**Key Articles for a Community Constitution**

SAMPLE

FREE FOR USE

**Preamble**

* Declaration of identity, rights and values; describes what makes COMMUNITY unique
* Describes in general the people, and the territory/area of jurisdiction, including maps

**Individual Rights and Freedoms**

* Describes and protects the rights of individuals in the community, create a Bill of Rights
* Describes membership, could lead to possible Custom Membership code

**Government Structure**

* Describes the departments of our government, defines their powers, responsibilities and mandates, include 5 yr or 10 Plans for each department
* Describes election process and possible development of a Custom Election Code

**Legislative Authority**

* + Describes the laws and law making process, possible simple set of COMMUNITY Community By-laws
  + Outlines the community members’ role in law-making and decision-making, appealing and revising outmoded laws and by-laws and lolicies

**The Land System**

* + Describes rights of individual citizens and Nation to lands
  + Describes the power of the band gov't to administer, regulate, expropriate and grant interests
  + Possible development of a Custom Land Use Code and Land Use By-laws

**Financial Administration and Accountability**

* + Describes financial administration laws
  + Describes budget and auditing process and procedures

**Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest**

* Describes code of conduct and conflict of interest guidelines of elected and non-elected representatives, and all employees of COMMUNITY, potential for Employment Manual and Policies
* Describes provisions for breach of trust or neglect of duty
* **Dispute Resolution**
  + Describes dispute resolution laws, processes and procedures, COMMUNITY Appeals Process
* **Approval/Ratification of Constitution**
  + Describes process for consultation,
  + Clarifies processes for ratification of the constitution
* **Constitutional Amendments**
  + Describes the process to amend the constitution