

SAWRIDGE FIRST NATION

CONSTITUTION DAY ACT

**Introduced at a General Assembly Held November 29, 2009
Pursuant to Provisions of the Sawridge Constitution**

**First Reading - January 9, 2010
Second Reading – February 20, 2010
Third Reading – March 27, 2010**

Came in to Force – March 27, 2010

Sawridge First Nation

Constitution Day Act

Preamble

WHEREAS the Cree People of the Sawridge First Nation, having the inherent responsibilities, rights and powers to govern ourselves and the lands to which they belong, from time immemorial granted to us by the Creator for as long as the grass grows, the wind blows and the water flows, on August 24, 2009, ratified a Constitution which they had developed word by word,

WHEREAS the Constitution promotes the family as the foundation of their Community, giving value to community, relationships, cultural survival, the Cree language, and their Ancestors,

WHEREAS the Constitution provides for governance of the First Nation in a manner which is safe, supportive, prosperous, friendly, and caring, and which will always be here for our grandchildren and descendants.

WHEREAS the Constitution reminds the First Nation that their ancestors occupied these lands and utilized their waters and resources since time immemorial, living by the Natural Law which is encompassed by the traditional values of Love, Honesty, Kindness, Humility, Respect, Truth, Patience, Contribution, Responsibility, Self-Reliance, Independence, Accountability, and Wisdom,

WHEREAS the Constitution reaffirms their inherent right to govern themselves as was recognized in Treaty #8 which was entered into between their ancestors and the Crown as original signatories,

WHEREAS the Constitution creates an effective system of governance which is transparent and accountable to the members of the Sawridge First Nation, which respects and preserves the rights of those members, and manages the property, resources, programs and services of the First Nation, and which is mandated to defend and protect their lands, waters, resources, rights and Treaty relationship,
the Sawridge General Assembly enacts as follows:

Short title

1. This Act may be cited as the *Constitution Day Act*.

Constitution Day

2. (1) August 24, not being a Saturday or Sunday, is a legal holiday and shall be kept and observed as such throughout the Sawridge First Nation under the name of "*Constitution Day*".

When August 24 is a Saturday

(2) When August 24 is a Saturday, August 23 is a legal holiday and shall be kept and observed as such throughout the Sawridge First Nation under the name of "*Constitution Day*".

When August 24 is a Sunday

(3) When August 24 is a Sunday, August 25 is a legal holiday and shall be kept and observed as such throughout the Sawridge First Nation under the name of "*Constitution Day*".