

**PORT GAMBLE S'KLALLAM TRIBE  
GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING  
Agenda Request and Report Form**

**TURN IN TO THE FRONT DESK OR EMAIL COUNCILSUPPORT@PGST.NSN.US BY 4:30 PM ON  
Friday, March 1, 2024**

**Date Submitted:** \_\_\_\_\_ 2/14/2024

**Submitted by:** Tribal Council via legal per motion from the 8/28/2023 Council Motion, to October 7, 2023 GC meeting, and then GC motioned to proceed at the October 7, 2023 mtg. to the March 30, 2024 mtg.

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ (260) 297-2646 \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of time requested for presentation:**            20 minutes  
*(include question/answer time)*

**Subject:**  
Second presentation of proposed Tribal Constitutional amendment related to enrollment eligibility criteria, and vote by ballot on whether to send to membership for an election on the amendment.

**General Council Request:** (What are you asking the General Council to advise Tribal Council On? Check all that apply)

- Discussion Item only.**
- Request for Presentation.**
- Informational only.**
- Motion** (State the motion)
- Ballot Vote**

**ISSUE** (Briefly identify issue with needed action.)

This is the second presentation to the General Council on the proposed amendment to the Tribal Constitution that would expand the geographic area in which any child born to a Tribal member would be eligible for automatic enrollment. Article VII of the Constitution and Chapter 11.03 of the Tribal Elections Code require that such an amendment be presented to the General Council at one meeting with a quorum present (which happened on October 7, 2023), and then be submitted again at a second meeting of the General Council for a ballot vote as to whether to send the proposed amendment out to the membership for an election. This is the second step. At this meeting General Council will vote, by paper ballot, on whether to send the proposed amendment out to the membership for an election vote. A “yes” vote at this meeting does not amend the Constitution. A “yes” vote sends the proposed amendment out for an election.

**BACKGROUND** (Define and summarize history of issue and other pertinent information.)

The Tribal Council appointed an Enrollment Eligibility Committee (EEC) over five years ago to consider and recommend changes to the Tribe's enrollment eligibility criteria. After years of deliberations and data review, the EEC proposed three recommendations to the Tribal Council. The recommendations were then presented and discussed at three community meetings, and a survey was conducted of the Tribal membership. The results of that survey were presented at three subsequent community meetings.

The Tribal Council moved to proceed with one of the EEC's recommended options: expanding the geographic area within which descendants of Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribal members would be eligible for automatic enrollment, regardless of blood quantum. Of the three options, this option would allow the least amount of potential new enrollees, easing the tribe into growth and expanded enrollment. The current area is the Tribe's reservation. The proposed change would expand this area to include counties where the Tribe has usual and accustomed Treaty sites: Kitsap, Clallam, Jefferson, Mason, and San Juan Counties.

The Tribe completed phase one on October 7, 2023 when the General Council heard the initial presentation of the proposed amendment, asked questions and considered the materials with a quorum present. Although a vote wasn't required, the General Council voted to proceed with the process even though General Council members identified and questioned why Island County wasn't listed.

This meeting is phase 2, which requires a quorum and a ballot vote to decide whether to send the amendment to the whole membership for an election vote.

**PROS/CONS** (Identify Pros and Cons).

Pro – the General Council vote is necessary to decide whether all of the tribe's eligible voters will get to consider the actual amendment to the Constitution.

Pro – this issue has consumed over 5 years of the tribe's time, money and resources, we need to send this question out to the full membership for an election in order to make a final decision, whether it is to adopt or reject.

Con – there are significant costs in time and resources for changing the constitution, but the constitution should not be easy to change.