

# K'ómoks First Nation

## BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION



The Elected Council of the K'ómoks First Nation

BCR Name: Elders Policy Approval							Chronological no.:	
							75-2024_25-BCR	
Date of duly convened meeting	D		M		Y		Province	
	1	2	1	2	2	4	BC	
							Drafted by: Tamara Schwartz	

WHEREAS: The Elder's Policy has been updated, as of November 21, 2024 with the adjustment that all Elders Programs will start at the age of 55+ with the exception of the Winter Wellness starting at age 60 years for K'ómoks First Nation Members.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Council signs into effect the KFN Elders Policy. This resolution was consented to at a duly convened meeting of the K'ómoks First Naion Council on the 12th day of December, A.D. 2024 in Courtenay BC.

SIGNED by the K'OMOKS FIRST NATION CHIEF AND COUNCIL on behalf of the K'OMOKS FIRST NATION, pursuant to the consent of majority of the councillors of the K'OMOKS FIRST NATION.

Quorum 3

(Chief Kenneth Price)

(Councillor Susan Savoie)

(Councillor Coral MacKay)

(Councillor Candace Newman)



# K'ómoks First Nation

## Elders Policy

***The K'ómoks First Nation Elders Policy has been developed to provide a pathway for the Elders Coordinator and or KFN staff to support culture and wellbeing (mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual) for KFN Elders***

Document Information	
<b>BCR #</b>	75-2024_25-BCR
<b>Effective Date</b>	December 12, 2024
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<b>Modification(s) Effective Date(s)</b>	

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Elected Chief

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Elected Councillor

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Elected Councillor

## Table of Contents

<b>Definitions</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>1.0 Purpose</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2.0 Scope</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3.0 Eligibility Criteria</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>4.0 Limitations</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>5.0 Exceptions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>6.0 Appeals</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>7.0 Responsibility</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>8.0 Appendices</b> .....	<b>6</b>
Appendix A – Elder TV & Internet .....	6
Appendix B – Winter Wellness .....	7
Appendix C - Annual Elders Gathering .....	8
Appendix D – Elders Christmas Baskets .....	9
Appendix E – Lifeline Program .....	10
Appendix F – Elders Yard Works – Lawn Care and Snow Removal .....	11
Appendix G – Elders Insurance .....	12

## Definitions

- “KFN Elder”** A registered KFN member that is the age 55+.
- “KFN Member”** Is registered with KFN and has a 624-registration number.
- “Significant other”** Spouse, common-law, same sex partner who is living under the same roof as a KFN member.
- “Widow”** A woman who has lost a spouse by death and has not remarried.
- “Widower”** A man who has lost a spouse by death and has not remarried.
- “Homelands”** On reserve and within boundaries of traditional territories between Campbell River to Parksville.
- “On reserve”** On reserve refers to the following geographic areas: Indian reserves and settlements.
- “Off reserve”** Off reserve refers to all other areas outside reserves and settlements.

## **1.0 Purpose**

This policy will provide:

- 1.1** A pathway for the Elders Coordinator and/or KFN staff to support culture, health, and wellbeing for the KFN Elders.
- 1.2** To provide physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual connectedness with the KFN community.
- 1.3** To create fairness, accountability and transparency.
- 1.4** Bridge the gap between KFN Elders residing within IR #1 (homelands) and living off the homelands.

## **2.0 Scope**

- 2.1** This policy applies to Elders who are registered members of the K'ómoks First Nation living on and off homelands.
- 2.2** This policy also applies to significant others of KFN Elders as defined in this policy.

## **3.0 Eligibility Criteria**

- 3.1** KFN member with a 624-registration number.
- 3.2** KFN registered members who are age 55+ or 60+ (criteria is based on the activity/program delivered).

## **4.0 Limitations**

- 4.1** Grant(s) and/or funding may have their own criteria or definition of Elder or age limitations to abide by and in that case the grant will be implemented using those criteria

## **5.0 Exceptions**

- 5.1** Priority of funding and services will always be given to Elders with a KFN registration number.
- 5.2** Widows and widowers of KFN elders without a KFN registered number and living on reserve can still participate in events and functions at/or with KFN and will be eligible for financial support if funding is available.
- 5.3** Widows and widowers (that were married to a KFN member) living on-reserve, without a KFN registered number, and who remarry or common law, a non-KFN member will not be eligible to receive financial support but can still participate in events and functions at/or with KFN.

## **6.0 Appeals**

- 6.1** If there is a question or disagreement about programs or services outlined in the policy and appendices, a letter or email can be sent to the department head. The department head will do their due diligence with research and will make a recommendation to the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). The CAO will make the decision and will inform the person making the appeal.

## **7.0 Responsibilities**

- 7.1** This policy will be abided by the department overseeing the Elders programs or services.

## Appendix A

### Elder TV & Internet Programs

K'ómoks First Nation covers a base TV and/or Internet Package through service provider for KFN Elders living on reserve.

On an annual basis the service is reviewed and evaluated to determine if this program will continue. The package may change and/or be cancelled solely at the discretion of KFN.

#### How to get onto the KFN TV/Internet Program

1. If you are 55+, live on reserve and would like to be on the program please speak to the Elders Coordinator.
2. The Elders Coordinator will confirm eligibility and will support Elders to complete the TV/Internet Agreement to sign up for the TV/Internet program.
3. Elders will work with the Elders Coordinator and service provider to take any steps necessary to get them hooked up and active on the package offered. This could include scheduling appointments and having technicians visit their homes to hook up equipment
4. Elders will receive any equipment related to services provided at no charge to them

#### *Important Reminders*

1. Any additional equipment or services over and above the package will be charged directly to the Elder.
2. All additional packages, services, and equipment must be arranged between the Elder and service provider directly.
3. At the end of the service agreement, or at any time that the service agreement is cancelled (by any parties involved Elder, KFN or service provider), the KFN Elder must adhere to the return policy of ALL equipment provided by the internet/tv provider.
4. Any equipment not returned will be billed directly to the Elder
5. KFN reserves the right to change or cancel the service agreement at any time at their discretion.
6. Whenever possible, we will provide as much notice of change or cancellation.

## Appendix B

# Winter Wellness Program

During the month of January, KFN celebrates the Winter Wellness Program for all KFN Elders 60+ living on and off reserve.

This is an annual one-time \$500.00 payment per member to help offset the inflated costs of living and heating homes throughout the winter. The support is based on availability of funds and is not guaranteed to be available every year.

This support is not a loan, and no longer requires receipts to be submitted to the Elders Coordinator.

### *Important Reminders*

1. You do not need to sign up for Winter Wellness support, but you must ensure all your information is updated and recorded with our Membership Clerk.
2. Update your mailing address and contact information if you have moved within the year.



## Appendix C

# Annual Elders Gathering

Each year, we aim to bring our KFN Elders 55+ on a trip to Vancouver for the Elders' Conference. This is our largest trip of the year, and attendance is based on availability of funding and is not guaranteed every year. This trip requires the most planning, coordinating, and fundraising.

### Trip Includes

- Non-refundable Conference Ticket (\$550ea)
- Transportation to and from location
- Hotel and Ferry costs
- Meal allowance
- Spending Money (amount based on annual trip budget; fundraising helps secure these amounts)

### Expectations

Participation to help in fundraising activities to help offset trip expenses

- Raffles, 50/50, Bannock and Bake Sales have been previous fundraising activities.

Participation at the conference. While the Elders aren't expected to be at the conference center for the entire time, we do ask that you consider the cost of the conference ticket and join us for as much of the conference as possible. There are many self care activities and informational workshops that are offered as well and we encourage participation in those as well.

### FAQ

#### Q. How do I register for the Trip?

- A. Register with Elders Coordinator before the posted due date which will change from year to year depending on the date of the conference. The best place to see all information related to the Vancouver trip and all programming for KFN Elders is our private Facebook group. It is updated on a regular basis and is a good place to see things like rsvp deadlines.  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/267564433687996>.

#### Q. When will I know I get to go on the trip?

- A. The Elders Coordinator will arrange for travel, hotel and tickets and will let the Elders know as soon as possible once those have been secured.

#### Q. What if I cannot help with fundraising, am I still allowed to attend the trip?

- A. Elders will not be penalized if they are not able to participate with fundraising, however, it is highly recommended to participate because the fundraising helps with trip and expenses, and to secure spending money distribution on the trip.

## Appendix D

### Elders Christmas Baskets

The Elders Coordinator will organize and arrange for each KFN Elder 55+ (living locally) to receive a gift basket. The contents of the basket will change every year, but there will be a gift card to a grocery store or a cheque to help with Christmas in that Elders home. Additional items could be: ornaments, home baked goods, canned or/and jarred goods, blanket, calendar, other small assorted Christmas items. Each Elder member will receive the cheque or gift card, regardless of marital status.

Elders living away will be mailed out a gift card or cheque as well as a small gift.

#### *Important Reminders*

1. You do not need to sign up for Christmas baskets, but you must ensure all your information is updated and recorded with our Membership Clerk.
2. Update your mailing address and contact information if you have moved within the year.

## Appendix E

# Lifeline Program

K'ómoks First Nation will cover a Lifeline Emergency response unit to eligible KFN Elders 55+ living on reserve.

### **How to get onto the Lifeline Program**

1. Request the unit through the Elders Coordinator.
2. Fill out the paperwork required with the help of the Elders Coordinator. The unit will be chosen from 4 options based on the Elders needs and mobility and in consultation with the Elder, Lifeline and the Health Team.
3. Lifeline will be in touch within a few business days to get the elder set up with chosen unit.

### *Important Reminders*

1. In requesting a Lifeline unit, the Elder is agreeing to use the unit as recommended daily. This includes charging the battery as needed to ensure the unit's functionality.
2. If at any point the unit is no longer needed, the Elder or their family will return the unit and all included equipment, including charging stations to Lifeline directly or to the Elders Coordinator.
3. If an Elder who has a lifeline unit changes address, the new address must be recorded with Lifeline directly as soon as possible to avoid any gaps or delays in service.

## Appendix F

# Elder Yard Works

## *Lawn Care and Snow Removal*

In collaboration with our Maintenance Department and the Elders' Coordinator, KFN will support Elders 55+ living on reserve with seasonal lawn maintenance (cutting grass, trimming edges) and snow removal in the Winter.

### *Important Reminders*

1. Elder must be a registered owner and/or have a tenancy agreement in their name.
2. Elders must request directly with the Elders Coordinator for the Yard Works program before the season for scheduling with Maintenance.
3. Elder requests are formal work orders submitted to the Maintenance department and reviewed for approval from the Director of Public Works.
4. All changes to the work order for an Elders Yard Work program must go through the Elders Coordinator to work with the Director of Public Works.

## Appendix G

# Elder Insurance

K'ómoks First Nation will reimburse eligible Elders 55+ living on reserve up to \$300 per year for their home insurance.

### How to get reimbursed for your insurance

1. Elder must be the registered owner of the home, be 55+ and live on reserve.
2. Elder must bring their proof of paid insurance (over \$300) to the Elders Coordinator.
3. The Elder will be reimbursed with a cheque of \$300 when it has cleared finance.