for you?

Group 4

What do you expect from the MCT?

The constitution is a governing document. The tribal members have to read the constitution.

Have you read the constitution?

Yes

no

Are you familiar with the constitution?

No knowledge somewhat knowledgeable

very knowledgeable

Do you feel the constitution should be rewritten/reformed?

Strongly agree agree disagree

strongly disagree

How much do you know about the MCT Constitution?

1. None
2. Some
3. Knowledgeable
4. Very knowledgeable
5. Expert

Discussion

Sidra we're trying to figure out how much people know?

Do we really need to find out how knowledgeable people are? We already know people need more information. So we need to do more education first. We could start education and outreach process and then do the survey. The survey results may elicit how well we are engaging with the tribal members.

Teresa
We're the ones writing the survey. So we need to get information to the people.
We have to improve our communication and outreach skills.
Today we have discussed culture, education, structure. The extensive list of ideas on the "post its" on the wall can be put into the survey.

Carrie
The technical questions should direct agendas and delegate meetings back home. Engagement with people must be accomplished.

Liz Jaakola

Other native nations have gone through the same process of writing a constitution. They have probably asked survey questions which are applicable to us. The cultural milieu will be the most difficult to work on.
How are we communicating with each other? The actual words aren't as important as the way in which we are doing it.

Brandy Fraser
Can we get the information out in chapters so people don't have to read everything all at once?

Beth
Information has to be disseminated in multiple ways.

April
If the constitution is submitted to a secretarial election, will you come out and vote?

Louie
A lot of people aren't aware constitutional change is even being attempted. The survey will show how much we're doing

Doug
Put information online and teach people at the same time.

Discuss for ten minutes what you have learned today.

Discussion about the money for mailing the survey and what fund it is coming from.

Motion passed to create a survey subcommittee.
Passed 5 – 1

More discussion about survey. There are organizations such as Native Nations Institute experienced in survey design. The survey must be done according to the established norms to make the survey results accurate.

Tribal members have participated in surveys before.

Motion to create education subcommittee.

Passed 6 -0

Discussion about contracting with Zaagi-bagaang to provide professional facilitator to run our meetings and keep the agenda moving.