

Constitutional Reform FAQs

Why is constitutional reform required?

- In 2019, the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly directed MN-S to start a process of constitutional reform, to update the Constitution to support MN-S's ongoing journey to self-government and self-determination.
- The Constitution was written in 1993 and last amended in 2008. To support the continuing path towards self-government for MN-S, it is important that the Constitution be reviewed and amended.

Why are there fewer changes going forward than we heard about in the last engagements?

- Your government representatives and the constitutional reform team have heard your feedback from the engagements that what was being proposed for constitutional reform was too much, too fast. The Provincial Métis Council passed a resolution directing MN-S to take a phased approach to constitutional reform, beginning with five top priorities for 2024.
- These priorities are:
 - o Adding in language to the preamble to the Constitutional that supports self-government and affirms Métis rights.
 - o That the Women's representative to PMC and the Youth representative to PMC will be included on the ballot in the MN-S general election.
 - o Changes required to the Constitution to allow for the creation of a Métis Judiciary.
 - o Changes to the General Assembly section of the Constitution to ensure all MN-S citizens of voting age can vote at the General Assembly.
 - o A general clean-up of the Constitution and other MN-S legislation. These changes include small changes to grammar, consistency and removing the 2007 special election details from the Constitution.

What MN-S legislation will be impacted in phase one?

- The Constitution, Election Act, Citizenship Act, and MNLA Act will require changes to support the phase one priorities. Additionally, an act to govern the Métis Judiciary is required in phase one. The proposed legislation is called the Kwayaskastasowin Judiciary Act.

Where can I find copies of these Acts?

- All the proposed amendments to the Constitution and MN-S legislation as well as the draft Kwayaskastasowin Judiciary Act is available at www.metisvoice.ca This includes side-by-side versions that outline what phase one priority each proposed amendment supports.

How will the legislation get approved?

- The Métis Nation Legislative Assembly approves legislation including new legislation and amendments to existing legislation. The amendments to the Constitution will further need to be ratified at a General Assembly of citizens. There is a General Assembly scheduled for November 23, 2024, 3 weeks after the Fall 2024 MNLA.

What happens to the other draft legislation that was discussed in the community consultations?

- Phase 2 constitutional reform priorities will continue through 2025 and 2026. Priority legislation includes:
 - Locals Act
 - Regions Act
 - Administration Act
 - Executive Act
 - Harvesting Act
- Amendments to the Constitution may be required in Phase 2 to support new and amended legislation.