

Métis Nation of Ontario Chief Electoral Officer

Re: MNO Election 2020

As a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario, you are entitled to vote for the candidates of your choice for the Provisional Council of the Métis Nation of Ontario (PCMNO). In addition, those citizens who are also Veterans as defined by the MNO Veterans' Council can vote for the positions on that Council. Finally, MNO citizens who are between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty-nine (29) years of age may also vote for their Regional Youth Representative, Youth Representative on PCMNO, and Chairperson on the MNO Youth Council of their choice.

Candidates will be announced on May 4, 2020 on MNO's website at www.MetisNation.org/Election. Please visit this website regularly for the latest information about the election.

This election, every voter has two options for voting: **online** or **by telephone**.

The decision to cancel in-person polling stations was not made lightly. It was made because with COVID-19 restrictions on travel and congregating, it remains impossible to train the election officials to staff the polls. It is also made to ensure that there is no risk to the most vulnerable in the population namely our elders and anyone with underling medical conditions or compromised immune systems. It could be a very long time before these vulnerable citizens could safely attend the polls. Democracy demands that fair and open elections are to be held for defined terms and in this case the four-year terms have expired, and any extended postponements would be tenuous.

<u>Electronic Voting</u> will be available from May 5th (12:01AM Eastern Time) to June 1, 2020 (6:00PM Eastern Time) – to vote electronically, visit the website below and click the red button to "Activate Profile". You will require your MNO citizenship number, date of birth and personal email address to complete this process.

IMPORTANT: please read and follow all the instructions provided. If you need assistance, please use the red "Help" button located near the bottom of the page.

https://onefeather.ca/nations/mno



<u>Telephone Voting</u> will be available from May 5th (12:01AM Eastern Time) to June 1, 2020 (6:00PM Eastern Time) – call the phone number below in order to "Activate Profile". You will require your MNO citizenship number and date of birth to complete this process.

IMPORTANT: it could take 15-20 minutes to complete your vote by telephone. If for any reason your connection is terminated, you will need to start the process over again. During the present Covid-19 pandemic phone lines are stressed and operating over capacity – please utilize electronic voting if you can.

TOLL FREE NUMBER: 1-833-976-0616

<u>If you require any assistance with electronic or telephone voting</u> please visit the website https://onefeather.ca/nations/mno and click the red "HELP" button, or call OneFeather at this toll free number 1-855-458-5888.

During these unprecedented times of the Covid-19 Pandemic we have all been asked and even required to shift the way we do business, interact with each other, and ensure the continuity of health, governance and operations and personal welfare. Your patience and understanding is greatly appreciated as we all adjust to this new 'normal' of living and looking after each other. The MNO and election staff are doing everything possible to ensure that this important governance event is concluded as soon as possible.

All other questions about the election can be directed to me directly by telephone at 1-800-263-4889 extension 344 or by e-mail at election@MetisNation.org.

Yours truly,

Paul DeVillers Chief Electoral Officer

and Dellers

Métis Nation of Ontario

