

ACCOUNTABILITY



December, 2010

INDIAN ACT GOVERNMENT VS. SELF-GOVERNMENT



INDIAN ACT GOVERNMENT

An *Indian Act* band government is not required to be financially accountable to its members.

- The *Indian Act* does not require Indian Band Councils to be accountable to their members.
- Financial accountability is to the federal government.



An *Indian Act* band government is not required to be politically accountable to its members.

- The *Indian Act* imposes governance.
- Currently, a band can adopt a custom governance code that does not require accountability or elections.

An *Indian Act* band government is not required to be administratively accountable to its members.

- The only formal accountability for programs and services is to Indian and Northern Affairs Canada (INAC).



Self-government with treaty

- Treaty creates governance of our own choosing, through our constitution.
- The treaty shifts responsibility away from the federal minister of Indian Affairs.
- The *Indian Act* does not apply (except for status).
- In-SHUCK-ch is finally, and truly self-governing.

Why is self-government different?

Self-government is different because it requires:

- financial accountability to members,
- political accountability to members, and
- administrative accountability to members.



What does it mean to be accountable?

To be accountable means to provide an account or tell the story of what happened.

- Fiscal accountability means open budgets and full disclosure of expenditures.
- Political accountability means elections.
- Administrative accountability means managers report through elected officials.
- Administrative decisions must be fair and based on policies and procedures.

What if fiscal, political, or administrative decisions are not fair?

- Under self-government, In-SHUCK-ch citizens can challenge and change any decision.



CONTACT

In-SHUCK-ch Nation

41290-B Lougheed Hwy

Deroche, BC

V0M 1G0

Ph: **604.820.6873**

Fx: **604.820.6847**

Email: **questions@inshuckch.com**

Web: **www.inshuckch.com**

