

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
OF THE
ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF HOLIKACHUK
ALASKA



APPROVED MAY 17, 1948



Law
Office
Indian Tribes Law
Organized Village
Holikachuk Alaska

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF HOLIKACHUK, ALASKA

PREAMBLE

We, the people of Holikachuk, being a group of Indians and having the common bond of living together in Holikachuk, Territory of Alaska, in order to have a better Village and greater security, make for the Village of Holikachuk this Constitution and By-laws, by authority of the Act of the Congress of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the Acts of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378) and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250).

ARTICLE I—MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. *First Members*.—All persons whose names are on the list of native residents, made according to the Instructions of the Secretary of the Interior for Organization in Alaska, shall be members of the Village of Holikachuk.

SEC. 2. *Children of Members*.—All children of any members shall be members of the Village.

SEC. 3. *Loss of Membership*.—Any member who moves away from the Village for one year shall lose his membership, or if he moves away from the Village intending not to return he shall lose his membership or his membership may be taken away for good reason by the Village.

SEC. 4. *New Membership*.—Any native Indian person who sets up a home in the Village may be made a member of the Village.

SEC. 5. *Membership Rules*.—The Village may make rules to govern membership, either for the purpose of carrying out this Article or covering membership matters not taken care of in this Article.

ARTICLE II—NAME

This Organization shall be called the "Organized Village of Holikachuk."

ARTICLE III—GOVERNING BODY

SECTION 1. *Choice of Governing Body*.—The Village membership shall decide what kind of governing body it wishes to set up to speak and act for the Village and to use the powers of the Village. This shall be done at a general meeting following the acceptance of this Constitution.

SEC. 2. *Choice of Officers.*—At the meeting in which the Village membership decides the type of governing body it shall also choose the officers of this governing body and decide the terms of office for each.

SEC. 3. *Meetings of Membership and Governing Body.*—The Village shall decide how often the entire Village membership shall meet and set dates for the meetings. They shall decide when and how often the governing body shall meet. The Village shall decide what notice shall be given for the calling of meetings and how many members must be present in order to do business; and make any other rules necessary for the holding of meetings.

SEC. 4. *Records and Reports of Community Decisions.*—A record shall be made and kept of all the rules made under sections 1, 2, and 3 of this Article. This record shall be called the Record of Organization of the Organized Village of Holikachuk. Copies of the Record of Organization shall be given to the representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs serving the Village. There shall be put in the Record the names of all persons chosen to be officials of the Village.

ARTICLE IV—POWERS OF THE VILLAGE

SECTION 1. *Powers.*—The Village shall have the following powers:

To do all things for the common good which are not against Federal law and such Territorial law as may apply.

To foster native life, arts and possessions and native customs not against the law.

To deal with the Federal and Territorial Governments on matters of interest to the Village. To stop any giving or taking away of Village lands or other property without its consent, and to get legal aid, as set forth in the Act of June 18, 1934.

To control the use by members or non-members of any reserve set aside by the Federal Government for the Village and to keep order in the reserve.

SEC. 2. *Other Powers Granted.*—The Village may have and use such other powers as may be given to it by the Federal or Territorial Government.

SEC. 3. *Use of Powers.*—The governing body shall put into use such of the powers of the Village as the Village may give to it at general meetings of the membership and shall make reports of its actions to the membership at general meetings.

SEC. 4. *Rule-making Power.*—The Village may make rules to carry out the words of this Constitution providing the rules are not against the law.

ARTICLE V—RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

SEC. 1. *Right to Vote.*—All members of the Village 21 years of age or over shall have the right to vote in Village meetings and elections.

SEC. 2. *Right to Speak and Meet Freely.*—Members of the Village shall have the right to speak and meet together freely in a peaceable way.

SEC. 3. *Right to Share in Benefits.*—Members of the Village shall have equal right to share in benefits of the Village.

ARTICLE VI—CHANGES IN THE CONSTITUTION

Changes in this Constitution and By-laws may be made if the changes are approved by the Secretary of the Interior and by a majority vote of the Village members voting in an election called by the Secretary of the Interior at which at least 30 percent of the voting membership take part.

BY-LAWS OF THE ORGANIZED VILLAGE OF HOLIKACHUK

ARTICLE I—OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

SECTION 1. *Village Records.*—The Village or the governing body shall choose one or more members who shall have the duty of keeping records of all actions and decisions of the Village and of the governing body and of giving copies of the records to the representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs serving the Village.

SEC. 2. *Village Funds.*—The Village or the governing body shall choose one or more members who shall have the duty of caring for the Village funds and keeping records of all funds taken in and paid out and giving copies of the records to the representative of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

SEC. 3. *Officers and Agents.*—The Village or the governing body may choose as many officers and agents as it may need to carry out its duties and shall state the length of service and the duties of each officer or agent when he is chosen.

ARTICLE II—ADOPTION

This Constitution and By-laws shall be in effect when it is agreed to by a majority vote of the Village members voting in an election called for the purpose by the Secretary of the Interior, provided that at least 30 percent of the voting membership take part. The persons entitled to vote are all the adult native residents of the Village of Holikachuk.

APPROVAL

This Constitution and By-laws is hereby approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior and submitted for acceptance or rejection by the group of Indians having a common bond of living together in the Village of Holikachuk, Alaska, in an election called and held under the Instructions of the Secretary of the Interior.

All rules and regulations heretofore promulgated by the Interior Department or by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, so far as they may be incompatible with any of the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws will be inapplicable to the Organized Village of Holikachuk, Territory of Alaska, from and after the date of adoption of this Constitution.

All officers and employees of the Interior Department are ordered to abide by the provisions of the said Constitution and By-laws.

[SEAL] WILLIAM E. WARNE,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 17, 1948.*

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

Pursuant to an order approved May 17, 1948, by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, the attached Constitution and By-laws was submitted for ratification to the group of Indians having a common bond of residence in the Village of Holikachuk, Territory of Alaska, and was on September 10, 1948, duly ratified by a vote of 21 for, and 0 against, in an election in which over thirty percent of those entitled to vote cast their ballots, in accordance with section 16 of the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984), as amended by the acts of June 15, 1935 (49 Stat. 378) and May 1, 1936 (49 Stat. 1250).

PHILIP KING,
Chairman, Election Board.
LUCY CHARLIE,
Secretary, Election Board.

VIAH C. DODGE, TEACHER,
Government Representative.