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## TO ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS

The Seneca-Cayuga Nation has requested three Constitutional Amendments to be approved by the U.S. Department of Interior - Bureau of Indian Affairs. Proposed changes to the Constitution will include the following:

**Amendment A** – This Amendment, if passed, would change Article III – Membership of the Nation to incorporate changes to include persons who are born to a member of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation and remove the language “born of a marriage”. This Amendment would also, if passed, prohibit dual enrollment. Amendment A was submitted to the Department of Interior in March of 2016, but due to a Temporary Restraining Order filed by LeRoy Howard, the Bureau denied the request for Constitutional changes at that time.

**Amendment B** – The proposed Amendment to Article IX seeks to clarify the tribe’s voting process. Changing the Constitution to mirror the language used in the Nation’s Election Ordinance, this Amendment would ensure that ALL eligible voters of the Nation will be able to exercise their right to vote via absentee ballot.

**Amendment C** – The proposed Amendment to Article X requires the Grievance Committee, upon a proper showing, to submit complaints of misconduct by the Business Committee members to a referendum vote of all General Council members, and requires a majority of at least 30 percent of the adult members to vote in favor of removal before a Business Committee member is removed from office. The Amendment also requires that a successor be elected by a special election. Previously, a majority of Council members present at a Special Meeting could remove a Business Committee member and elect his/her successor at the same Special Meeting. This change would ensure that the Nation’s members, including those unable to attend a Special Meeting, can lend their voices to decisions that are integral to the make-up and functioning of their tribal government.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs will be conducting the election and you will be required to request a ballot. Notices will be mailed to you as soon as the Amendments are approved by the BIA.

Sincerely,

Seneca-Cayuga Business Committee

