

Robert's Rules of Order

The rules of order are to be read, discussed and adopted prior to the business of the day beginning. The constitution and by-laws shall be the only rules of order to which reference may be made in the event of a disputed arising.

Rules of Order:

1. Assembly will meet each day designated on the agenda, provided that a quorum is present.
2. An issue must be introduced by way of a motion properly moved and seconded before the assembly can discuss the issue. This rule does not restrain the Chair from acknowledging a speaker, who may be granted leave by the Chair to introduce an issue without a motion;
3. Only official members may move or second a motion; however, no one member can move and second the motion;
4. When a member wishes to speak on a motion, he/she must stand up and be recognized by the Chair and when recognized the member must:
 - a. Give his/her name
 - b. Make his/ her remarks to the question at issue
5. No member may speak longer than five minutes at a time on any issue nor speak more than once on an issue until all who wish to speak on that issue have an opportunity to do so;
6. A motion shall be open for discussion until such time as the Chair is satisfied that everyone has had the opportunity to speak on the motion. Only after the Chair has called for further discussion three times, may question be called on any motion;
7. Questions may be decided by a show of hands of the voting members on the basis of one vote per member;
8. An ordinary motion or resolution shall require 50 percent plus 1 in order to pass;
9. A motion to amend any part of the constitution or by-laws of the Mi'kmaq First Nations Assembly of Newfoundland contained in the notice of the Annual General Assembly sent to voting members shall require a fifty (50) percent majority of the quorum in order to pass;
10. A motion may be withdrawn at any time during the discussion provided that both the mover and the seconder of the motion agree;
11. Three amendments will be allowed for any one motion.