

General Information

The previous referendum was held on April 10, 1995. Each municipality rejected a proposal that would have given them the right to sell municipal lands. The issue can be revisited after 20 years (April 12, 2015).

The referendum will take place on May 9, 2016 to ensure that Nunavummiut have enough time to gain a full understanding of the question and the implications of a "YES" or a "NO" outcome.

The referendum will take place in all the communities on the same day, which happened in the 1995 referendum.

Each community will vote and decide independently on whether they agree or disagree with the referendum question.

The YES/NO question on the ballot will be:

Do you want your municipal council to be able to sell municipal lands?

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. With a YES vote, will the municipality still be able to issue leases?

A. Yes. Councils will decide which lots are made available for sale. Councils may choose only to sell lots in a specific part of the community, like a new subdivision. Any lots not identified for sale will be leased.

Q. With a YES vote, will the municipality still be able to control how land is used?

A. Yes. Councils will still have control over the land through the zoning bylaw.

Q. With a YES vote, will people with standard leases be forced to purchase their land once their lease is expired?

A. The municipality must respect the terms and conditions of current leases. As long as people are in good standing with the municipality and not in violation of their lease agreement, the municipality will renew their lease. Most leases have an automatic renewal clause.

Q. With a YES vote, will those with equity leases be able to purchase their land?

A. Yes. If the lessee has paid the full amount of the equity lease and other fees, fee simple will be transferred to the lessee as soon as reasonably possible without the lessee being required to pay any additional fees except for the costs incurred in completing the transfer.

Land Referendum

May 9

2016

Do you want your municipal council to be able to sell municipal lands?

Information Kit



What the vote decides

On May 9, 2016 **each community** in Nunavut will decide whether or not to **allow the sale of municipal lands**.

Currently, if a person or organization wants to build on municipal land, they can get a lease from the municipality. Your vote determines whether or not it will be possible for a person or organization to **buy land outright**.

Do you want your municipal council to be able to sell municipal lands?

A NO vote means

The system stays the same. Municipal lands can only be leased, not bought and sold

A YES vote means

Your municipal council will have the power to sell municipal lands

Leasing land means

You pay a rental fee to use land for a fixed number of years

Buying land means

You pay to own the land forever, and have the right to sell it or pass it on to others

Community and Government Services plans to engage all affected stakeholders. We will consult with municipalities and government agencies. All affected parties need to be given the opportunity to get information and to express their concerns on the matter.