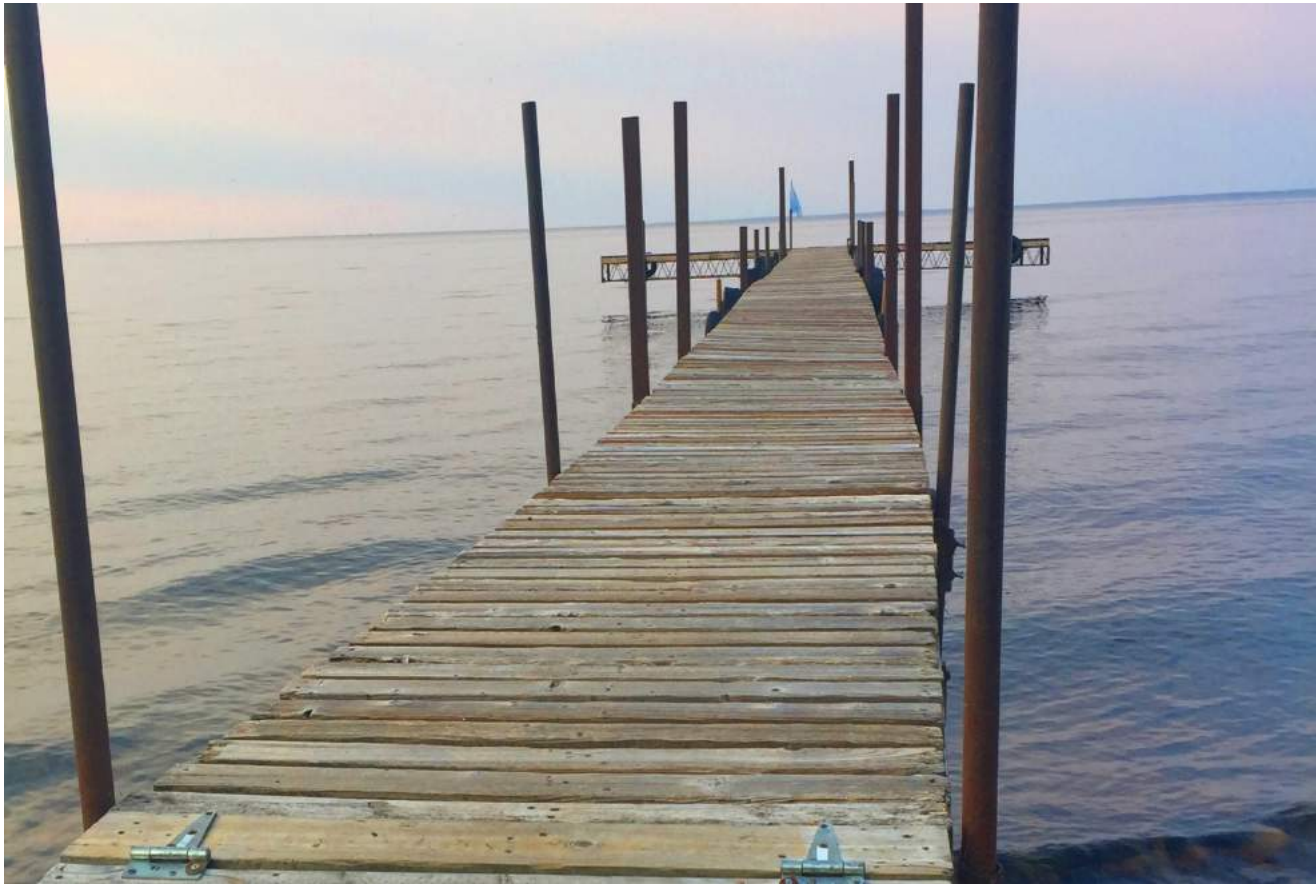


# COMPREHENSIVE SUMMARY REPORT MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

Presented, Facilitated, & Reported by the Native Nations Institute  
University of Arizona

Sponsored by the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and Native Governance Center  
Minnesota | August 2017- February 2018

Report Prepared by  
Joan Timeche, Executive Director  
Danielle Hiraldo, Senior Researcher and Outreach Specialist



# **Appendices**

## APPENDIX B



*Strengthening Indigenous Governance*



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# MINNESOTA CHIPPEWA TRIBE

## Constitutional Convention 2017-2018

### *Survey Results*



## 136 TOTAL RESPONDENTS

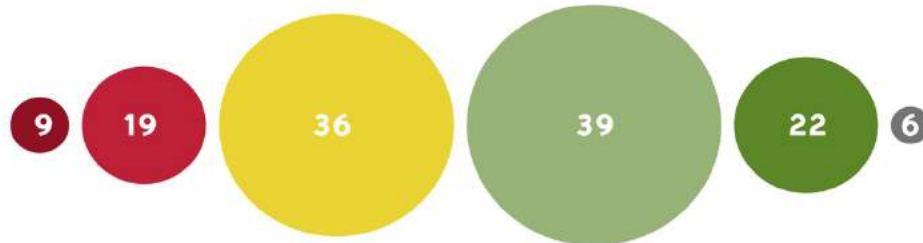


Analysis by Adonis Trujillo, Graduate Student; Graphics by Amy Jorgensen, Graphic Designer

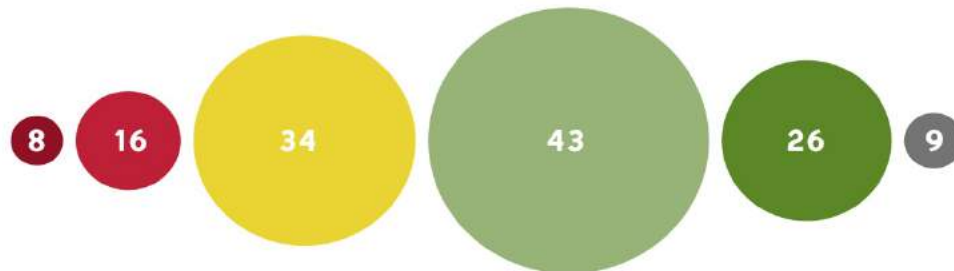
## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018



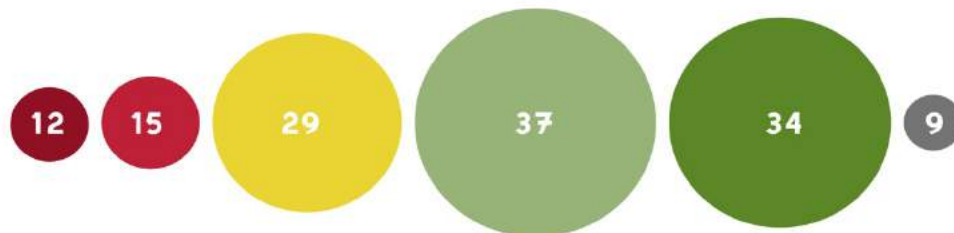
1 I understand the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution and Bylaws.



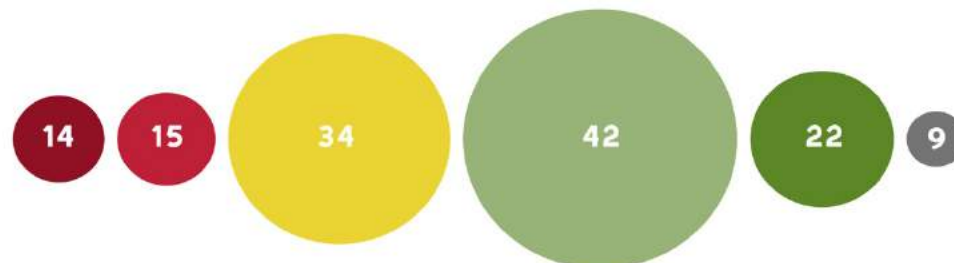
2 I understand the powers of the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC).



3 I understand the powers of the Reservation Business Committees (RBCs).



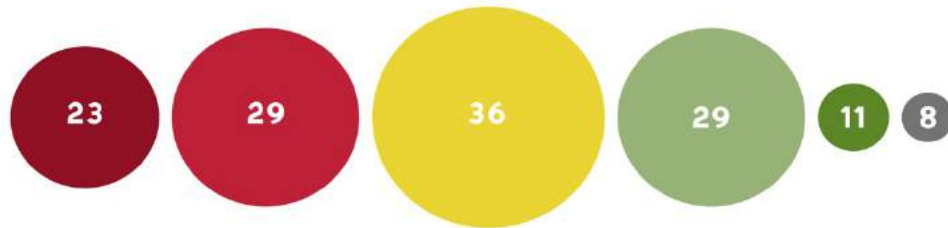
4 I understand how the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government operates.



## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

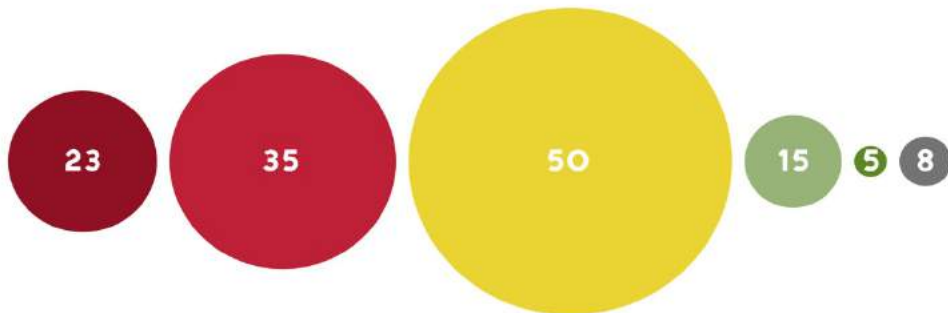
5

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's election process is fair.



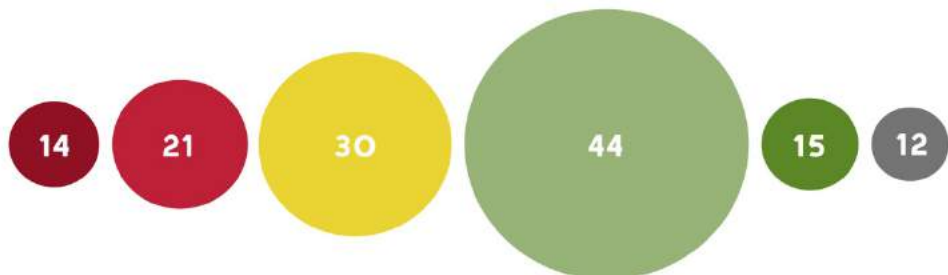
6

The Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) exercises power fairly.



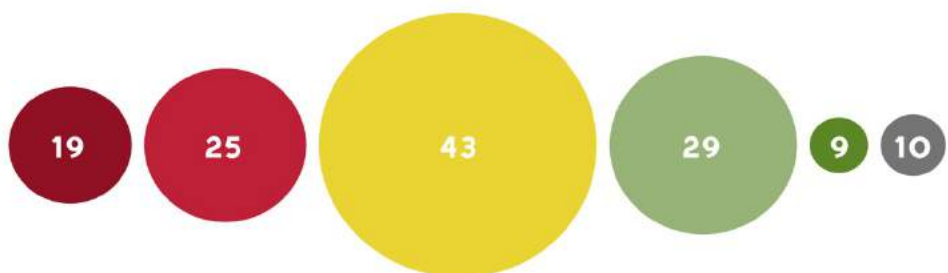
7

The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are clear to me.



8

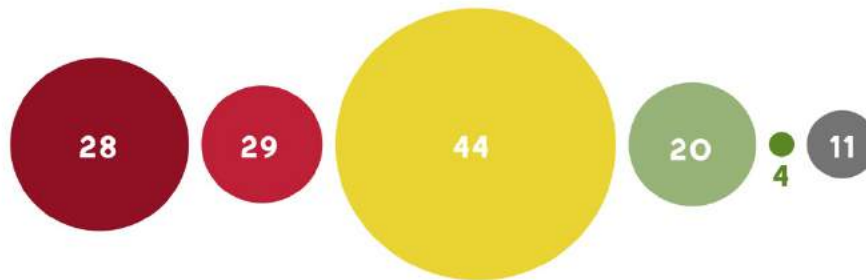
The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are adequate.



## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

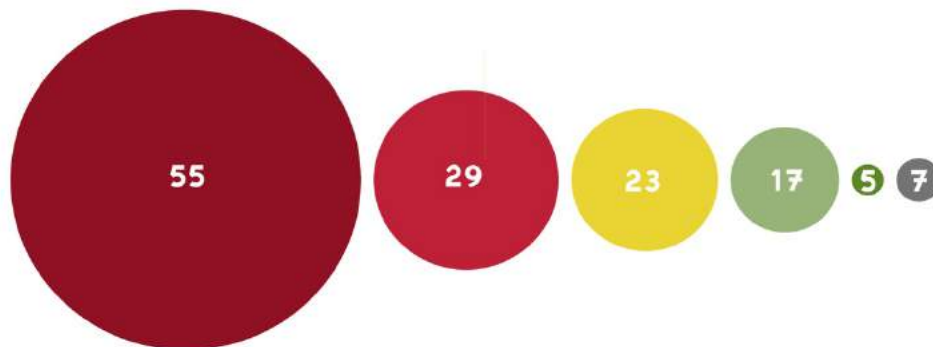
9

The Reservation Business Committee (RBC) exercises power fairly.



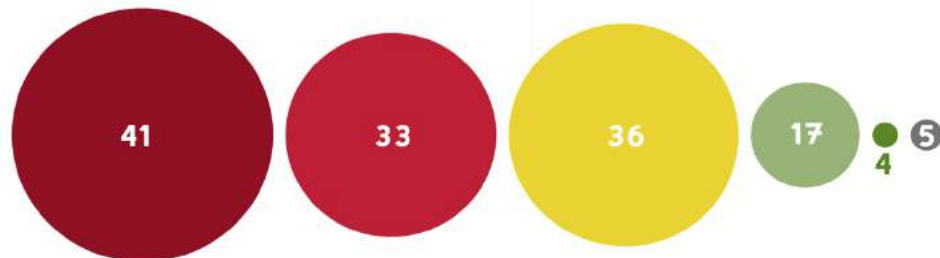
10

Current enrollment requirements reflect how we view ourselves as Anishinaabe.



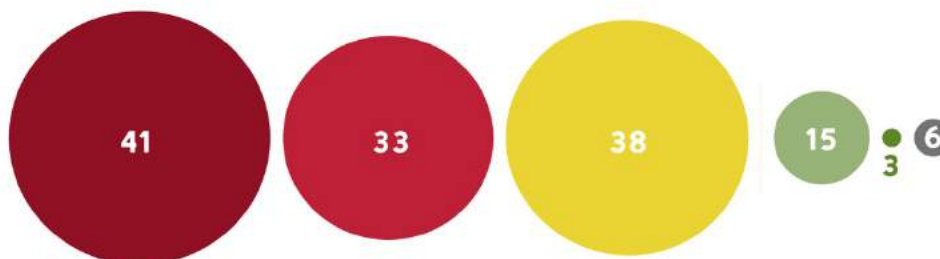
11

The needs of each band are equally considered.



12

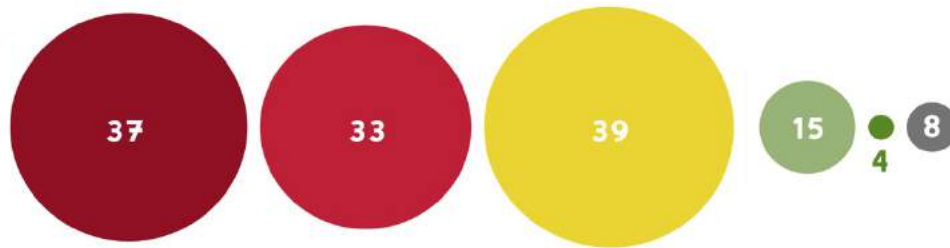
Major Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) decisions include band input.



## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

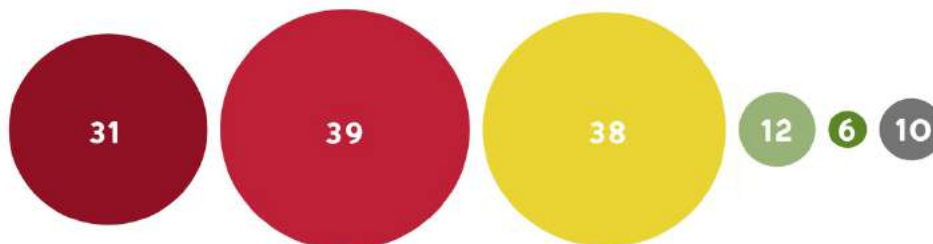
13

There is ample opportunity to address concerns with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government



14

The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution serves the needs of the MCT people.



# SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

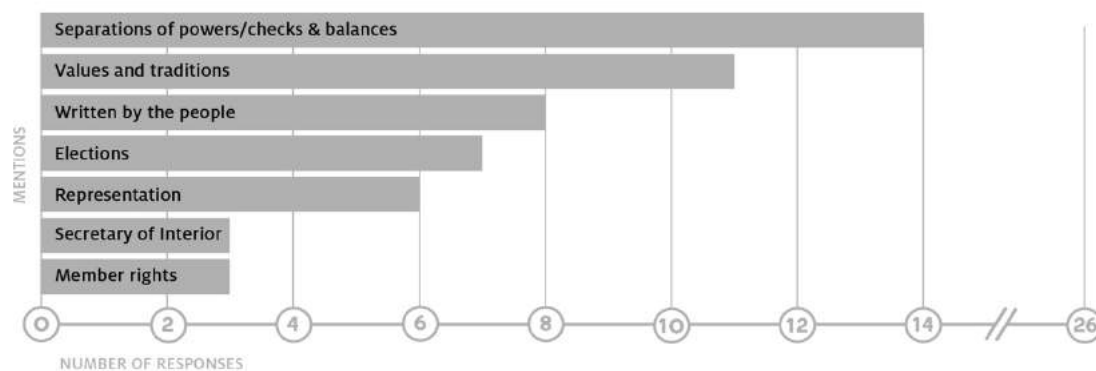
15

In looking to the future of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government, how much change do you think should happen?

**43 RESPONSES** "Keep the current constitution and make the following amendments:"



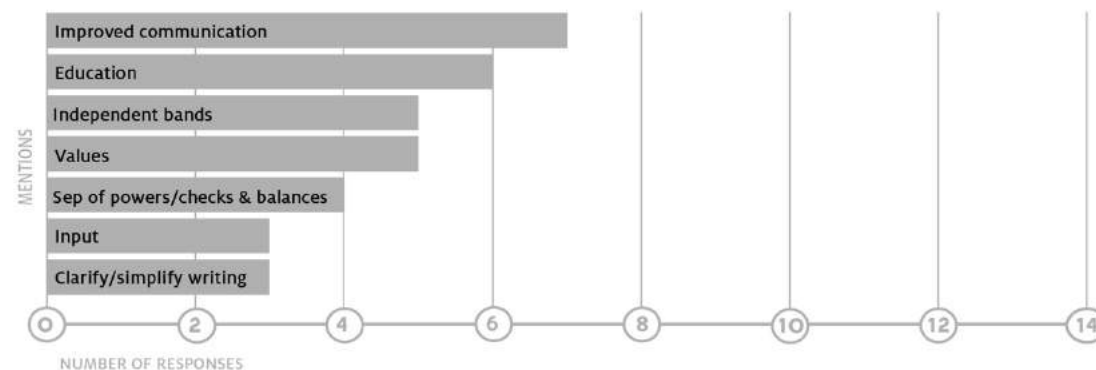
**55 RESPONSES** "A new constitution. The changes would include:"



16

What other suggestions do you have for strengthening the MCT constitution?

**57 RESPONSES**

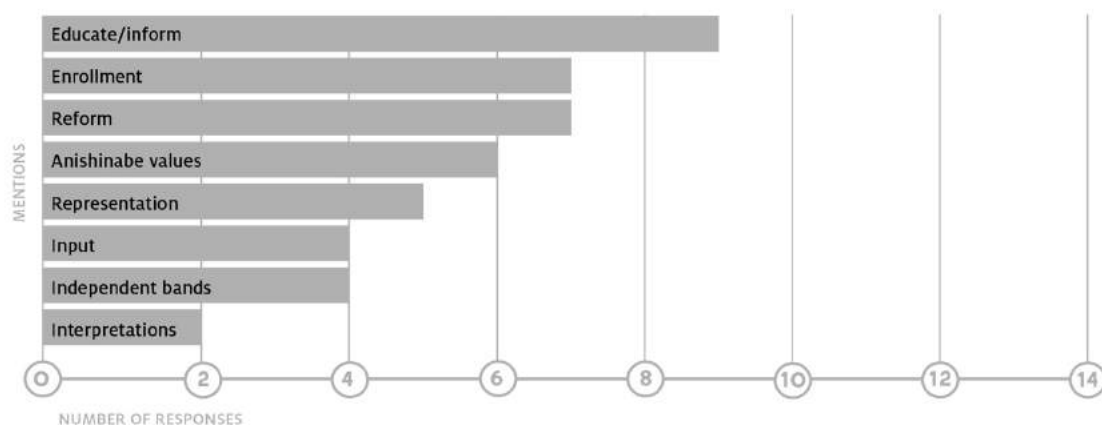


## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

17

Comments and/or suggestions:

### 74 RESPONSES



15 | In looking to the future of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government, how much change do you think should happen?

**Keep the current constitution and make amendments. Area(s) that need to be amended in the MCT constitution (if you know the article and section, please list it):**

- Art. II. Enrollment Look at all resolutions should be worked at and the interpretations done in the past
- Felony Backgrounds should be allowed to run for office after certain years have passed of convictions.
- Blood Quantum needs to be revised
- Membership enrollment blood quantum criteria should be lowered to 1/8 or instead do lineal descendants.
- Change the preamble to include our sovereignty, culture and values, and natural resources
- There are areas that need attention as it should be reviewed every 5 years at least
- Blood quantum should be dropped lower, but still be enough to be considered native. I have grandchildren
- (Biological) that can't even be get native things/recognition but there want to be native
- Enrollment, Powers, Accountability remain at tribal. Leave out US Gov. Change Language like MCT Chippewa
- Enrollment
- The election ordinance is a little loose regarding removal of an elected official. The threshold for a removal petition (number of voting members required) is very low and can lead to factionalism and divisiveness.
- Enrollments- Lineal descent
- Enrollment requirements - open the enrollment for descendants born between 1962 and 1981 regardless of BQ. It is not opening the flood gates but does compensate for lower enrollment numbers as more and more of our elders pass on.

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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- Open up the rolls some. Maybe open for descendants born between 1962-1981 - [regard]less of blood quantum.
- It would compensate for lower enrollment numbers. -with so many more of our elders passing on.
- Enrollment
- enrollments, define: sections i.e. removal, accountability residency
- Enrollment, more culture
- Utilize amendment process Article XII, authorize clauses must be adhered to as it exists! Additional powers have to be delegated by people. Enforcement mechanism
- Clarify some aspects
- Appeal process for membership rights
- 13-09 Tribal Interpretation - changed from what we voted for. Would we retain federal recognition - count all Ojibwe blood
- Enrollment - if one parent is enrolled then the children of that parent should be enrolled – Why are we letting a number say we aren't. So, all should be enrolled as long as parent is.
- Enrollments (Change or get rid of)
- Enrollments, individual sovereignty, separate constitution, removal of the Department of the Interior.
- Ojibwa Values, Culture
- Enrollment
- Referendum vote on interpretations - set up an appellate board to interpret constitution referendum votes for any change/amendment
- I think we should go section by section and amend to update sections for present and future time.
- Go through it line by line and word for word.
- Term limits, Court of appeals added, Interpretations of Constitution, Enrollments
- Stop making interpretations!!
- Go through step by step probably [going to] take a good 2 months of weekly mtg's [meetings]
- Election (13)
- Strengthen preamble, clarify TEC and individual band duplications regarding land authorities at individual rezes [reservations]. Clarify relief process for person subject to removal. Enrollment reg's [regulations] need updating.
- Do a referendum vote to make interpretations legal. Accept other Chippewa blood.
- Go line by line and explain what each means.
- Article II - membership/blood quantum or not. Article III - Governing Body- power to the people!
- Elected officials to abide by oath of office and 2. Enrollment requirement
- Enrollments, membership, remove Secretary of Interior - Authority of MCT manner of review should not have to get ok from Secretary of Interior.
- Election ordinance, Enrollment policies, petition process, voting age, Department of Interior oversight
- Look at complete change

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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- Amend according to needs of each reservation. We are still known as MCT. We need to foster the needs of our own people on our reservations. We do know what Leech Lake or Boise Forte Ojibwe or others need.

### A new constitution. The major changes would include:

- I would like a shiny new reformatted constitution that is written in a different format that the "boiler plate IRA constitution" It seems that amending the current constitution maybe easier or more palatable. I would like to see it changed.
- Clear accountability by the people for important decisions
- Reporting to the people before decisions are made
- Like to see a Mission Statement
- Division of power - Voting no RBC Members - Voting Elders Council
- everything, create a new document that reflect Anishanabe values and customs
- enrollment
- Clearly define the 3 branches of government and define what the duties are
- 3 branches of govt. enrollment; inclusion and recognition of members who live off reservation
- Land acquisition Fee to trust; enrollment/membership; an at larger member to TEC from each reservation maybe from the local Indian councils of each band someone who has gained trust of people.
- Blood quantum Eliminate the Sec. of Interior approval
- Checks and balances need to be instituted. TEC needs to be held accountable to the constituents. Reservation goals of the TEC should not muddle/dominate MCT decisions. Huge conflict of interest exists in the current set up.
- For each concentration area.
- Adding Anishinaabe cultures and values. Creating a more clear language within the constitution so someone that doesn't study law can interpret it.
- Elections - enrollment - voices of members
- Enrollment
- Anything that allows the people to draft a document that will reflect our traditional way of life.
- Enrollment BQ change or opening enrollment to "direct descendants" on those enrollees listed between 1/2 and 1/2 BQ
- Develop government structure based on traditional values, the re-write the constitution based on that structure.
- Limit RBC power and develop RBC minimum qualification to run that include experience / educations for chair / secretary / treasurer
- Separation of Power Each reservation does their own enrollment Rights of members
- Fair representation of Band members from all Bands. A balance of power. (New structure)
- Participation by tribal membership in developing a governing document.
- Lower blood quant.
- MCT needs to be eliminated it has out lived its need. Reservations are capable of their own leading they

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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need const. separation of powers. NO MCT separations of powers

- A constitution that is written by the people, producing fairness for all band members.
- We will scrap the MNCT constitution, then we will decide upon a framework to form a new constitution, we will write a new constitution based upon our traditional political culture, Anishnaabe values and historical knowledge.
- Redoing it!!
- Change Everything
- Enrollment, Government duties spelled out clearly
- Enrollment to lineage
- Enrollment - All Chippewa included (Red Lake, Canadian) Term Limits, Clear Language, Code of Ethics + accountability more referendums on major issues, Disputes settles by their own. Blood Quantum to include Red Lake and + Canadian Ojibwe, see above
- For been members if you are convicted of theft drug sales then you should be revoked of their rights, payments-loans-housing. Unless they go to programs to help their problems. In order for you to receive a lump sum payment they have to go to college for at least two years
- Provided input during session
- Enrollment Criteria
- Needs to be written by Anishnaabe people
- Bicameral Legislative. Tribal Wide constitution and local constitutions as well. Three branches, bill of rights, mechanisms for expansion, direct election of tribal Offices and citizenship
- Allow the separate inherent sovereigns to separate from the white man's constitution that don't reflect our Anishnaabe values language and traditions. Allow Bands as inherent sovereign to determine their own destiny. The MCT is a barrier to self-government
- Add culture and tribal language
- Communication Officials responsible to send summary to band members so all are informed
- Term Limits- Eligibility - Secretary of Interior- Remove- Judicial Powers Separate
- Separation of powers, greater representation, membership and citizenship, tribes with bands and reservations for individual nations?
- Separation of powers, rights of citizens, checks and balances, citizenship.
- Enrollment qualifications for office RBC components and Land distribution/Release to each band
- Dissolution of the MCT under the 1934 IRA rules in United States department of interior authority. Replacement with tribally organized body of all Anishnaabe tribes who sit to participate, to work together equitably, with strength together, stronger than anything that federal government ever made. We are bonded by family, ceremony, history, and culture. We do not need their oversight and will not lose our status.
- Separation of Powers, Enrollment criteria
- Enrolling all children of members voting and candidate that should be 18, make petition process easily accessible, remove Federal oversight and approval of tribal and reservation decisions live by our treaties.
- Developed by ourselves and not by a government, attorney, BIA etc. Incorporate our culture and values

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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- Allowing MCT members to create and write our own system of governing ourselves (constitution)
- Enrollment land issues written by native people
- Each tribe is its own reservation we are not a big band. Each tribe needs to be there [their] own
- Our Traditional values to govern our tribe
- The needs of each band separation of power, family values and teachings of our grandparent[s]
- Input from the Band members

### 16 | What other suggestions do you have for strengthening the MCT constitution? Please be as specific as possible:

- I have but to read the constitution so I'm neutral about this issue.
- Education and engagements of the membership, integration of teaching regarding the constitution roles/responsibilities
- Language that spells out the values and principles (Anishnabeg) that gives direction of a government aspect of community
- General assemblies held at each reservation to collect each community profile for constitution changes
- create a participatory democracy, read the literature from The Age of Reason
- Education! it needs to be taught to everyone
- Write it at a 10th grade level so people can read and understand what they are reading
- Provide information to all band members, not just those who live on their reservation
- Hire a lobbyist to further our land issues (getting our land restored to trust) on TEC level. Ordinances to protect resources that are under attack from states, corporations - for extraction/exploitation
- Amendment to review constitution and amendments every 15 or 20 years
- Tribes of smaller enrollment numbers should make own decisions, not where larger reservations have more say.
- Make sure it is understood by all constituents of MCT- changes etc. A Tribe can be only as strong as the people of the tribe: Should reflect the differences that each reservation has and how isolated we have become from each other in terms of sharing resources.
- Better representation is needed. The elected members should hold the duty to reach out to members far and wide to hear their concerns.
- To become more part of the council's decisions to create more fairness, eliminate nepotism, eliminate the behaviors to where they represent "our" reservation. MCT should be more involved with meetings and overall, they can see where changes are needed.
- If all were required to follow the constitution, it could be a [decent] document
- Develop voting process better, its lacking people destroy each others singing and it ok. Develop the process to change /amend the constitution in the future develop based on customs
- Accountability of tribal leadership
- Not knowledgeable about the constitution

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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- Involve motivate the members, use the mass activities to get info out to members use mail, media
- Separate Powers ex: Same people on TEC board and RBC board
- MCT needs to be more inclusive of other tribal govt. in Wisconsin, Michigan, N. Dakota, etc. We need nation building not diversion by another useless MCT const. exercise
- Once developed (new constitution) all amendments need to be voted on by the band population residing on the reservation
- If an old problem from the past has been solved, let the wound heal, leave it alone!
- 4 branches of govt, governing by consensus, caring for the community and natural resources
- Either way would work - there is a process to amend, so why not? A new one would do the same.
- Restructuring the Chippewa Tribe role & take into account the local levels.
- enrollments
- More values
- People involvement by informed consent!
- Autonomy for the individual Bands has always been important - Any changes to MCT Constitution should not diminish the sovereign status of individual Bands
- MCT must remain but more autonomy for individual bands to make enrollment decisions
- Remove Secretary of Interior, only Chippewa / Ojibwe Blood- Red Lake, St. Breiox [?]
- Keep members of all tribes updated on MTC websites, newsletters, or mail
- To be informed
- Recognition of Articles of constitution
- Each tribe should have their own constitution
- Accountability- follow it
- Add judicial components, cultural additions for resolution
- Ask Members their opinions every step of the way
- Remove secretarial approval of everything.
- There are too many political agendas. There are elected leaders that want to build a kingdom so they can be king.
- To incorporate the 7 teachings - we won't fail then, change from the heart
- Education
- All Bands responsible to govern as they see fit. Mille Lacs has separation of powers form of Government.
- Leave us be- it works for us!!
- Are Interpretations- needed? We need a referendum vote today! ASAP
- Same as needing a new constitution.
- Call a referendum on the Q's on # [number] 16 and let membership decide what we should do so we can start working on it and move forward.
- The MCT needs to educate the constituents of our powers & rights, and the differences of amendments and

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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interpretations "No MCT- TEC interpretations. Follow the proper MCT article XII amendment process."

- Make wording specific and clear so there can be no (interpretations), recognize our treaty rights
- Have committees to advise the TEC members from your tribe
- [To] be able to be independent, sovereign, self-determination. As MCT Tribe we have different viewpoints, different ideas that we can't exercise on our own Reservation
- I am in favor of Mille Lacs band becoming its own tribe- no longer under MCT
- Start teaching whatever we come up with at a young age. Design Curriculum from K-12 and [Continued education]
- Do away with MCT all together. If we don't have the MCT we don't need a revision/amended MCT constitution
- Making sure all of the reservations have [casinos] for their [revenue] and other [businesses], our [casinos] take care of the needs of our reservation
- More input from the band members.

### 17 | COMMENTS and SUGGESTIONS:

- This presentation was very interesting and I hope to see/hear actual outcomes from this.
- Education for all members 41,330 on the constitution and process for reform, so that we have a "shared understanding/foundation" for which to go through the process of reforming the constitution.
- Mission Statement that reflects Anishanaabe values.
- Enrollment of 1/4 blood quantum is a federally imposed standard for membership. I believe that our people had valued one another and family values, culture and tradition over their blood quantum.
- Inform the people of what is the current constitution by educating them so they can see where change is needed.
- Who other than elected council must be accountable and to inform the people.
- Hold sessions to teach about the existing constitution as it stands
- Hold a vote on each reserve to not change the constitution
- Maintain a political voice for all Minnesota Indian peoples
- State wide convention for reform at [US Stadium Bank]
- Get this done - no lagging forge ahead- the constitution is overdue for a facelift
- Get rid of interpretations - "interpretations" come from the Business/political actions of the MCT members, ETAL.
- Makes no sense to write resolutions on how to interpret rules.
- These meetings were very informative and inspiring - part of a wake-up call ----- Thank you for giving us a lot of [information]
- Glad we are having this meeting today. I wish more people are here to participate. I hope whoever runs this meeting will not allow some people to monopolize the meeting with unnecessary topics. We need to keep a point of [order] and keep working on the constitution so we can move ahead and get the constitution

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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finished and move on with working towards the betterment of future of our children.

- We are not citizens! We are citizens of USA and State NOT citizens of the Tribe!
- I think research should be done to name (& include in revisions) every name of the BANDS; not just the NAME OF THE RESERVATION because this is not truly a reflection of who we are. It is a construct of the federal govt. Just a thought I carry forward in my life forwarded to me by my grandma in the story telling tradition we have. Because it links our history to the present when so many of our people do not know where they came from before they were born on a reservation of made a member by enrollment. They do not realize this. The Band name Mississippi denotes that my family originates along the lands by that big river. (for example)
- I believe a constitution [convention] is needed to change some of the outdated articles of the present constitution.
- It will be a long process and the key is to keep people involved to arrive at suggested changes that will need to be
- Possibly more referendums within the tribes for own decision-making purposes.
- Other tribes shall not interfere or present in another tribe's issues. for instance, Mille Lacs Member cannot speak on behalf of Grand Portage issues!
- Repeal Amendments
- Change the wording of the RBC as it does not pertain to all tribes. MLB has a 3-branch government. Maybe refer them a Tribal Governments Elected bodies. (Councils)
- If a change is going to occur within the MCT - I'd like to see more constituents aware or "made" aware of on an individual level whether it be individual or community or reservation wide, I feel this would be better for MCT in more informed results!
- All people running for tribal government should have knowledge of tribal government, the history of our tribes - should be checks and balances on the people that are elected if they can't perform there should be a way of removing them or ask them to resign - they should be signing a code of ethics or performance requirement. Have a clear defined description of their roles and responsibilities to the tribe and communities
- Great that this is happening seems like people I speak with have lost faith in the MCT (if they ever had it) and if the MCT wants to move forward as a leader of the Ojibwe it needs to regain support and trust in the communities. Having this process and getting people involved to bring it forward seems like a good step in that direction.
- If we do not have a strong constitution now then we should work on getting one
- When attending the mtg for 40,000 ppl there needs to be more communication with the people on our reservations so we are aware of changes, or maybe have some input on how to improve the constitution
- People need to follow the constitution be accountable if not accountable there needs to be a disciplines or warnings, maybe answers to why you're not accountable.
- Constitution doesn't address who we are - The main thing I see and would really like change is protection - for our employees, families to have oversight on jobs, homes that they are not violated by tribal council or their assistants.
- We need job security and see that on all reservations, It needs to stop - we all have families and our own dignity, hope.
- Thanks for all the materials and questions raised. :)

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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- There has to be checks and balances involving community members.
- Referendums "must" involve community. -Process must be [informational] as to pro's and con's of issues.
- It's been run as a corporation - which is based on a competitive [perspective] and a hierarchal structure. We need to utilize our old ways of "governing" our communities. - The purpose was to care for "all" people - not just those [related] on a special business relationship
- The entire process needs to be what the people want not elected officials. We need to remove everything that is harmful, the standard approach needs to be eliminated by the power of the RBC. We need a government structure based on the traditional ways of the Anishinabe. Don't mimic the federal government at all, the MCT constitution is an IRA document and has no place governing how we live and govern our resources. Develop a fair voting process, remove all corruption there should be minimum requirements of education/experience for Chair/Sec/Treas.
- Constitution should be based on all areas, we are currently involved in, gaming etc..., develop new blood quantum structure or allow each tribe to define their own, develop an elder/youth council that is advisory to the RBC's, involve people in the entire process, have an alliance for tribal members to be part of their government.
- IRA - Enacted June 18, 1934 -Section 18 - one year to have election and constitution approved -MCT constitution approved July 24, 1936
- Loved what I learned today but until talk is put into action these are the same words I've heard for the past 20 years. We need to have different members than the RBC on the TEC for the MCT - It's not fair, we (the people) have nowhere to go!
- Should be allowed to look on previous Rolls for blood quantum, married to a white earth member I am Fond Du Lac. our kids are denied enrollment we are both tribal members of Minnesota tribe's. why can't enroll my kids in our tribe??? This is my kids blood right and ancestors right why are we being chopped up by percentages of blood are we the only ethnic group this is being done to we are Anishinabe have been brought up this way why are my kids being denied there rights
- Be more aggressive to inform/educate band members. Consider all Indians with Indian Blood. Those or less inherent benefits when their elder dies. That why it would increase our roles but our dollars. It would remain at the same level until the descendant inherited their elders blood. We built a wonderful clinic and make money by volume is the other side of the economy.
- Marshall Trilogy- states that American Indian Tribes are "independent nations" not business communities. Cannot have gov to gov relationship if Bands are not considered Governments Cherokee Nation v. Georgia "domestic dependent nations" there was a specific relationship between American Indian Nations and the U.S. each Indian
- Nation "inherent sovereignty" in order of Bands to fully utilize their "inherent sovereignty" they need to be governments not Business committees.
- We need to get this process of writing the new constitution started, time is running short and we are more than capable of writing a new constitution. This is the fourth meeting and I cannot believe we have not started the actual writing. If you sit around without any actual reordering + synthesizing various ideas
- [Question 16] Redo it with membership included!!
- Would like to see more cultural values/traditions enumerated in the Constitution.
- TERM LIMITS
- Include membership of other "Affected Indians" [Question 15] If followed [Question 23] Hostile, hasn't been forced on to Reservation

## SUMMARY REPORT: Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Constitution Meetings August 2017- February 2018

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- Sovereign vs. Quasi-Sovereign membership oriented/Anishinaabe-Ojibwe
- Uniform Election Process. TEC- Certifies Candidates
- Executive director at MCT must be ethical- no variation from law and policies we need a new one- Peoples voices included. Don't reinvent the wheel
- [Question 11] If parent is enrolled then child should be also. [Question 13] No they leave the room. [Question 25]
- With all the drugs, stealing - reservations are not safe. I don't like my children even visiting any one on the reservation. It's too dangerous.
- Review blood quantum requirement. It is creating a non-acceptance issue for our youth. Increase knowledge to members local and remote and their descendants.
- Each tribe should have the [their] own constitution and enrollment criteria. Grandchildren blood from two or more tribes not recognized as any band member.
- Education is a Must!
- Fair representation to ensure the larger tribes don't over-run the smaller tribes
- Work with the people you represent at MCT and RBC levels
- Good Job, we are making progress!
- Keep at it, Miigwech for coming
- Member not citizen!
- I would like to see a video of the Hy [sic] of MCT- (using the Burris Report?) put together by ALL six nations
- They don't run, the chief and Treasurer are on this, what do you mean run? [comment on Question 8]
- Stop using citizen!!! I am not a citizen, I am a member, I belong!!! Tribal members Only, why are [we] allowing white people in and having input on our Government
- Culture needs to be a #1 addition to constitution and language also. What has TEC done for Mille Lacs.
- Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.
- Maybe to look at the per capita given to underage. It is ruining the use to be able to know they have more money
- than they have ever had in their lives. Takes away motivation for being a citizen with constructive ideas, thoughts, and actions. It's a waste of bonds money when most of this is spent on drugs, etc.!
- [Question] # 24 feels redundant.
- I think MCT is obsolete! Need to disband but fed [federal] administrator is threatening to recognize tribe.
- Good session - I enjoyed the format - minimize individuals from dominating sessions.
- A good start! Way to put this together on short notice. It is appreciated.
- The 4 smallest Reservations are the majority vote on the TEC. The 2 biggest reservations representing 70% of the MCT membership and the only two that aren't able to do per caps [per capita] are being out voted on issues that could benefit their reservations.
- My home is not a [tribal] home but mtg. [meetings] held by MCT casfes [sic] MN, until meeting is pd. My tribe reservation helps me because I am an elder

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NNI has provided surface level statistical analysis from the questionnaire to serve as food for thought as MCT engages in community education. Understanding the base level knowledge of the MCT Constitution allows elected officials to determine specific areas to focus. The questionnaire results illustrate a few areas to consider.

### Comparing the Means<sup>12</sup>:

By comparing the means, readers can identify the average responses for each question. To obtain means (averages) of participant responses, NNI recoded the Likert values as the following:

\*Recoded values: 1=Strongly Disagree 2=Disagree 3=Neutral 4=Agree 5= Strongly Agree

### Questions 6-10

The analysis below shows that respondents generally **disagreed** with many of the statements. When comparing the means of all 10 questions – the only question to move from Disagree to Neutral was **Question 8** “The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are clear to me.” which had the highest mean among all questions at 3.20.

| 6. The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's election process is fair. | 7. The Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) exercises power fairly. | 8. The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are clear to me. | 9. The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are adequate. | 10. The Reservation Business Committee (RBC) exercises power fairly. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.81                                                        | 2.56                                                            | 3.20                                                                                   | 2.87                                                                                | 2.54                                                                 |

### Questions 11-15

The two lowest means were for **Question 11** “Current enrollment requirements reflect how we view ourselves as Anishinaabe” at 2.13 and **Question 13** “Major Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) decisions include band input” at 2.28. These means suggest that respondents tended to **disagree** with these two points.

| 11. Current enrollment requirements reflect how we view ourselves as Anishinaabe. | 12. The needs of each band are equally considered. | 13. Major Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) decisions include band input. | 14. There is ample opportunity to address concerns with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government. | 15. The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution serves the needs of the MCT people. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.13                                                                              | 2.31                                               | 2.28                                                                     | 2.34                                                                                              | 2.39                                                                                |

### Correlations

A correlation analysis is used to test the strength of a relationship between variables. The correlation matrix lists the variables down the 1<sup>st</sup> column and row. The closer the correlation is to 1, the stronger the likelihood that a relationship or “correlation” exists between the variables (highlighted in yellow). Correlations were run against all

<sup>12</sup> In statistics, the **mean** is the average of a set of data.

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demographic variables and compared against Questions 1-5, Questions 6-15, and Question 16. The most significant correlations came when comparing the questions against each other.

### Correlations for Questions 1-5:

Reference:

*Question 1: I understand the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution and Bylaws.*

*Question 2: I understand the powers of the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC).*

*Question 3: I understand the powers of the Reservation Business Committees (RBCs).*

*Question 4: I understand how the Minnesota Chippewa tribal government operates.*

*Question 5: I have read the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution.*

|            | Question 1 | Question 2   | Question 3 | Question 4 | Question 5 |
|------------|------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Question 1 | 1          |              |            |            |            |
| Question 2 | 0.79247649 | 1            |            |            |            |
| Question 3 | 0.72587021 | 0.840248322  | 1          |            |            |
| Question 4 | 0.77790179 | 0.739731921  | 0.67374685 | 1          |            |
| Question 5 | -0.3352919 | -0.299297192 | -0.2070706 | -0.1564086 | 1          |

The graph above represents the correlation between the first five questions compared against one another. These correlations have the strongest correlation in the set. With these correlations, one can infer:

1. If a respondent **understands** the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution and Bylaws, this respondent is also **more likely to understand the powers** of the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) and Reservation Business Committees (RBCs); and **understand how the Minnesota Chippewa tribal government operates**.
2. If a respondent **understands the powers** of the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC), this respondent is also **more likely to understand the powers** of the Reservation Business Committees (RBCs) and **understand how the Minnesota Chippewa tribal government operates**.
3. If a respondent **understands the powers** of the Reservation Business Committees (RBCs), then the respondent is also **more likely to understand how the Minnesota Chippewa tribal government operates**.

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### Correlations for Questions 6-15:

Reference:

*Question 6: The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's election process is fair.*

*Question 7: The Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) exercises power fairly.*

*Question 8: The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are clear to me.*

*Question 9: The qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are adequate.*

*Question 10: The Reservation Business Committee (RBC) exercises power fairly.*

*Question 11: Current enrollment requirements reflect how we view ourselves as Anishinaabe.*

*Question 12: The needs of each band are equally considered.*

*Question 13: Major Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) decisions include band input.*

*Question 14: There is ample opportunity to address concerns with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government.*

*Question 15: The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution serves the needs of the MCT people.*

|             | Question 6 | Question 7  | Question 8 | Question 9  | Question 10 | Question 11 | Question 12 | Question 13 | Question 14 | Question 15 |
|-------------|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Question 6  | 1          |             |            |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Question 7  | 0.61060345 | 1           |            |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Question 8  | 0.56873585 | 0.497710237 | 1          |             |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Question 9  | 0.49585598 | 0.702476954 | 0.6282046  | 1           |             |             |             |             |             |             |
| Question 10 | 0.58559696 | 0.761720847 | 0.41420779 | 0.670567954 | 1           |             |             |             |             |             |
| Question 11 | 0.16583583 | 0.252555932 | 0.02137255 | 0.223137152 | 0.37211122  | 1           |             |             |             |             |
| Question 12 | 0.31712935 | 0.505148279 | 0.31753741 | 0.565821683 | 0.55915622  | 0.41321846  | 1           |             |             |             |
| Question 13 | 0.49188533 | 0.548508488 | 0.27883378 | 0.418720647 | 0.61226555  | 0.35783067  | 0.53228868  | 1           |             |             |
| Question 14 | 0.49572935 | 0.600582683 | 0.25320059 | 0.452448484 | 0.66170712  | 0.43650151  | 0.5915228   | 0.75548026  | 1           |             |
| Question 15 | 0.436535   | 0.515969359 | 0.37954469 | 0.512690343 | 0.58369592  | 0.35096092  | 0.50182118  | 0.57623856  | 0.6419897   | 1           |

The graph above is a correlation between the questions 6-15, compared against one another. With these correlations, one can infer:

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1. If a respondent **agrees** that the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) exercises power fairly, then these respondents are **more likely to agree that the qualifications to run** for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are adequate and that the Reservation Business Committee (RBC) exercises power fairly.
2. If a respondent **agrees** that the qualifications to run for the Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) are adequate then these respondents are also **likely to agree that the Reservation Business Committee (RBC) exercises power fairly.**
3. If a respondent **agrees** that the Reservation Business Committee (RBC) exercises power fairly then these respondents are also **likely to agree that there is ample opportunity** to address concerns with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government.
4. If a respondent **agrees** that there is ample opportunity to address concerns with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government then these respondents are also **likely to agree that Major Tribal Executive Committee (TEC) decisions include band input.**
5. If a respondent **agrees** that there is ample opportunity to address concerns with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribal government then these respondents are also **likely to agree that The Minnesota Chippewa Tribe's Constitution serves the needs of the MCT people.**

While this questionnaire provides a small sample size of the MCT tribal membership, it illustrates how members view and understand the MCT constitution.