

Election Rules

Red River Métis 2026 National Election

1. AUTHORITY OF CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER TO MAKE RULES

THESE RULES ARE IN ADDITION TO THOSE PROVIDED IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MMF. IF THERE IS ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THESE RULES AND THE CONSTITUTION, THE RULE IS TO BE MODIFIED OR ADJUSTED SO AS TO BE IN CONFORMITY WITH THE MMF CONSTITUTION.

SIMILARLY, IF THESE RULES ARE IN CONFLICT WITH ANY RED RIVER MÉTIS LAW OR ANY RESOLUTION PASSED BY THE ASSEMBLY, THE RULES ARE TO BE MODIFIED OR ADJUSTED SO AS TO CONFORM WITH THE LAW OR RESOLUTION.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MMF PROVIDES:

1. *The MMF Cabinet shall appoint a person to serve as Chief Electoral Officer for a fixed term. The person so appointed shall have the responsibility to conduct any necessary Elections or by-elections while their appointment remains in effect.*
2. *The Chief Electoral Officer shall set, manage, and conduct the Election.*
3. *The duties and powers of the Chief Electoral Officer shall include, but not be limited to:*
 1. *Creating all forms, notices, ballots, and documents as may be required.*
 2. *Appointing such Election officials as are necessary to conduct the business of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, including Regional Returning Officers, Deputy Returning Officers, and Poll Clerks.*
 3. *Deciding the eligibility of all Candidates to run for office. The decision of the Chief Electoral Officer shall be final and not the subject of appeal.*
 4. *Deciding all challenges to the candidates. The decision of the Chief Electoral Officer shall be final and not the subject of appeal.*
 5. *Deciding the eligibility of all Citizens to vote and all challenges to Citizens. The decision of the Chief Electoral Officer shall be final and not the subject of appeal.*
 6. *Preparing the List of Electors.*

7. *Providing a written report to the MMF Cabinet within 60 days from the date of the Election.*
8. *Taking all reasonable actions to ensure compliance with this By-Law.*
4. *The Chief Electoral Officer shall ensure that all eligible Electors of the MMF are permitted to vote and that no clerical mistake or omission results in the disenfranchisement of eligible Electors.*

THESE RULES ARE MADE UNDER THE JURISDICTION GRANTED TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ("CEO") REFERRED TO ABOVE AND APPLY TO THE 2026 NATIONAL ELECTION AND ANY BYELECTION FOR A CABINET POSITION THAT MAY BE REQUIRED BEFORE THE NEXT NATIONAL ELECTION.

2. CONDUCT OF ELECTION OFFICIALS

1. THE SECRECY OF THE BALLOT IS OF PARAMOUNT CONCERN. ELECTION OFFICIALS SHALL NOT DISCLOSE, EXCEPT IN REPORTS TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OR THEIR DESIGNATE OR LEGAL COUNSEL, OR WHEN REQUIRED BY LAW, THE DETAILS OF ANY VOTING, ANY KNOWLEDGE OF HOW ANY PERSON HAS CAST THEIR BALLOT, OR ANYTHING THAT WOULD PROVIDE THE IDENTITY OR ANY PART OF THE IDENTITY OF A CITIZEN.
2. ELECTION OFFICIALS ARE REQUIRED TO REMAIN IMPARTIAL AND TO ENSURE THAT THEIR ACTIONS APPEAR IMPARTIAL. NO ELECTION OFFICIAL IS TO SPEAK, ACT, OR IN ANY WAY SUGGEST THAT THEY ENDORSE OR SUPPORT ANY CANDIDATE RUNNING FOR OFFICE.
3. ELECTION OFFICIALS MUST TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ENSURE A FAIR AND IMPARTIAL ELECTION. WITHOUT LIMITING THEIR GENERAL DUTY AS STATED ABOVE, IN PARTICULAR, IF AN ELECTION OFFICIAL IS AWARE OF OR ADVISED OF A BREACH OF THE RULES OR OF ARTICLE XXI OF THE ELECTION BYLAW (BYLAW NO.2), THEY ARE REQUIRED AND AUTHORIZED TO TAKE SUCH REASONABLE ACTIONS AS POSSIBLE TO IMMEDIATELY

ADDRESS THE ISSUE AND THEN TO DOCUMENT AND REPORT THE CIRCUMSTANCES TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.

4. THE DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICER (“DRO”) IS IN CHARGE OF MAINTAINING PEACE AND ORDER AT THE POLL, UNLESS THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OR A REGIONAL RETURNING OFFICER (“RRO”) IS PRESENT, IN WHICH CASE THEY ARE SO RESPONSIBLE.
5. DETAILS OF ANY NOMINATION OR CANDIDACY, OR ANY CHALLENGE TO A NOMINATION OR RIGHT OF A PERSON TO VOTE, SHALL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.
6. ELECTION OFFICIALS ARE TO TAKE ALL REASONABLE ACTIONS TO ASSIST CITIZENS IN UNDERSTANDING THEIR RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN ELECTION AND PROVIDE CITIZENS WITH THE MEANS TO EXERCISE THAT RIGHT.
7. ELECTION OFFICIALS ARE TO TAKE THE NECESSARY TRAINING FOR THE ELECTION AND USE THE MANUALS AND TRAINING PROVIDED TO CONDUCT THE ELECTION.
8. IN COUNTING THE BALLOTS, ELECTION OFFICIALS SHALL FIRST ENSURE THAT THE VOTE TALLIES ON THE POLL BOOK AND REGISTER, AND THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTES IN THE BALLOT BOX MATCHES. IF THEY DO NOT MATCH, THE ELECTION OFFICIALS WILL COMPLETE A REPORT TO EXPLAIN ANY DIFFERENCES.
9. AS SOON AS THE NUMBER OF QUALIFIED VOTES IS KNOWN AND AGREED, THE DRO WILL REPORT THE VOTE TOTALS FOR EACH ELECTION TO THE RRO FOR THEIR REGION. THE RRO WILL REPORT THOSE RESULTS, AS RECEIVED, TO THE ELECTION MANAGER WHO WILL ENSURE THAT THE SAME ARE PROPERLY RECORDED.
10. ELECTION OFFICIALS SHALL DOCUMENT ALL UNUSUAL OR IMPORTANT EVENTS WHICH OCCUR AT THEIR POLLING STATION IN WRITING AND PROVIDE THE CEO WITH A REPORT OF THEM WITHIN 5 DAYS FROM THE END OF VOTING.

11. AFTER ALL VOTES ARE TALLIED, ALL ELECTION MATERIALS ARE TO BE SEALED IN THE PROPER ENVELOPES AND RETURNED FORTHWITH TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.
12. OTHER THAN COMMUNICATION AS SET OUT ABOVE, NO ELECTION OFFICIAL IS TO PROVIDE ELECTION RESULTS OR COMMENT UPON THE ELECTION.

3. RULES REGARDING NOMINATIONS

ARTICLES VIII AND IX OF THE ELECTION BYLAW PROVIDE:

NOMINATIONS:

1. *The Chief Electoral Officer shall indicate the day on which nominations close in the notice setting the date of the Election. The date on which nominations close shall not be more than 14 days after the date of the notice setting the date of the Election. The notice shall be sent to and posted by each Local, Region, and the Head Office of MMF. The notice shall also be published in at least one Aboriginal newspaper and in any other newspapers the Chief Electoral Officer thinks necessary.*
2. *Nominations shall be in writing and shall include the Candidate's written acceptance.*
3. *One or more Nomination Forms shall be signed by the person making the nomination and be supported and signed by at least 20 more Electors on the Preliminary List of Electors in the Region in which the Candidate is running.*
4. *Nomination Forms must be filed with the Chief Electoral officer by 5:00 p.m. on the day set for nominations to close. The forms may be delivered or sent to the Chief Electoral Officer by mail or fax transmission.*
5. *If a Nomination Form is received after the deadline, the Chief Electoral Officer may still accept it if it bears a postmark dated prior to the close of nominations.*
6. *A Citizen may not be nominated for more than one position.*
7. *A nomination that fails to meet these requirements will be void and the name of the proposed Candidate will not appear on a ballot.*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 1 *Only Citizens who are residents of Manitoba and have obtained a valid Citizenship card in accordance with Article IV 5(a) of the MMF*

- Constitution are entitled to stand for Election.*
- 2 *To run for the position of Regional Vice-President or Regional Executive Officer, a person must be a member of a Local within that Region and reside in that Region. If a person is a member of a Local within that Region but does not reside in that Region, they shall be allowed to be a Candidate provided they give to the Chief Electoral Officer, a written promise that if they are elected, they will move and reside in that Region for the duration of their term within six months of being elected.*
 - 3 *Any Candidate who breaches their promise to the Chief Electoral Officer referred to in subsection (2) shall automatically forfeit their elected office.*
 - 4
 - (a) *In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of Regional Executive Officer, a Citizen must, after January 1, 2000, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, or Treasurer of an Active Local; or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.*
 - (b) *In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of Regional Vice-President in a Region, a Citizen must, after January 1, 2000, have held office for at least three years as either Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, or Treasurer of an Active Local; or have held office for at least three years as a Regional Board Member of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.*
 - (c) *In order to be able to stand for Election for the position of President, a Citizen must, after January 1, 2000, have held office for at least three years as either a Regional Executive Officer or Regional Vice- President, or as Spokeswoman of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc.*
 - (d) *Once a Citizen has previously held office for at least three years as either a Regional Executive Officer, Regional Vice-President, Spokeswoman of Infinity Women Secretariat Inc., or President, they may stand for Election for any of the positions of Regional Executive Officer, Regional Vice-President, or President and the requirements of 4 (a), (b), and (c) do not apply to that Citizen.*
 - 5 *A Citizen against whom the MMF as the National Government of the Red River Métis, any MMF Regional Corporation, or any MMF affiliate corporation has a court judgement for the payment of monies, and which judgement is unsatisfied at the date for the close of nominations, is ineligible to run for any MMF Cabinet office.*
 - 6 *Every Candidate will file with the Chief Electoral Officer, prior to the close of nominations, an undertaking that the Candidate will:*
 1. *If elected, comply with such Red River Métis laws or regulations*

with respect to disclosure and conflict of interest as may be in force at the time of the Candidate's election, prior to being sworn into office; and

2. *File such disclosure statements, if any, as may be required by Red River Métis law or regulation to be a Candidate.*
- 7 *A Candidate who is employed by the MMF (except for Regional Administrators) must apply for a leave of absence without pay effective on or before the day on which nominations close. The application for a leave of absence shall be presented to the MMF, and a copy shall be sent to the Chief Electoral Officer before nominations close. The MMF shall grant all such applications for a leave of absence.*
- 8 *A candidate who is employed by the MMF shall, at the time of applying for leave of absence, claim and be paid all outstanding holiday pay, wages, claims, and disbursements.*

IN ADDITION:

1. A NOMINATION MUST BE IN THE FORM PROVIDED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER AFTER THE NOTICE OF ELECTION WAS SIGNED AND PUBLISHED AND INCLUDE ALL PARTS OF THE NOMINATION PAPERS.
2. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE REJECTED BY ELECTION OFFICIALS.
3. NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2026 NATIONAL ELECTION MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CEO BY 5:00 P.M. ON MONDAY, MAY 25, 2026. NOMINATIONS MAY BE FILED IN-PERSON, BY MAIL, BY FAX, OR BY EMAIL. FOR NOMINATIONS FILED BY EMAIL OR FAX, OR FOR NOMINATIONS FILED WITH EMAILED OR FAXED SIGNATURES, THE ORIGINALS OF THE NOMINATION OR THE SIGNATURE, AS THE CASE MAY BE, MUST BE FILED WITH THE CEO BY 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CANDIDATE TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE FILING DEADLINES, AND THERE IS NO GRACE PERIOD FOR FILING. IF ANY FILING IS LATE, IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, AND UNLESS THE CANDIDATE OTHERWISE HAS MET THE FILING DEADLINE, THE CANDIDATE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO RUN, AND THE CANDIDATE'S NAME WILL NOT APPEAR ON ANY BALLOT.

4. ANY CITIZEN WHO IS AN ELECTOR FOR A POSITION MAY FILE A CHALLENGE TO A CANDIDACY.

4. RULES REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF CAMPAIGNS

1. CANDIDATES ARE NOT TO USE ANY MMF IMAGES, MATERIALS, OR LIKENESSES IN THEIR CAMPAIGNS, EXCEPT THAT EVERY CANDIDATE MAY USE THE MMF LOGO IN ANY ADVERTISING OR PROMOTIONS.
2. CANDIDATES MAY NOT USE ANY MATERIALS, PROPERTY, CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, OR RECORDS OF CITIZENS THAT HAVE COME INTO THEIR POSSESSION OR UNDER THEIR CONTROL AS A RESULT OF THEIR POSITION WITHIN THE MMF.
3. NO CANDIDATE MAY USE AT ANY TIME BEFORE OR AFTER THE ELECTION, THE CITIZENSHIP LISTS OF THE MMF TO DISTRIBUTE CAMPAIGN MATERIALS OR CONTACT VOTERS, EXCEPT A CANDIDATE MAY USE THE VOTERS' LISTS PROVIDED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.
4. NO CANDIDATE MAY HAVE A PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE MMF WORK OR CONSULT ON THEIR CAMPAIGN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS UNLESS THAT PERSON HAS TAKEN VACATION LEAVE AND FILED NOTICE OF SAME WITH THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.
5. IF WORKING ON A CAMPAIGN PURSUANT TO RULE 4 OR OUTSIDE OF NORMAL WORKING HOURS, NO CANDIDATE WILL ALLOW A PERSON EMPLOYED BY THE MMF TO USE THEIR TITLE OR POSITION IN COMMUNICATING WITH VOTERS, NOR ALLOW THAT PERSON TO USE ANY INFORMATION TO WHICH THEY HAVE ACCESS AS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE MMF IN COMMUNICATING WITH VOTERS.
6. NOTHING IN THESE RULES WILL PREVENT MMF CABINET MEMBERS FROM ENDORSING OTHER CANDIDATES, PROVIDED

SUCH ENDORSEMENT IS MADE AS INDIVIDUALS WITHOUT ANY REFERENCE TO THEIR BEING MMF CABINET MEMBERS.

7. NO CANDIDATE SHALL ADVERTISE THROUGH RADIO OR TELEVISION FOR THE PERIOD STARTING 24 HOURS BEFORE POLLS OPEN ON ELECTION DAY AND CONTINUING UNTIL POLLS CLOSE ON ELECTION DAY.
8. NO ADVERTISEMENT OR MATERIAL FOR ANY CANDIDATE IS ALLOWED TO SAY OR SUGGEST THAT THE CANDIDATE IS ENDORSED BY THE MMF OR BY ANY ENTITY OR PERSON IN THEIR OFFICIAL CAPACITY WITHIN THE MMF, EXCEPT A LOCAL MAY, BY MAJORITY VOTE, ENDORSE ONE OR MORE CANDIDATES, AND THAT INFORMATION MAY BE INCLUDED IN ANY ELECTION MATERIALS.
9. ALL CAMPAIGN MATERIALS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING ADVERTISING, SHALL BE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE CANDIDATE AND SHALL BEAR THE FOLLOWING: "THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR DISTRIBUTION BY "NAME OF CANDIDATE."
10. CANDIDATES OR THEIR CAMPAIGNS MAY NOT DO ANYTHING TO DISCOURAGE OR DISSUADE VOTERS FROM ATTENDING THE POLLS, OR TO CREATE CONFUSION OR DISINFORMATION TO VOTERS ABOUT POLLING DATES, TIMES, OR LOCATIONS. CANDIDATES MAY NOT OFFER TO ANY CITIZEN AN INCENTIVE WITH ANY MATERIAL BENEFIT TO VOTE OR ATTEND THE POLLING PLACE, BUT MAY PROVIDE THEM WITH FREE TRANSPORTATION TO THE POLLS.
11. CANDIDATES OR THOSE WORKING ON THEIR CAMPAIGNS MAY NOT MAKE AN IMAGE OF ANOTHER CANDIDATE USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OR ANY LIKE PROCESS NOR ALTER ANY EXISTING MATERIAL OR IMAGES OF ANOTHER CANDIDATE.
12. CANDIDATES OR THOSE WORKING ON THEIR CAMPAIGNS MAY NOT REMOVE, ALTER, DESTROY, OR DEFACE ANY POSTER, PLACARD, OR OTHER ADVERTISING MATERIAL OF ANOTHER CANDIDATE.

13. CANDIDATES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PERSON WORKING ON, ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR CAMPAIGN, AND ANY ACTION THEY MAY TAKE. RELATED TO THE ELECTION PROCESS.

5. RULES REGARDING LISTS OF VOTERS

1. CITIZENS WILL HAVE THE ABILITY TO DETERMINE THE LOCAL WITH WHICH THEY ARE REGISTERED, BY CONTACTING ELECTION OR LOCAL OFFICIALS, OR ON THE MMF ELECTIONS WEBSITE.
2. A PRELIMINARY LIST OF ELECTORS WILL BE APPROVED BY THE CEO WITHIN THREE DAYS OF THE ISSUING OF THE WRIT SETTING THE ELECTION DATE.
3. THE LISTS ARE TO BE SORTED ALPHABETICALLY BY LOCAL.
4. THE LISTS FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS SHALL CONTAIN THE NAME OF THE CITIZEN, THEIR CITIZENSHIP NUMBER, AND THEIR RECORDED ADDRESS.
5. THE LISTS MADE AVAILABLE TO CANDIDATES SHALL CONTAIN THE NAMES OF THE CITIZENS.
6. LISTS SHALL BE PROVIDED TO THE SECRETARY OF EACH LOCAL, TO THE DRO ASSIGNED TO THAT LOCAL, AND TO THE RRO FOR THAT LOCAL FOR VERIFICATION AND TO ALLOW CITIZENS TO CONTACT THEM TO ENSURE THEY ARE ON THE VOTER'S LIST.
7. THE PRELIMINARY LISTS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, EACH REGIONAL OFFICE, AND AT 150 HENRY AVENUE AT THE CENTRAL REGISTRY OFFICE FOR CITIZENS TO VERIFY THE LOCAL TO WHICH THEY ARE REGISTERED.
8. INFORMATION FROM THE LISTS IS TO BE AVAILABLE TO CITIZENS AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AND IN ANY EVENT NOT LATER THAN SEVEN DAYS AFTER THE WRIT IS ISSUED. THE ORIGINAL LISTS

ARE TO BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THREE (3) DAYS AFTER ELECTION DAY.

9. NO ELECTION OFFICIAL RECEIVING A CITIZENSHIP LIST, AND NO LOCAL SECRETARY OR SECRETARY-TREASURER (AS THE CASE MAY BE) WILL COPY, PHOTOCOPY, TRANSIT, PHOTOGRAPH, OR IN ANY WAY REPRODUCE THE LIST AND SHALL KEEP SAME SECURE AND NOT GIVE ANYONE NOT AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ACCESS TO THE LIST PROVIDED TO THEM FOR ELECTION PURPOSES. THE LIST IS NOT TO BE USED BY ANY ELECTION OFFICIAL OR LOCAL EXECUTIVE FOR ANY PURPOSE OTHER THAN FOR ELECTION PURPOSES.

FOR CANDIDATES:

10. NO MORE THAN THREE (3) COPIES OF THE LIST, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE THE PHYSICAL ADDRESS OF THE CITIZEN SHOWN ON THE MMF REGISTER, SHALL BE PROVIDED TO EACH CANDIDATE.
11. NO CANDIDATE RECEIVING A CITIZENSHIP LIST, WILL COPY, PHOTOCOPY, TRANSIT, PHOTOGRAPH, OR IN ANY WAY REPRODUCE THE LIST, OR KNOWINGLY ALLOW THIS TO BE DONE, AND SHALL KEEP THE SAME SECURE. THE CANDIDATE WILL PROVIDE THE NAMES OF PERSONS HAVING ACCESS TO THE LIST AND RECEIVE WRITTEN APPROVAL FROM THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER BEFORE PROVIDING ONE OF THE THREE COPIES TO ANY OTHER PERSON.
12. NO CANDIDATE OR MEMBER OF THEIR CAMPAIGN TEAM WILL GIVE ANYONE NOT AUTHORIZED IN WRITING BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ACCESS TO THE LIST PROVIDED TO THEM FOR ELECTION PURPOSES. THE LIST IS NOT TO BE USED BY ANY ELECTION OR LOCAL OFFICIAL, EXCEPT FOR ELECTION PURPOSES.
13. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CANDIDATE TO ENSURE THAT THE LISTS PROVIDED ARE:
 - a. NOT COPIED, REPRODUCED, POSTED PUBLICLY, OR OTHERWISE USED IMPROPERLY.
 - b. STORED SECURELY;

- c. NOT SHARED WITH ANYONE NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE CAMPAIGN AND APPROVED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER;
 - d. USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSES OF IDENTIFYING ELIGIBLE ELECTORS, PROVIDING ELIGIBLE VOTERS WITH CAMPAIGN MATERIALS, ATTENDING AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE ELECTOR NOT MORE THAN ONE TIME, UNLESS FURTHER VISITS ARE AGREED TO BY THE ELECTOR, AND DETERMINING THAT THE PERSONS VOTING AT POLLS ARE ELIGIBLE ELECTORS; AND
 - e. RETURNING ALL COPIES OF THE LISTS PROVIDED TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER WITHIN **TWO** DAYS OF THE CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS BEING ISSUED BY THE CEO.
14. THE FAILURE BY A CANDIDATE OR THEIR CAMPAIGN TO TAKE ALL REASONABLE ACTIONS TO ABIDE BY THE RULES REGARDING VOTERS LISTS WILL BE GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION OR, IF ELECTED, VACATION OF THE ELECTION.
15. ANY PERSON WORKING ON THE CAMPAIGN OF A CANDIDATE IMPROPERLY USING OR ACCESSING A LIST MAY BE SUBJECT TO SANCTION BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, DISQUALIFICATION OF THE CANDIDATE, REMOVAL OF THE CANDIDATE FROM ANY OFFICE THEY HOLD, AND REFERRAL TO MMF MANAGEMENT FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION.
16. THE COST OF INVESTIGATION AND ANY DAMAGES CAUSED BY THE IMPROPER USE OF THE CITIZENSHIP LISTS WILL BE BORNE ENTIRELY BY THE CANDIDATE IF A BREACH OF THESE RULES IS FOUND.

6. RULES REGARDING POLLING PLACES AND ADVANCE POLLS

1. POLLS WILL BE HELD IN SUCH LOCATIONS WITHIN EACH REGION AS TO ALLOW VOTERS A REASONABLE OPPORTUNITY TO VOTE.

2. LOCALS, EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF LARGE CENTRES, WILL APPLY FOR A POLLING PLACE AND IF SUCH A LOCAL FAILS TO APPLY, IT MAY, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, NOT RECEIVE A POLL.
3. AFTER A PRELIMINARY LIST OF POLLING LOCATIONS IS DETERMINED, IT WILL BE SENT TO EACH REGIONAL OFFICE, EACH LOCAL, AND THE HOME OFFICE OF THE MMF TO ALLOW FOR COMMENTS TO BE COMMUNICATED TO THE CEO WITHIN SEVEN (7) DAYS. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PERIOD FOR COMMENT, A FINAL LIST OF POLLING PLACES WILL BE ISSUED.
4. A POLLING LOCATION MAY HAVE MORE THAN ONE POLLING STATION LOCATED WITHIN IT, IF THERE IS REASONABLE CONCERN THAT THE NUMBER OF VOTERS MAY REQUIRE MORE THAN ONE VOTING STATION.
5. POLLS WILL BE ACCESSIBLE AND MAY BE DISTRIBUTED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO ALLOW MULTIPLE LOCALS TO HAVE ACCESS TO THE POLLS.
6. CITIZENS MUST VOTE ON ELECTION DAY AT THE POLLING PLACE ASSIGNED TO THEIR LOCAL.

ADVANCE POLLS

7. THE TWO(2)-DAY ADVANCE POLLS PROVIDED IN THE CONSTITUTION WILL BE HELD IN EACH REGION IN:

i. THOMPSON REGION -	THOMPSON
ii. THE PAS REGION -	THE PAS
iii. NORTHWEST MÉTIS COUNCIL-	DAUPHIN
iv. SOUTHWEST REGION -	BRANDON
v. INTERLAKE REGION -	SELKIRK
vi. SOUTHEAST REGION -	ST. MALO
vii. WINNIPEG REGION -	WINNIPEG
8. ADDITIONAL ADVANCE POLLS IN ALL REGIONS EXCEPT THOMPSON WILL BE PROVIDED BY SEPARATE ORDER.

7. CONDUCT AT POLLING PLACES

ARTICLE XXI OF THE ELECTION BYLAW PROVIDES:

1. *No person shall speak to or interfere with an Elector who is marking their ballots or placing them in the ballot box.*
2. *No person shall approach an Elector in a Polling Station to suggest the Candidate for whom they should vote.*
3. *No person shall approach an Elector after they have voted to determine the Candidate for whom they voted.*
4. *Any person in breach of these provisions will be removed from the Polling Station and will not be entitled to vote.*
5. *The campaign office of a Candidate must not be within one kilometer of a Polling Station.*
6. *There shall be no campaigning in or in the vicinity of a Polling Station on Election Day.*
7. *Except for casting their own ballots, no Candidate or supporters of Candidates shall be or remain in the vicinity of a Polling Station on Election Day.*

IN ADDITION:

1. NO CANDIDATE, PERSON, OR ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING A CANDIDATE CAN DEMONSTRATE POLITICAL ACTIVITY WITHIN TWO HUNDRED METERS OF A POLLING PLACE.
2. NO MATERIALS OR ANYTHING THAT SHOWS SUPPORT FOR ANY CANDIDATE IS ALLOWED WITHIN THE POLLING PLACE. SCRUTINEERS MAY WEAR A RIBBON OF A COLOUR KNOWN TO THE CAMPAIGN SO THEY CAN BE IDENTIFIED BY OTHERS FROM THE CAMPAIGN.
3. NO PERSONS EXCEPT CITIZENS FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING, CANDIDATES AND THOSE REASONABLY ACCOMPANYING THEM, SCRUTINEERS PROPERLY APPOINTED BY A CANDIDATE, ELECTION OFFICIALS AND OTHERS REQUESTED OR REQUIRED BY ELECTION OFFICIALS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE POLLING PLACE MAY ATTEND AT A POLLING PLACE.
4. USE OF A CAMERA OR VIDEO RECORDING DEVICE WITHIN A POLLING PLACE IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.
5. NO PERSONS MAY REMAIN AT THE POLLING PLACE, THE PROPERTY ON WHICH IT IS LOCATED, OR WITHIN 50 METERS THEREOF, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, OR THEIR DESIGNATE. FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME

BEYOND THAT REASONABLY REQUIRED TO VOTE. BRIEF CONTACT FOR CITIZENS TO EXCHANGE GREETINGS OR PLEASANTRIES (BUT NO DISCUSSION OF THE ELECTION) SHALL BE ALLOWED BY PEOPLE OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED TO BE IN THE POLLING PLACE.

6. NO PERSON IS ALLOWED TO YELL, SCREAM, USE OBSCENE LANGUAGE, GESTURES, OBJECTS, MAKE LOUD NOISES, WITHIN THE POLLING PLACE OR OTHERWISE DISRUPT VOTING AT THE POLLING PLACE.

8. RULES REGARDING SCRUTINEERS

ARTICLE XXIV OF THE ELECTION BYLAW PROVIDES:

1. *A Candidate is entitled to have one Scrutineer at a time in each Polling Station while voting is in progress and while the ballots are being counted. Where there are several Polling Stations within one Poll, a Candidate may have one Scrutineer at each Polling Station.*
2. *Candidates shall supply their Scrutineers with a form approved for such use by the Chief Electoral Officer, appointing them as a Scrutineer. If Scrutineers are only present for part of a day and are replaced by another Scrutineer, the replacement Scrutineer must have their own form to show the Deputy Returning Officer.*
3. *Scrutineers may observe the operation of the Polling Station and observe the counting of the ballots. They may object to a certain person voting or to the admissibility of a certain ballot but are not entitled to argue their position at length. The decision of the Deputy Returning Officer to accept or reject a challenge is final.*

IN ADDITION:

1. ONLY ONE SCRUTINEER FOR EACH CANDIDATE IS ALLOWED IN THE POLLING STATION AT ANY TIME.
2. ALL SCRUTINEERS MUST FILL OUT AND SWEAR THE OATH OF SECRECY IMMEDIATELY UPON ENTERING THE POLLING STATION. AND PLACE SAME IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED.

3. IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE POLLING STATION IN A POLLING PLACE, A SCRUTINEER MAY OBSERVE MORE THAN ONE POLLING STATION DURING VOTING.
4. SCRUTINEERS ARE ALLOWED TO WEAR AN INNOCUOUS BADGE OR RIBBON TO ALLOW THEM TO BE IDENTIFIED BY THEIR CAMPAIGN TEAM BUT WILL HAVE NOTHING ON THEIR PERSONS OR WITH THEM THAT WOULD IDENTIFY ANY CANDIDATE.
5. SCRUTINEERS MAY NOT ENGAGE IN SUBSTANTIAL CONVERSATION WITH ANY PERSON ATTENDING THE POLLING STATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF VOTING.
6. ALTHOUGH SCRUTINEERS MAY TAKE NOTES, NO CAMERAS OR RECORDING DEVICES ARE ALLOWED IN THE POLLING STATION DURING VOTING OR COUNTING.
7. IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE POLLING STATION IN A POLLING PLACE, DURING COUNTING, A SCRUTINEER MAY ONLY OBSERVE THE COUNT FOR ONE POLLING STATION.
8. DURING COUNTING, SCRUTINEERS ARE PERMITTED TO OBSERVE BUT NEVER TO HANDLE THE BALLOTS.
9. MISCONDUCT OF SCRUTINEERS WILL BE IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, WHICH MAY RESULT IN REMOVAL OF THE SCRUTINEER.

9. RULES REGARDING RECOUNTS

1. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER WILL OVERSEE ALL RECOUNTS FOR EVERY POLLING LOCATION AND REGION OF THE ELECTION.
2. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER IS THE SOLE JUDGE OF WHETHER EVIDENCE PRODUCED JUSTIFIES A RECOUNT, SUCH THAT THE MARGIN OF ERROR CREATES THE POSSIBILITY OF CHANGING THE ELECTION OUTCOME.
3. RECOUNTS REQUESTED BY A CANDIDATE ARE TO BE COMPLETED, IF POSSIBLE, WITHIN 7 DAYS OF THE RECOUNT

BEING DIRECTED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.

4. ALL BALLOTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE RECOUNT.
5. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, SUCH PERSONS AS MAY BE EMPLOYED BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, CANDIDATES, AND CANDIDATES' COUNSEL, IF ANY, ARE ENTITLED TO ATTEND THE RECOUNT. NO OTHER PERSON, EXCEPT BY DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, MAY ATTEND THE RECOUNT.
6. THE SEALS ON THE ENVELOPES, UNLESS THERE HAS BEEN A PRIOR RECOUNT, ARE TO BE OPENED AT THE PLACE, DATE, AND TIME SET FOR THE RECOUNT AND IN THE PRESENCE OF ALL CANDIDATES ATTENDING THE RECOUNT AT THAT TIME.
7. NO PERSON OTHER THAN THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OR THEIR DESIGNATE SHALL TOUCH THE BALLOTS OR TOUCH THE ENVELOPES BEFORE ALL BALLOTS ARE REMOVED FROM EACH.
8. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE RECOUNT, THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER SHALL DETERMINE THE RESULT AND ANNOUNCE THE SAME. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER WILL FORTHWITH PROVIDE A REPORT ON THE RECOUNT TO CANDIDATES AFFECTED AND TO THE PRESIDENT FOR TRANSMISSION TO THE CABINET. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER WILL WITHIN 48 HOURS POST THE RESULTS OF A RECOUNT ON THE MMFELECTION WEBSITE.

10. RULES REGARDING CHALLENGE AND COMPLAINTS

ARTICLE III OF THE ELECTION BYLAW PROVIDES:

THE DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

1. *Deciding the eligibility of all Candidates to run for office. The decision of the Chief Electoral Officer shall be final and not the subject of appeal.*
2. *Deciding all challenges to the Candidates. The decision of the Chief Electoral Officer shall be final and not the subject of appeal.*

ARTICLE X OF THE ELECTION BYLAW PROVIDES:

1. *The MMF Cabinet shall have the power to remove any officer of the MMF or member of the MMF Cabinet for behavior, which is contrary to, or detrimental to, the objects of the MMF, or for behavior which would tend to bring the MMF into disrepute.*
2. *The MMF Cabinet shall set a process for the removal of any Regional Executive Officer or Vice-President by the Citizens from the Region represented by such Regional Executive Officer or Vice-President.*
3. *Where the Citizens of a Region have complied with the process defined by the MMF Cabinet, it shall declare the position of such Regional Executive Officer or Vice-President vacant and institute an Election as provided in the by-laws.*
4. *Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, any petition signed by a majority of Citizens registered to vote in such Region or a majority vote supporting such removal taken at any Regional meeting at which such recall has been set as an order of business shall be grounds for removal.*
5. *Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, any petition signed by a majority of Citizens registered to vote in such Region or a majority vote supporting such removal taken at any Regional meeting at which such recall has been set as an order of business shall be grounds for removal.*

IN ADDITION:

1. DISPUTES AS TO QUALIFICATIONS ARE TO BE FILED AS CHALLENGES, AND DISPUTES AS TO CONDUCT DURING AN ELECTION ARE TO BE FILED AS COMPLAINTS.
2. CHALLENGES MUST BE IN WRITING AND MUST BE BASED ON THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE AND MAY ONLY BE MADE BY AN ELECTOR IN THE ELECTION IN WHICH THE CANDIDATE HAS FILED A NOMINATION PAPER.
3. A COPY OF THE CHALLENGES AND RELATED MATERIALS IS TO BE GIVEN TO THE CANDIDATE BY THE PERSON OBJECTING, ON THE SAME DAY IT IS FILED WITH THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, BY EMAIL OR PERSONAL DELIVERY. EVIDENCE OF THAT DELIVERY IS REQUIRED AT THE TIME OF FILING.
4. THE CANDIDATE WILL HAVE ONE FULL DAY TO RESPOND TO THE

CHALLENGE.

5. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER MAY DETERMINE THE CHALLENGE ON THE BASIS OF WRITTEN MATERIALS, OR MAY REQUIRE A HEARING. IF A HEARING IS REQUIRED, IT WILL BE HELD ON THE FIRST DAY FOLLOWING THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF A RESPONSE.
6. IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT A CANDIDATE DOES NOT HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS NECESSARY, THE CANDIDATE WILL NOT BE APPROVED TO RUN NOR PLACED ON ANY BALLOT.
7. ISSUANCE OF THE OFFICIAL LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR THAT ELECTION AND THEREFORE THAT ELECTION MAY BE DELAYED BY THE DETERMINATION OF OBJECTIONS. IN SUCH AN EVENT, THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER SHALL SET A NEW DATE FOR THAT ELECTION AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE.
8. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN RULE 10(9) BELOW, A COMPLAINT MAY BE FILED AT ANY TIME BUT MUST BE FILED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF ELECTION DAY.
9. IN THE CASE OF A BREACH OF THE RULES REGARDING A SIGNIFICANT AND MATERIAL MISSTATEMENT OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE CANDIDATE IN THE NOMINATION FORMS, THE USE OR MISUSE OF CITIZENSHIP LISTS PROVIDED TO A CANDIDATE, OR THE BREACH OF RULES 4(2), 4(4), 4(5), 4(12), 4(13), OR 4(14) A COMPLAINT MAY BE FILED OR DIRECTED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE DISCOVERY OF THE GROUNDS OF COMPLAINT. THE ONUS OF PROVING WHEN THE INFORMATION BECAME AVAILABLE TO THE COMPLAINANT IS WITH THE COMPLAINANT.
10. IF A COMPLAINT IS FILED BY A CITIZEN, THAT CITIZEN MUST BE AN ELECTOR IN THE ELECTION FOR WHICH THE CANDIDATE IS RUNNING.
11. A COMPLAINT BY A CITIZEN MUST BE IN WRITING AND MUST SET OUT CLEARLY THE BREACH ALLEGED AND THE EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE COMPLAINT IS BASED.

12. THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER MAY DIRECT AN INVESTIGATION OF A CANDIDATE'S QUALIFICATIONS OR CONDUCT OF THEIR OWN ACCORD, IF THERE IS CAUSE TO BELIEVE THAT A BREACH MAY HAVE OCCURRED. THE RESULTS OF SUCH INVESTIGATION SHALL NOT BE SHARED WITH ANYONE EXCEPT WITH THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, OR THEIR STAFF, OR LEGAL COUNSEL IF THE ALLEGATION IS UNFOUNDED.

13. IF IT IS DETERMINED THAT A SUBSTANTIAL BREACH OF ANY RULE BY A CANDIDATE OR THEIR CAMPAIGN, OR THE FAILURE BY THE CANDIDATE TO COMPLY WITH AN UNDERTAKING. OR A MATERIAL FALSEHOOD IN THE MATERIALS OR INFORMATION PROVIDED TO THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ON THE FILING OF A NOMINATION, THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER MAY:
 - a. IF THE CANDIDATE HAS NOT YET BEEN DECLARED ELECTED, AND NO VOTING IN THAT ELECTION HAS OCCURRED, DISQUALIFY THE CANDIDATE, AND REMOVE THE CANDIDATE'S NAME FROM ANY BALLOT; OR,
 - b. IF THE CANDIDATE HAS NOT YET BEEN DECLARED ELECTED, AND VOTING IN THAT ELECTION HAS OCCURRED, DISQUALIFY THE CANDIDATE, SET A NEW DATE, IF NECESSARY, FOR THE ELECTION OF THE REMAINING CANDIDATES, AND REMOVE THE CANDIDATE'S NAME FROM ANY SUBSEQUENT BALLOT; OR
 - c. IF THE CANDIDATE HAS BEEN DECLARED ELECTED, DIRECT THE CANDIDATE TO BE REMOVED FROM OFFICE; OR
 - d. TAKE SUCH FURTHER ACTION AS IN THE DISCRETION OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER IS APPROPRIATE IN CIRCUMSTANCES. OR
 - e. IF IN THE DISCRETION OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER APPROPRIATE, TAKE NO ACTION.

14. IF AN OBJECTION OR A COMPLAINT AGAINST A CANDIDATE IS DETERMINED TO BE WELL FOUNDED, THE CANDIDATE IS LIABLE FOR ANY COSTS OF INVESTIGATION, HEARINGS, OR NECESSARY REMEDIATION.

15. THE DETERMINATION BY THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER OF ANY COMPLAINT OR OBJECTION AND THE SANCTION, IF ANY, IMPOSED IS FINAL, AND NO APPEAL OR REVIEW OF THE FINDING IS AVAILABLE.

11. EVENTS NOT CONTEMPLATED BY THESE RULES

1. IN THE EVENT THAT A SITUATION ARISES WHICH IS NOT DIRECTLY COVERED BY THESE RULES, THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER WILL MAKE SUCH RULINGS OR DETERMINATIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE ELECTION IS FAIRLY CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LETTER AND THE SPIRIT OF THE MMF ELECTION BYLAW.

Issued at Winnipeg, Manitoba, this 15th day of May 2026.



David N. Gray, Chief Electoral Officer