



Ottawa 2026

ACWW 31<sup>st</sup> Triennial  
World Conference

# CONFERENCE INFORMATION NO.1

Associated Country Women of the World  
31<sup>st</sup> Triennial World Conference  
Ottawa, Canada

26 April - 1 May 2026

## Conference Information No.1

### Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029

**Sent:** 24 October 2024

Completed nominations must be received at ACWW Central Office by 25 April 2025, close of business London time.

**Email:** [nominations@acww.org.uk](mailto:nominations@acww.org.uk)

**Post:** ACWW  
The Foundry  
17 Oval Way  
London SE11 5RR  
United Kingdom

All information published on the  
31<sup>st</sup> Triennial World Conference can be found online at  
[www.acww.org.uk/2026-world-conference](http://www.acww.org.uk/2026-world-conference)



# CONFERENCE INFORMATION No.1

## Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029



### WHO IS THIS INFORMATION FOR?

Any ACWW Voting Member Society (Categories 1, 2, or 3) which wishes to nominate a candidate for election to the Board of Trustees of ACWW for the 2026-2029 Triennium. If you are an individual member of ACWW, and a member of a Category 1, 2, or 3 Member Society and would like your Member Society to nominate you, it will also be important to read this document in full.

### WHEN WAS THIS DOCUMENT FIRST SENT TO MEMBERS?

24 October 2024

### WHAT IS THE DEADLINE TO SEND INFORMATION BACK TO ACWW?

All completed Nomination forms must be received, in full, by 25 April 2025, close of business London time, at ACWW Central Office. They can be sent by email to [nominations@acww.org.uk](mailto:nominations@acww.org.uk) with a subject of "Confidential Nomination" or by post to **ACWW, The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London SE11 5RR, UK**, with the envelope marked "Confidential Nomination" addressed to Tish Collins, Executive Director.

Please note that Email is faster, cheaper, and better for the environment, and all emails received will get an auto-reply message to confirm their receipt.

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### CONFERENCE INFORMATION No.1 - Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029

ACWW's Board of Trustees are elected by secret ballot every three years at the Triennial General Meeting. The next election will be held during the 31<sup>st</sup> Triennial World Conference in Ottawa, Canada, in April 2026. This call is sent to Members in accordance with clause 15.7 of the Constitution 2023. The following notes should be carefully considered:

- The Constitution 2023 (clause 15.4.1) requires members to elect 17 Trustees, who are also known as Board Members. All those elected as Members of the Board of Trustees carry legal responsibilities, as the Associated Country Women of the World is a charity registered in England and Wales. ([You can find the Constitution here](#)).
- Nominees will be required to complete an eligibility declaration from the Charity Commission of England and Wales before the election.
- Nominees must be full paid-up **Individual Members (Category 5)** of ACWW, both at the time of Nomination and at the time of Election.
- Nominees must also be an active member of a fully paid-up voting **Member Society (Categories 1, 2, or 3)** of ACWW. All Nominees require a written letter of reference from their own Society in support of their nomination. Additionally, Nominees for the post of Area President must be permanent residents within the Area they wish to stand for.
- The **working language of ACWW is English**, and Nominees must have a high level of understanding, and the ability to read and write in English, as well as be able to fully participate in meetings.
- No individual may accept nomination for more than one position on the Board. If multiple nominations for different positions are received at Central Office, the one received first will stand as the official nomination. It is the responsibility of the Nominee to ensure they do not accept nomination for more than one position.
- Elected Board Members are supplied with an ACWW-owned computer. Nominees must have a good working knowledge of Microsoft 365, and have regular access to the internet for communication.
- Nominees for the position of Area President must have attended at least one Area Conference. All other Nominees must have attended at least one Triennial World Conference.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Members of the Board of Trustees serve in their own right and, once elected, do not act as representatives of their own society, country, or Area.
- The Board of Trustees are collectively responsible for maintaining an effective and relevant Strategic Plan for ACWW.
- All Members of the Board of Trustees are involved in policy making and decision-taking. They are collectively responsible for distributing accurate information about ACWW, and should encourage rural women's organisations and individuals to become members.
- Area Presidents should maintain contact with Member Societies in their Area. They are expected to organise a financially independent Area Conference once per Triennium, with Member Societies in the Area. They are also expected to act as a two-way channel for information, surveys, and policy input between the membership and the Board.
- Board Meetings are normally held online. The Board meets regularly, and may decide to meet in person.
- All Nominees should be aware of the need to participate in regular Board Meetings online, and make every effort to attend the Triennial World Conference.
- Travel and Subsistence: When travelling on pre-approved ACWW business, Members of the Board of Trustees must make their own arrangements, including full insurance cover and visa applications, unless otherwise notified. ACWW will reimburse these approved costs together with airport and departure taxes (return economy travel, accommodation, and expenses for meals). All such claims must be made in line with relevant financial policies in place, and circulated to all Board Members upon election.

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## SPECIFIC NOTES ON THE 2026 ELECTION

As previously noted, the Constitution 2023 requires members to elect 17 Trustees, with some positions specified, and others listed as "Board Members". In line with decisions taken at the 30<sup>th</sup> Triennial World Conference, the 2023-2026 Board of Trustees agreed to internally appoint additional titles and responsibilities for Board Members once elected, based on need and expertise. The constitutional titles are shown in black, with additional titles shown in orange, below:

1. World President
2. Deputy World President and Board Lead on Membership
3. Honorary Treasurer and Board Lead on Budget and Finance
4. Honorary Secretary and Board Lead on the Triennial World Conference
5. Trustee and Board Lead on Partnerships, and additional Board Lead on Safeguarding and Data Protection
6. Trustee and Board Lead on Knowledge Sharing and Local Activities
7. Trustee and Board Lead on Community Transformation and Projects
8. Trustee and Board Lead on Advocacy
9. Trustee and Area President for Canada
10. Trustee and Area President for Caribbean, Central and South America
11. Trustee and Area President for Central and South Asia
12. Trustee and Area President for East, West, and Central Africa
13. Trustee and Area President for Europe
14. Trustee and Area President for South East Asia and the Far East
15. Trustee and Area President for Southern Africa
16. Trustee and Area President for South Pacific
17. Trustee and Area President for the United States of America

The current Board intends to circulate an additional briefing document for members outlining current needs, skills, and expertise in early 2025 and ahead of the deadline for submission of nominations.



# CONFERENCE INFORMATION No.1

## Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029



### INSTRUCTIONS

- Use a separate form for each Nominee. This form is an interactive PDF, and can be completed using a wide variety of software and computer systems, on tablets, or smart phones.
- If you are unable to complete the form digitally, please print the form and complete by hand, scan, and submit it.
- Nominees must complete Sections 1 and 2 in full.
- The Nominating Society must complete Section 3.
- All nominations must be accompanied by a letter of support from the Nominee's Voting Member Society.
- All completed Nomination forms must be received, in full, by 25 April 2025, close of business London time, at ACWW Central Office. They can be sent by email to [nominations@acww.org.uk](mailto:nominations@acww.org.uk) with a subject of "Confidential Nomination" or by post to **ACWW, The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London SE11 5RR, UK**, with the envelope marked "Confidential Nomination" addressed to Tish Collins, Executive Director.
- Please do not include any other correspondence with this nomination.
- Nominations received after the closing date will not be accepted or considered.





# CONFERENCE INFORMATION No.1

## Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029



### SECTION 2: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE NOMINEE

**2a. Please outline your experience at local, national, international, and ACWW level, which you feel qualifies you for the position you are nominated for. This can include specific competencies, expertise, or professional qualifications which may be relevant (such as safeguarding, youth, finance, etc):**

**2b. Please type your résumé / CV / biography here (maximum of 300 words):**

*Please note that this is an absolute word limit, and that this information will be published before the election. This must be typed for clarity. It will not be edited, so ensure that you have read it carefully and that you are happy with how you are presented. If you provide more than 300 words, only the first 300 will be printed so please ensure that you have checked the word count carefully.*



# CONFERENCE INFORMATION No.1

## Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029



### 2c. Trustee Skills Audit

ACWW Board Members work as a team to ensure the success of ACWW, supported by Central Office, and with members all over the world. The reality of modern technology, international communication, data protection and the legal responsibilities of a Charity Trustee mean that each position requires a broad range of skills. Please indicate on the table below how you would describe your skills in each category:

#### Level of Expertise:

**1 = highly experienced**

**2 = proficient**

**3 = some experience**

**4 = no experience**

Skills, expertise, knowledge, qualifications	Level of experience				Comments
	1	2	3	4	
Administration	1	2	3	4	
Board / Committee experience	1	2	3	4	
Campaigning	1	2	3	4	
Charity / Voluntary organisation governance	1	2	3	4	
Conflict resolution	1	2	3	4	
Customer / Member Care	1	2	3	4	
Digital systems / Infrastructure	1	2	3	4	
Business Development	1	2	3	4	
Facilitating / Chairing Meetings	1	2	3	4	
Finance / Financial governance	1	2	3	4	
Fundraising	1	2	3	4	
Human Resources / Training	1	2	3	4	
Income Generation	1	2	3	4	
International Development	1	2	3	4	
Influencing / Network Building	1	2	3	4	
IT: Microsoft Word	1	2	3	4	
Microsoft Excel	1	2	3	4	
Microsoft Outlook	1	2	3	4	
Leadership	1	2	3	4	
Legal processes	1	2	3	4	
Marketing	1	2	3	4	
Public Relations / Communications	1	2	3	4	
Voluntary sector experience	1	2	3	4	



# CONFERENCE INFORMATION No.1

## Call for Nominations for Election to the Board of Trustees 2026-2029



### SECTION 3: TO BE COMPLETED BY THE NOMINATING MEMBER SOCIETY

Nominating a candidate for election to the Board of Trustees is an important decision, and we encourage all Member Societies to consider nominations carefully before submitting them. Please also remember that once elected, a member of the Board of Trustees does not represent a Society, Country or Area, and acts as an individual for the best interests of ACWW.

**All nominations must be accompanied by a letter of support from the Nominee's Voting Member Society.**

3a. Full name of the Nominating Society? *(please include full title with no abbreviations)*

3b. Society postal address:

3c. Society country:

3d. Postal / ZIP Code:

3e. Name of the Authorised Signatory, and title:

3f. Email of the Signatory:

3g. Telephone:  
*(Inc. international dialling code)*

3h. All completed Nomination forms must be received, in full, by 25 April 2025, close of business London time, at ACWW Central Office. They can be sent by email to [nominations@acww.org.uk](mailto:nominations@acww.org.uk) with a subject of "Confidential Nomination" or by post to **ACWW, The Foundry, 17 Oval Way, London SE11 5RR, UK**, with the envelope marked "Confidential Nomination" addressed to Tish Collins, Executive Director.

Authorised signature:

Date:

**Please consider the following checklist before submitting your application, as incomplete applications will not be considered.**

1. Nomination Form
  - Section 1 completed by the Nominee
  - Section 2 completed by the Nominee
  - Signed by the Nominee
  - Section 3 completed by the Nominating Society
  - Signed by the Nominating Society's Authorised Signatory
2. Recent photograph of the Nominee
3. Letter of confirmation and support from the Nominee's Voting Member Society



## FURTHER INFORMATION

ACWW's Board of Trustees are elected for a 3 year term at the Triennial General Meeting, held as part of the Triennial World Conference, and serve until the conclusion of the following Triennial World Conference.

Each Trustee may serve (if re-elected) two terms in one position, to a maximum of four consecutive terms on the Board of Trustees.

The list below shows the current Board of Trustees, with notes on their eligibility to be re-elected.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023-2026

#### **World President**

Magdie de Kock (served 2019-2023, re-elected 2023-2026. Board Member 2013-2019, must retire)

#### **Deputy World President**

Irene Chinje (elected 2019, deceased July 2024, vacating the position)

Judith Awuor Juma (appointed by Board in line with 17.2 of Constitution 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Honorary Treasurer**

Angela Cassels (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Honorary Secretary**

Vanda Gagiano (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Board Lead on Partnerships**

Claire Mahon (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Board Lead on Knowledge Sharing and Local Activities**

Anne Innes (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Board Lead on Community Transformation and Projects**

Edwina Marr (appointed by Board in 2020, elected 2023, eligible for election to a different position)

#### **Trustee and Board Lead on Advocacy**

Dr ElizabethAnn Kelly (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Area President for Canada**

Marie Kenny (elected 2023, Board Member 2019-2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Area President for Caribbean, Central and South America**

Irene Hinds (served 2019-2023, re-elected 2023, eligible for election to a different position)

#### **Trustee and Area President for Central and South Asia**

Tharindra Arumapperuma (appointed by Board in line with 15.7.5 of Constitution 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Area President for East, West, and Central Africa**

Clare Jethwa (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Area President for Europe**

Afrodita Roman (served 2019-2023, re-elected 2023, eligible for election to a different position)

#### **Trustee and Area President for South East Asia and the Far East**

Cora Sayre (appointed by Board in line with 15.7.5 of Constitution 2023, removed by Board 2024)

Tugrug Uugan-Erdene (appointed by Board in line with 17.2 of Constitution 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Area President for Southern Africa**

Dr Marina Muller (appointed by Board in 2019, elected 2023, eligible for election to a different position)

#### **Trustee and Area President for South Pacific**

Lyn Braico (elected 2023, eligible for election)

#### **Trustee and Area President for the United States of America**

Bonnie Teeples (served 2019-2023, re-elected 2023, eligible for election to a different position)