



Letter of Information: Tlicho Community Government Election Study 2021

Hello, I am conducting a survey about the Tlicho Grand Chief Elections on behalf of Hoti ts'eeda, Carleton University and Western University. We are working together to better understand democracy and elections in Tlicho communities. The Tlicho Government is co-directing this survey. Researchers want to better understand how Tlicho elections work and what voters think about various issues.

Participation in this study is voluntary and includes answering some questions. The time required to complete the survey varies quite a lot and depends on how you answer the questions. Some people complete the survey in as little as 10 minutes, most people have more to say and enjoy the survey, so it averages about 20 minutes.

You do not have to answer any questions that you do not want to. Even if you consent to participate you have the right to not answer individual questions or to stop the interview at any time. If you choose not to participate or to leave the interview at any time it will have no effect on you and we will destroy all the information you have provided to us. Please note that once the survey is completed, you will no longer be able to withdraw from the study.

I would like to assure you that all information you provide, including your answers, identity, and any other information will remain confidential to the extent allowed by law. Direct identifying information will be detached from survey responses and the information will be stored on password protected computers, only to be used, in summary form, by university researchers. All identifiable information will be deleted from the dataset collected so that individual participants' anonymity will be protected. This means that quasi-identifying information, such as age or education level, will be generalized to minimize the risk of identifying individuals. Ages, for example, will be reported in five-year ranges. These precautions are meant to limit any risk to you as a participant.

Through the partnership with the Tlicho Government there is a small risk that participants, like yourself, may experience social risk from sharing political opinions with the researchers. The benefit of participating in our study is that your responses will help us to know more about democracy and elections in Tłı̨chų communities. You may not benefit

personally from your participation, but you might find some of the questions interesting.

Data from this survey will be accessible by researchers and held in the Canadian Opinion Research Archive. More specifically, the data will be made publicly available so that data may be inspected and analyzed by others.

Representatives of Carleton University and Western University's Research Ethics Boards may require access to your study-related records to monitor the conduct of the research. The data will be stored on a secure server at Carleton University and will be retained for a minimum of 7 years. By consenting to participate in this study, you are agreeing that your data can be used beyond the purposes of this present study by either the current or other researchers.

You can read more about the survey at c-dem.ca. For questions at any time about the study or its results, you may contact Dr. Jerald Sabin in the School of Public Policy and Administration at Carleton University at gerald.sabin@carleton.ca, or Dr. Laura Stephenson from the Department of Political Science at Western University at laura.stephenson@uwo.ca.

For questions about your rights as a research participant or the conduct of this study, you may contact the Carleton University Office of Research Ethics or Western University's Non-Medical Research Ethics Board, which oversee the ethical conduct of research studies and are not part of the study team. Everything that you discuss will be kept confidential. You can reach them via email at ethics@carleton.ca or ethics@uwo.ca.