

# A Letter from the Seneca-Cayuga Nation's Constitution Committee



Your Constitution Committee extends its gratitude towards the General Council, including those present at our 2025 Annual Meeting who established this committee. Our mission is providing a place for thoughtful, informed, and transparent dialogue on government reform that is open to all tribal members. Our purpose is to develop well-considered Constitutional amendments to be presented at the 2026 Annual Meeting. We will do our best to honor, protect, and uphold the rights and authority of the General Council of our Nation. We are committed to doing right by this General Council and all the tribal members who will come after us.

**Your voices are essential.** Read our minutes. Join our Zoom meetings. We want your thoughts and input before we present the proposed changes at the 2026 Annual Meeting of the General Council. **Make your voice heard before any proposed amendments are forwarded to the Bureau of Indian Affairs.**

Nya:węhgo:wah for the honor and responsibility of this work.



**Carrie Kneeland**, Chair



**Roberta Smith**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair



**Natalie Dixon**, Secretary



**Jo Lynn Gentry**, member



**Yvonne Perryman**, member

Business Committee liaison: **2<sup>nd</sup> Chief Curt Lawrence**



# Learn about Past and Present Constitution Committee Work

## MEETING MINUTES

Review our **2025-2026 Meeting Minutes** to keep up with this work in detail, or the previously published Initial Advisory Report is also on this page



<https://sctribecom/government/constitution-bylaws>

## PRIOR WORK

### INITIAL ADVISORY REPORT (2024)

In 2023 the Business Committee amended our Constitution and By-Laws but recognized more government reform was needed.

They created a 9-member Constitution Advisory Committee who produced a 38 page Initial Advisory Report detailing potential changes and additions to our tribal governing documents.

<https://sctribecom/sites/default/files/InitialAdvisoryReport.pdf>

## JOIN THE DISCUSSION

Join us on: **January 5 & 19, February 2 & 16, and March 2, 16, & 30, all at 6pm Central.**



[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86002149685?  
pwd=hzaPGOMlKpQxqCrxOMdNBCyk2qNwL1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86002149685?pwd=hzaPGOMlKpQxqCrxOMdNBCyk2qNwL1)  
**Meeting ID: 860 0214 9685**  
**Passcode: 478979**

## CURRENT TOPICS

Constitution Article III - **Membership of the Nation**  
Constitution Article V - **Officers**  
Constitution Article VII - **Standing Committees**  
By-laws Article I - **Duties of Officers**  
By-Laws Article II - **Qualifications of Officers**



see pg 4

## CONTACT US

Join our Facebook Group to leave us a comment!



<https://www.facebook.com/share/g/1ADzXrQgfH/>

For privacy email us:  
[constitution@sctribecom](mailto:constitution@sctribecom)

## FUTURE PLANS

An Oath of Office is a public promise to tribal citizens. It reflects what the General Council expects from any given elected official - it is the Council's standard of integrity, accountability and ethical practices.

Scan for current Oath of Office draft:

1. I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly affirm that I will uphold, support, and defend the Constitution, By-Laws, Resolutions, Ordinances, codes, rules, and sovereignty of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation. I pledge to shield our Nation from any act or influence that could undermine, defraud, or diminish its jurisdiction or inherent rights.
2. I further affirm that I will serve with honesty, integrity, and respect for the laws and values of our people. I will not mislead through false statement, nor behave in a manner that compromises the trust granted to me. I will carry out my duties with dignity, decorum, and the highest level of fiduciary responsibility, guided by truth, fairness, and a commitment to the well-being and progress of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation—its culture, languages, and citizens.
3. With this oath, I commit myself to faithful, ethical, and impartial service, dedicating my abilities and efforts to the promotion, protection, and perpetuation of the Seneca-Cayuga Nation, now and for future generations.