

2020 Election of the Métis Nation of Ontario Women's Council

Background

- As per the [Métis Nation of Ontario Women's Council Terms of Reference \(2019\)](#) Sections 2.5 and 2.6, the Council members of the Métis Nation of Ontario Women's Council (MNOWC) will be elected by Women Citizens of the MNO at the MNO Annual General Assembly (AGA) following the PCMNO election.
- To support the MNOWC election, and the election of PCMNO Senators, and the filling of vacancies on the Métis Nation of Ontario Veterans and Youth Councils (all of which regularly take place at the AGA following the PCMNO election) the PCMNO has re-appointed Paul DeVillers as Chief Electoral Officer (CEO).
- Due to COVID-19, the 2020 Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) AGA will be a virtual meeting. All elections that are regularly held surrounding the AGA will also be conducted virtually.
- In making decisions regarding the conduct of the 2020 MNOWC election, the CEO has considered the MNOWC Terms of Reference, and sought guidance from the [MNO Electoral Code: Part A](#).

Election Details

- There are ten positions on the MNOWC up for election: the position of President, and nine Regional Council Representative positions (one for each MNO region).
- All eligible MNO Women's citizens will be able to vote for the President of the MNOWC. Eligible MNO Women's citizens will also be able to vote for a Regional Council Representative in the Region in which they reside.
 - For greater clarity, registering for the AGA will not be necessary for eligible MNO Women's citizens to be able to vote for MNOWC in 2020.
 - Voter eligibility will be defined as per voter eligibility in the MNO Electoral Code.
- The election for MNOWC will be held virtually (with an option to vote by telephone) on **Sunday, November 8**.
 - Eligible voters will receive an email on Sunday, November 8 with a link to vote and will be able to cast their ballot **between 9:00 AM and 6:00 PM Eastern Time that day**.

Nominations

- Any MNO Women's citizen 16 years of age or over who is Verified according to the process set out by the MNO Registrar is eligible to run, if they meet the nomination requirements detailed in MNO's Electoral Code.
 - As per the MNOWC Terms of Reference, the MNOWC has an inclusive understanding of womanhood, including Transgender women and Inter-Sex women. As such, the CEO will allow people to self-identify if they are a woman for the purposes of running in this election.
 - Nomination requirements are detailed on the nomination form created by the CEO and posted to MNO's website.
- Women can self-nominate to run in this election: no other nominees will be required. Instructions for how to self-nominate are detailed on the nomination form created by the CEO and posted to MNO's website.
- **UPDATED:** The deadline for nominations to be submitted to the CEO is **5:00 PM Eastern Time on Monday, October 12, 2020.**
- Candidates and any acclamations will be announced on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at **metisnation.org/election**
- Relevant voters' lists will be securely sent to cleared candidates (i.e. those for whom confirmation has been received that rights and privileges as an MNO citizen have not been suspended) upon their Verification by MNO Registry.

Communications

- All of the information detailed above will be emailed to MNO citizens and shared on MNO's website. Other communications vehicles, such as MNO social media channels, will also be used to share information about this election as widely as possible.

Questions

- Any questions regarding the MNOWC Election 2020 can be directed to the Chief Electoral Officer, Paul DeVillers, at:

Telephone: 1-800-263-4889, extension 344

E-mail: **election@metisnation.org**