

Métis Nation – Saskatchewan
Métis Youth President and Regional Youth Representatives on the PMYC
Election Rules 2025

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GENERAL

Purpose

1 The purpose of these Rules is to establish a dependable regime promoting the meaningful exercise of the democratic rights and freedoms of the Métis Youth of Saskatchewan for the election of:

(a) the President of the PMYC to serve as the youth representative on the Provincial Métis Council; and

(b) youth representatives from each Region to serve as regional youth representatives on the PMYC.

Definitions

2. In these Rules:

“candidate” means a person:

(a) who is a candidate for election to the office of President of the PMYC or regional youth representative on the PMYC; and

(b) whose nomination papers are accepted by the Chief Electoral Officer;

"close of nominations" means 2:00 pm on Thursday, July 24, 2025;

"Constitution" means the *Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Constitution*;

"election" means an election in accordance with these Rules;

“*Election Act*” means the Saskatchewan Métis Election Act, 2007, as amended from time to time;

“election day” means Saturday, August 9, 2025;

"election officer" means:

(a) the Chief Electoral Officer appointed pursuant to section 92 of the *Election Act*;

(b) any person acting as the Chief Electoral Officer; and

(c) any person appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer to perform the duties of an election officer at the election;

"election period" means the period commencing on Saturday, July 19, 2025 and terminating at the close of voting on election day;

“Métis youth” means a person who:

(a) meets the criteria described in Article 10 of the Constitution and is registered as a Métis citizen in accordance with the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Citizenship Act; and

(b) is between 16 and 29 years of age;

“PMYC” means the Provincial Métis Youth Council;

"Provincial Métis Council" means the Provincial Métis Council as described in Article 3 of the Constitution;

“Region” means a Region as described in Article 5 of the Constitution;

"voter" means a person who has the right to vote in an election.

Application

3 These Rules apply to the election of the President of the Métis Youth Council who will serve as the youth representative on the Provincial Métis Council and to the election of youth representatives from each Region to serve as regional youth representatives on the PMYC for the period commencing on August 9, 2025 and ending on August 9, 2029.

VOTERS

Right to vote

4 Every Métis youth has a right to vote in an election to which these Rules apply.

Voters list

5 The Chief Electoral Officer shall obtain a voters list consisting of Métis youth from the Registrar appointed to administer the Central Registry under the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Citizenship Act not later than June 25, 2025.

CANDIDATES

Right to be a candidate

6(1) Every Métis youth has a right to be a candidate for election as the President of the Métis Youth Council if, on nomination day, the Métis youth:

- (a) is 18 years old and no older than 26 years old;
- (b) is not disqualified under this section; and
- (c) completes a declaration containing the following information:
 - (i) details of their completed education and their current status of education or employment;
 - (ii) a commitment to devote their full-time to the duties of the office of president, if elected, as the position is a full-time paid position;
 - (iii) an acknowledgement and acceptance of the duties of the office of president, which include the responsibility to:
 - (A) report to the Provincial Métis Council on provincial, national and international youth initiatives and advocacy efforts and bring forward appropriate resolutions in relation to those matters;
 - (B) provide reports and updates to the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly;

(C) relay information on behalf of the PMYC to the Provincial Métis Council and to the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly when requested, and vice versa;

(D) work to achieve the effective governance of the PMYC and for carrying out the strategic direction, mission and vision statements adopted by the PMYC; and

(E) work to increase the participation and engagement of Métis youth in the affairs of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan.

(2) Every Métis youth has a right to be a candidate for election as a youth representative from a Region if, on nomination day, the Métis youth:

(a) is 16 years old and no older than 26 years old; and

(b) is not disqualified under this section.

(3) A person is disqualified as a candidate if, on nomination day, the person:

(a) is an election officer or a member of the staff of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer;

(b) is not a resident of Saskatchewan, or in the case of a candidate for election as a youth representative in a Region is not a resident of the Region in which they are a candidate, as determined in accordance with section 7;

(c) has been nominated in the same election as a candidate for more than one office at the same time;

(d) holds elected office pursuant to *The Elections Act, 1996* (Saskatchewan); *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* (Saskatchewan) or the *Canada Elections Act*;

(e) is confined to a penal or correctional institution and is serving a sentence of confinement that extends to at least election day;

(f) committed a criminal offence within the previous 3 years;

(g) committed an indictable offence within the previous five years.

(4) A candidate who holds an elected or appointed office in any elected or appointed body of the Métis Nation - Saskatchewan shall, if elected to the PMYC, resign from the other office before assuming their duties.

Determining residence

7 For the purposes of these Rules, the residence of a candidate in Saskatchewan is determined by

the Chief Electoral Officer by reference to all the facts of the case and the rules set out in section 4 of the *Election Act*.

Nominations

8(1) Any five or more Métis youth may nominate a candidate for the office of President of the Métis Youth Council.

(2) Any three or more Métis youth resident in a Region may nominate a candidate for the office of youth representative for that Region.

(2) A nomination must be made by filing nomination papers with the Chief Electoral Officer any time between 9:00 am on July 19, 2025 and 2:00 p.m. on July 24, 2025.

(3) The nomination papers must be in the form approved by the Chief Electoral Officer and must include the following information:

- (a) the full name and contact information of the prospective candidate;
- (b) the name of the prospective candidate exactly as the candidate wishes it to appear on the ballot;
- (c) a statement from the prospective candidate that they are eligible to be a candidate and agree to be nominated;
- (d) a recent photograph of the candidate;
- (e) a biography of the candidate to include information as prescribed by the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (f) the signature of the prospective candidate;
- (g) the full names, postal or civic address and signatures of at least five voters who are nominating the candidate;
- (h) the full name, postal or civic address and signature of each person who witnessed the prospective candidate and the nominators sign the nomination papers;

(4) When setting out the full name of a prospective candidate in the nomination papers:

- (a) titles, degrees or prefixes must not be included;
- (b) a nickname commonly used by the prospective candidate may be included with the given names; and
- (c) a normal abbreviation of one or more of the given names of the prospective candidate may be substituted for the given name or names.

(5) A prospective candidate cannot be a witness to any signature on their nomination papers or on another prospective candidate's nomination papers.

Refusal of nomination

9(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall refuse to accept the nomination papers and shall reject the candidacy of a person, if the Chief Electoral Officer is aware that:

- (a) the nomination papers are incomplete or were not filed before the close of nominations;
- (b) all the necessary documents for the nomination were not properly filed according to the requirements of these rules; or
- (c) the person is ineligible to be a candidate.

(2) Where the nomination papers have been rejected because they were improperly filed, the nomination papers may be corrected, completed or replaced with new ones before the close of nominations.

(3) Unless the nomination papers are rejected under subsection (1), the Chief Electoral Officer shall issue to the prospective candidate a certificate indicating that the prospective candidate's nomination papers have been accepted.

Withdrawal of candidate

10(1) A candidate may withdraw their nomination no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 4, 2025, by submitting to the Chief Electoral Officer a letter of withdrawal signed by the candidate and witnessed by two voters.

(2) Once the nomination period is closed it shall not be re-opened and the withdrawal of a candidate after the close of nominations does not result in another nomination period.

(3) The name of a candidate who has withdrawn their nomination shall not appear on the ballot.

Election by acclamation

11(1) Where, at the close of nominations, only one person has been nominated for the office of the President, that person is deemed to be elected by acclamation.

(2) When, as a result of the withdrawal of a candidate there is only one candidate left for election to the office of the President, no election shall be held, and the remaining candidate is deemed to be elected by acclamation.

(3) Where, at the close of nominations, only two persons have been nominated for the office of regional youth representative for a Region, those two persons are deemed to be elected by acclamation.

(4) When, as a result of the withdrawal of a candidate there are only two candidates left for election to the office of regional youth representative for a Region, no election shall be held, and those remaining candidates are deemed to be elected by acclamation.

ELECTION PROCEDURES

Public notice

13(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall give public notice concerning details of the election including the following information:

- (a) the address of the Chief Electoral Officer's website;
- (b) the address of the electronic voting link;
- (c) the dates and hours of voting; and
- (d) the credentials required for voting.

Form of ballot

14(1) The ballot for the election will be in electronic form and shall list, in alphabetical order by last name, the name of each candidate in accordance with the candidate's nomination papers;

(2) Where two or more candidates have the same surname and first name, the Chief Electoral Officer shall use their other names to distinguish them.

Method of voting

15 A voter may vote only by completing an online ballot.

Voting secrecy

16(1) Every person involved in the electronic voting process and the counting of the vote shall preserve the secrecy of the vote and in particular shall not:

- (a) communicate information on how a ballot was marked; or
- (b) attempt, during the counting of the vote, to obtain or communicate information on how a voter voted.

(2) No voter shall:

- (a) declare publicly, including online or by email or text message, the name of the candidate for whom the voter intends to vote;
- (b) declare publicly how the voter voted; or
- (c) show an image of the ballot, when marked, to reveal for whom the voter has voted.

(3) No voter may be forced to reveal the candidate for whom the voter has voted.

Hours of voting

17(1) Voting shall be open from 7 a.m. on August 5, 2025 and proceed continuously until 7 p.m. on election day, August 9, 2025.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer may extend the time of closing voting if:

- (a) the opening of voting has been delayed beyond the time provided in subsection (1);
- (b) if the operation of voting has been halted during the scheduled hours of voting because of an extended power or Internet outage, an accident, riot, weather conditions or another similar factor; and
- (c) a significant number of voters would not be able to vote without the extension.

(3) An extension cannot result in voting being open for a total period exceeding 6 days¹.

(4) The Chief Electoral Officer shall, as soon as possible, notify the public of an extension through the posting of a message of the extension on the Chief Electoral Officer's website.

(5) Where the time of closing the vote is extended, the procedure for counting the ballots shall be similarly delayed.

Voting procedure

18(1) Voters may access the ballot by logging on to the Chief Electoral Officer's website at www.mnselection.ca through either a computer or a cellular phone.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer's website shall have a highly visible button on the landing page labelled "Vote Now".

(3) In order to vote the voter must click on the button labelled "Vote Now".

(4) Once the voter clicks the "Vote Now" button, a screen will appear that requires the voter to enter the following information to verify their identity and eligibility to vote:

- (a) the Métis Citizenship number that appears on the voter's Citizenship Card; and
- (b) the day, month and year of the voter's birth.

(5) A voter who is unable or unwilling to provide their Métis Citizenship number and/or birth date will not be permitted to access the ballot and vote.

(6) A screen with the names of the candidates running in the election will appear after the voter verifies their identity and eligibility to vote.

(7) A candidate is selected by clicking the square box that appears to the left of the candidate's name.

(8) The voter will clearly indicate who they are voting for by following voting platform instructions.

(9) The voter may not change their selection after submitting their vote.

Posting voting instructions

19 Instructions for voting shall be posted on the Chief Electoral Officer's website.

Counting the ballots

20 After the close of voting on election day, the counting of the votes shall take place electronically and the number of votes received by each candidate will be reported publicly on the Chief Electoral Officer's website.

Declaration of elected candidate

21(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall publicly declare as elected the candidate for President of the Métis Youth Council who obtained the greatest number of votes in the election.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall publicly declare as elected up to two Regional Representative candidates in each Region with the highest number of votes.

Voting procedures for youth representatives in Regions

22 Notwithstanding any other provision of these Rules, the Chief Electoral Officer may determine that the voting procedure to be used for the election of youth representatives in one or more Regions is conducted using a secret ballot in a traditional ballot box system.

ELECTION MATERIALS AND DOCUMENTS

Preservation of election materials

23(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall ensure that all election materials are maintained in accordance with accepted archival standards.

(2) Election materials may be destroyed 12 months after the date of publication of the notice of the election result, unless they are required for a future use, an archival purpose or an application or proceeding under these Rules.

Preservation of documents

24 The Chief Electoral Officer shall ensure that:

(a) a register is kept of all approved forms and any instructions, guidelines or directions the Chief Electoral Officer issues respecting any matter; and

(b) all public documents described in section 25 are preserved for archival purposes.

Public documents

25 The following are public documents and may be inspected at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer by any person on request during business hours:

- (a) all reports or statements respecting an election;
- (b) all instructions, guidelines and directions issued by the Chief Electoral Officer under these Rules; and
- (c) all decisions or rulings by the Chief Electoral Officer on points arising under these Rules.

CONTRIBUTIONS, EXPENSES AND CAMPAIGNING**Contributions**

26(1) Any person may make a contribution in any amount to another person for the purpose of supporting that person as a candidate at an election.

(2) The Provincial Métis Youth Council supported a resolution that would prohibit current members of the Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council and current staff of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan from making contributions to candidates at an election.

Election expenses

27(1) A person who becomes a candidate may incur election expenses in any amount.

(2) The Provincial Métis Youth Council supported a resolution that would prohibit current members of the Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council and current staff of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan from incurring election expenses on behalf of a candidate at an election.

Campaigning

28 The Provincial Métis Youth Council supported a resolution that would prohibit current members of the Saskatchewan Provincial Métis Council and current staff of the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan from campaigning to support or oppose a candidate at an election.

(2) Campaigning shall not start until July 19, 2025.

(3) No campaigning is permitted on MN-S regional social media platforms.

(4) Campaigning shall not include tagging of pages on the MN-S website.

Advertising

29(1) All campaign material must identify the candidate for whom it is made in accordance with any guidelines issued by the Chief Electoral Officer.

(2) Campaign materials must not include MN-S logos or anything that was made using MN-S resources.

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

Duties

30(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall:

- (a) formulate plans and policies regarding the conduct of elections;
- (b) exercise general direction and supervision over the administrative conduct of an election and enforce, on the part of all candidates and election officers, fairness and impartiality;
- (c) prepare guidelines with respect to the electoral process for candidates, election officers and other interested groups or persons;
- (d) establish any forms that may be required under these Rules;
- (e) provide direction to and manage the staff of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer;
- (f) issue instructions or directions to election officers; and
- (h) perform any other functions related to or otherwise provided for under these Rules.

Administrative powers

31(1) In order to carry out the duties of office, the Chief Electoral Officer may:

- (a) prepare interpretation bulletins on the interpretation of these Rules;
- (b) issue any form required by these Rules and establish any forms that may be necessary for the proper administration of these Rules;
- (c) modify any forms;
- (d) meet with the Métis Youth Council, Provincial Métis Council, Legislative Assembly and General Assembly and appropriate committees of those bodies to discuss matters related to these Rules;
- (e) intervene, with leave of the court, in any proceedings before a court in which a provision of these Rules is in dispute;
- (f) implement, either alone or in co-operation with other bodies, public education and information programs intended to make the electoral process better known to the public, particularly to persons or groups likely to experience difficulties in exercising their democratic rights;
- (g) enter into any agreements that are necessary to perform the duties of the Chief Electoral Officer and to improve the Saskatchewan Métis electoral system; and

(h) exercise all other powers assigned to the Chief Electoral Officer by these Rules.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer may delegate, in writing, generally or specifically, any of the powers or duties of the Chief Electoral Officer to the Deputy Chief Electoral Officer or another election official.

Powers to adapt these Rules

32 The Chief Electoral Officer may adapt any provision of these Rules to achieve the purposes of these Rules where it appears to the Chief Electoral Officer during an election period that, because of any mistake, emergency, disaster or unusual or unforeseen circumstance, the Rules do not accord with the urgent needs of the situation.

Directives

33 The Chief Electoral Officer may issue directions:

- (a) prescribing forms;
- (b) respecting fees, allowances, expenses and remuneration payable under these Rules; and
- (c) on any matter that is to be subject to directions or approval by the Chief Electoral Officer under these Rules.

Agreements

34 The Chief Electoral Officer may enter into agreements with the government of Canada, a province or another territory, a municipal government, a Métis government or another electoral body respecting the conduct of elections.

Staff and contractors

35(1) The Chief Electoral Officer may appoint any staff that are necessary for the proper conduct of the election.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer may hire and determine the remuneration of additional staff on a temporary basis to assist the Chief Electoral Officer and, for specific work, may contract for the services of counsel and experts.

Decisions final

36(1) Subject to subsection (2), every order or decision of the Chief Electoral Officer is final and is not subject to appeal to the Provincial Métis Council, the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly or the General Assembly, or to the provincial or federal courts.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer may amend or revoke an order or decision made by the Chief Electoral Officer at any time, where circumstances warrant.

COMPLAINTS AND INVESTIGATIONS

Making a complaint

37(1) Any person who believes that a contravention of these Rules has been, is being or may be

committed may make a complaint to the Chief Electoral Officer.

(2) A complaint may be made during an election, but no complaint may be made more than 30 days after election day.

Investigation of complaints

38(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall review a complaint made under these Rules, and shall investigate the complaint, or any possible contravention that otherwise comes to the attention of the Chief Electoral Officer, to the extent that the Chief Electoral Officer considers warranted in the circumstances.

(2) The Chief Electoral Officer may:

- (a) appoint a complaints officer and delegate the power to investigate complaints to the complaints officer;
- (b) make rules respecting procedure and the conduct of the hearing of complaints;
- (c) conduct hearings into any complaint under these Rules;
- (d) determine whether a person is guilty of committing a contravention of these Rules;
- (e) determine any other matter related to a complaint; and
- (f) make any order that is appropriate and just.

(3) A decision of the Chief Electoral Officer is final and cannot be appealed to the Provincial Métis Council, the Métis Nation Legislative Assembly or the General Assembly, or to the provincial or federal courts.