

Conservative Party of Canada Rules and Procedures for the 2026 Election of National Council



Reviewed by National Council on October 4, 2025

Approved by the Returning Officer on October 6, 2025

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1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 “Calculated Votes” means the total number of votes cast for a Candidate in a Province with more than one National Council seat by the electors that showed their desire to have that Candidate on National Council by placing a 1 through n next to that Candidate’s name (where “n” is the total number of seats on National Council for that Province).
- 1.2 “Candidate” means an individual who is certified under these Rules as a candidate for election to National Council.
- 1.3 “Collated Email” means one singular email message containing one or more scanned signature pages or “Email Nomination Signatures” in lieu of signature pages or any combination thereof attached to the email. The “Collated Email” may also include any other required filings associated with the Candidate’s application package as attachments.
- 1.4 “Constitution” means the Constitution of the Party.
- 1.5 “Convention” means the national convention of the Party, to be held in Calgary, Alberta, from January 29 to 31, 2026.
- 1.6 “Delegate” means a delegate to the Convention as determined by the Credentials Committee of the Convention pursuant to the Constitution and the Rules and Procedures for Delegate Selection Meetings.
- 1.7 “EDA” means an association in a federal electoral district recognized by National Council pursuant to the Constitution.
- 1.8 “Electronic Fund Transfer” (EFT) also known as a “wire transfer” means to send money to a Canadian financial institution by way of a wireless mechanism. This may be used for the purpose of providing a compliance deposit to the Conservative Fund Canada. For information on sending an EFT ‘wire transfer’ contact executivedirector@conservative.ca.
- 1.9 “Email Nomination Signature” means a nomination declaration received by way of an email where the email address and other personal identification requirements contained in the email correspond to the individuals’ identification in the CIMS database of the Party.
- 1.10 “Nomination Declaration” means the member in good standing of the Conservative Party of Canada who certifies by email that they have been a member in good standing for at least twenty-one (21) days prior to sending an email inclusive of an “Email Nomination Attestation Signature” indicating that they endorse the nomination of an individual – (named in the email) – who wishes to seek election to the National Council of the Conservative Party of Canada. (See Form A-Email).
- 1.11 “Party” means the Conservative Party of Canada.
- 1.12 “Province” means, except where the context otherwise provides, a province or territory.

1.13 “Returning Officer” means the Returning Officer for the National Council election appointed pursuant to Article 8 of the Constitution.

1.14 “Rules” means these rules and procedures.

2. RETURNING OFFICER

2.1 The Returning Officer shall:

2.1.1 Appoint one or more Deputy Returning Officers;

2.1.2 Review all Candidate Application filings and submissions for completeness, accuracy, validity, and if warranted, verify the Application;

2.1.3 Oversee the conduct of the election of National Council at the Convention and ensure that the process is fair, impartial, and conducted in accordance with these Rules; and

2.1.4 Remain impartial throughout the election process.

2.2 All submissions to the Returning Officer to be made pursuant to these Rules prior to the Convention shall be sent to:

Returning Officer, National Convention
Conservative Party of Canada
1800 – 66 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario
K1P 5H1
returningofficer@conservative.ca

3. NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

3.1 The following positions on National Council shall be elected at the Convention by delegates from the corresponding province or territories:

3.1.1 one from a province with 4 to 25 seats in the House of Commons;

3.1.2 two from a province with 26 to 50 seats in the House of Commons;

3.1.3 three from a province with 51 to 100 seats in the House of Commons;

3.1.4 four from a province with more than 100 seats in the House of Commons; and

3.1.5 one from each territory.

4. CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

4.1 In accordance with Article 8 of the Constitution, in order to stand for election to the National Council, an individual must:

- 4.1.1 Submit to the Returning Officer, by mail, email, courier, or any combination thereof, a complete National Council Candidate Filing (Form A) not later than 5 p.m. ET on November 28, 2025, which shall include:
 - 4.1.1.1 The nomination by a minimum number of members in good standing of the Party resident in the province for which the individual is seeking election. This minimum number shall be five times the number of electoral districts in that province, but which need not exceed fifty (50) signatures or “Email Nomination Signatures” or combination thereof which may be submitted by way of a collated email;
 - 4.1.1.2 A five hundred (\$500.00) dollar compliance deposit, payable by cheque or “Electronic Fund Transfer” (EFT), to the “Conservative Fund Canada in Trust”, which amount shall be returned to the individual; (i) immediately, if they are not certified as a Candidate, or (ii) after the Convention or their withdrawal as a Candidate provided that they comply with these Rules and any other related procedures as may be required by the Returning Officer from time to time; and,
 - 4.1.1.3 In accordance with the Constitution, a signed affirmation which states, “I have read, understand, and do hereby affirm my personal commitment to the principles and policies of the Conservative Party of Canada and the Constitution of the Conservative Party of Canada.”
- 4.1.2 Have their ordinary residence in the province for which they are seeking election to National Council.
- 4.1.3 Be a delegate to the Convention. If a Candidate does not file their delegate paperwork complete with the prescribed convention registration payment by November 28, 2025, they will be removed as a Candidate for the National Council election and may forfeit their deposit in the discretion of the Returning Officer.
- 4.1.4 If the Candidate is an EDA President, to ensure no actual or perceived conflict of interest, the Candidate shall refrain from activity related to any election or appointment of delegates in his or her EDA. If the EDA President is elected to National Council, he or she shall forthwith resign as EDA President, but may continue as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board of Directors of the EDA in accordance with s. 7.6 of the Constitution for EDAs.
- 4.1.5 The following may not hold office as an elected member of National Council:
 - 4.1.5.1 anyone who has served as a returning officer as defined in the Delegate Selection Rules for the current convention in the province for which they are seeking election to National Council.

- 4.2 In accordance with Article 8.4 of the Constitution, no one may be elected to more than three (3) consecutive terms of office on National Council.

5. CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

- 5.1 Upon receiving a National Council Candidate Filing within the time set out in section 4.1.1, the Returning Officer shall confirm to the individual that their submission is complete (Form B) or, where the submission is incomplete, shall return the submission to the individual.
- 5.2 However, where a submission is received on or before November 28, 2025, that is, in the opinion of the Returning Officer only, inadvertently incomplete but which in the ordinary course may not be possible to complete by November 28, 2025, the Returning Officer may allow the individual a brief extension to complete the submission.
- 5.3 The Returning Officer shall certify all eligible individuals who meet the criteria of section 4 not later than December 5, 2025, and shall deliver to them a National Council Candidate Certification (Form C).
- 5.4 The Returning Officer may refuse to certify any individual as a Candidate, or revoke any individual's certification as a Candidate at any time, if, in the opinion of the Returning Officer, the individual:
- 5.4.1 is ineligible under the Constitution to stand for election to National Council or has failed to meet the requirements under the Constitution or the Rules to stand for election to National Council
 - 5.4.2 has breached or attempted to breach the Rules;
 - 5.4.3 has been untruthful in providing the signed affirmation required under section 8.5 of the Constitution or any other affirmation or declaration provided to the Party by the individual;
 - 5.4.4 has engaged in conduct that is prohibited under the Party's Code of Conduct for Volunteers, Campaign Staff, and EDA Staff;
 - 5.4.5 has engaged in conduct that is prohibited under the Party's National Council Code of Conduct as Adopted by National Council on December 30, 2015; or
 - 5.4.6 has engaged in conduct that is improper or unbecoming a member of the Party, or that could bring the reputation of the Party or National Council into disrepute.
- 5.5 After the eligibility of all individuals who wish to stand for election to the National Council has been resolved (including through the withdrawal of a Candidate, or the revocation by the Returning Officer of the certification of a Candidate), if in any Province the number of Candidates does not exceed the number of National Council seats for that Province, the Returning Officer shall declare the Candidate or Candidates elected by acclamation, to take office at the same time as Candidates who are elected at the Convention.

6. DELEGATE LISTS

- 6.1 No later than December 16, 2025, the Executive Director shall provide each Candidate with a list of the delegates for the province in which they are seeking election to National Council.
- 6.2 The Executive Director shall ensure that a reasonable attempt is made for the list of delegates to include the name, residential mailing address, primary telephone number, and primary email address of each delegate.
- 6.3 Candidates shall use the list, and shall ensure that it is used, only for purposes of their election to National Council, and shall not retain, copy or distribute the list after the Convention has concluded.
- 6.4 The list, or any portion thereof, shall not be shared with third parties for the purpose of sending endorsements. Any communication related to endorsements must be distributed under the control of the Candidate.

7. SCRUTINEERS

- 7.1 Each Candidate shall be eligible to appoint one (1) scrutineer to monitor the voting and vote counting procedures.
- 7.2 To appoint a scrutineer, a Candidate must submit a Scrutineer Designation Form (Form D) to the Returning Officer not later than 5 p.m. ET on January 20, 2026, or such later time as may be allowed by the Returning Officer. Subject to the discretion of the Returning Officer, a replacement may subsequently be appointed where circumstances require. A scrutineer must have the status of a delegate, alternate or member observer at the Convention.
- 7.3 Scrutineers shall be admitted to the voting area(s) ten (10) minutes prior to the commencement of voting, or such earlier time as may be designated by the Returning Officer for all scrutineers.
- 7.4 Other than the authorized identification badge, scrutineers must not wear any visible markings indicating their voting preference while inside the voting area.
- 7.5 Scrutineers may not carry or use any mobile phones, tablets or any other electronic communication devices inside the voting area in any way once voting has closed.
- 7.6 Prior to the commencement of voting, scrutineers shall witness the sealing of the ballot boxes by the Returning Officer.
- 7.7 Once the voting area(s) has/have been secured for the vote counting procedures, scrutineers may not leave the voting area(s) until after the result of the ballot has been officially announced to the convention from the podium.
- 7.8 Scrutineers shall, at all times, abide by these Rules and any further instructions given to them by the Returning Officer and his/her representatives.

- 7.9 In the event of non-compliance with these Rules, the Returning Officer may expel and bar a scrutineer from the voting area(s), which decision shall be final and binding.

8. VOTING PROCEDURES

- 8.1 The voting procedures shall be conducted at the Convention under the supervision of the Returning Officer.
- 8.2 Each voting line used in the voting procedures shall be supervised by a Deputy Returning Officer or by one or more poll clerks appointed by the Returning Officer.
- 8.3 The vote shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- 8.4 The use of any mobile phones, tablets or other electronic communication devices within the voting area(s), other than by election officials or scrutineers prior to the close of voting, shall be strictly prohibited.
- 8.5 Campaigning by, on behalf of, or in relation to Candidates within the voting area(s) shall be strictly prohibited.
- 8.6 The Returning Officer may order the removal of any individual from the voting area(s) that he/she deems to be in violation of these Rules.
- 8.7 Delegates shall queue to vote in the appropriate voting line based on the province for which they are a delegate and alphabetically by surname.
- 8.8 Delegates shall be required to show their delegate badge and provide to the poll clerk, in order to vote, additional identification as follows:
- 8.8.1 one original piece of identification issued by a Canadian federal, provincial or territorial government agency containing the member's photograph, name and address; or
- 8.8.2 two original pieces of identification, both of which contain the member's name, one of which contains the member's photograph and one of which contains the member's address.
- 8.9 The poll clerk shall verify that the delegate is wearing a delegate badge and that the voter identification, and the badge correspond with the voter name on the certified list of delegates.
- 8.10 Once the delegate badge and identification have been verified, the poll clerk shall highlight the name of the delegate on the voting list and hand the delegate the voting ballot, initialed by the poll clerk, which shall list the Candidates for the delegate's province in alphabetical order by surname.

- 8.11 Each delegate shall then proceed to the appropriate voting booth and clearly indicate his/her choice(s) from the list of Candidates and shall then proceed to fold his/her voting ballot and deposit it in the appropriate ballot box.
- 8.12 Electors may mark their ballot 1 through n (where n is the total number of seats on National Council for their Province). They may mark their ballot beyond n up to and including y (where y is the total number of Candidates running for National Council for their Province) if they wish to show their preference by ranking all of the Candidates.

9. VOTE COUNTING PROCEDURES

- 9.1 At the close of voting the Returning Officer:
 - 9.1.1 shall secure the voting area(s) and ensure only scrutineers, Deputy Returning Officers and other election officials authorized by the Returning Officer remain in the voting area(s);
 - 9.1.2 shall collect and secure all voters lists and unused voting ballots; and
 - 9.1.3 shall only then direct the Deputy Returning Officers to break the seal on the ballot boxes.
- 9.2 The carrying or use of mobile phones, tablets or any other electronic communication devices by any individual inside the voting area shall be strictly prohibited once the voting area has been secured for the purposes of counting the voting ballots and until after the result of the ballot has been officially announced to the convention from the podium.
- 9.3 The Returning Officer, or other officials authorized by the Returning Officer, shall tabulate the results of each election, and the Returning Officer shall provide the results for announcement to the Convention.
- 9.4 For a Province with only one National Council seat, the ballots shall be totalled initially by the total number of electors that showed their desire to have the Candidate on National Council by placing a '1' beside the Candidate's name.
 - 9.4.1 If the first place Candidate received at least 50% plus 1 of the total votes available, that Candidate shall be declared elected.
 - 9.4.2 If no Candidate received 50% plus 1 of the total votes, the Candidate with the least votes and any Candidate with less than 5% of the available votes (as long as there are at least two Candidates remaining) shall be eliminated and their 2nd place (or next place in the case of their 2nd place already being eliminated) votes will be allocated to each of the remaining Candidates. Any ballots with only '1', indicated would be extinguished and removed from the calculation needed to obtain for 50% plus 1 of the total votes available.
 - 9.4.3 If the top ranked Candidate has received the votes of 50% plus 1 of the electors following the first reallocation required by section 9.4.2, that Candidate shall be

declared elected. If there is still not a successful Candidate following the first reallocation required by section 9.4.2, the next lowest Candidate shall be eliminated and their ballots reallocated based on the next place choice (if their second place choice is no longer in the running that ballot will be allocated to the third place choice etc.) and again any ballots with only '1' indicated (or '2' if the ballot had already been reallocated) shall be extinguished and removed from the calculation needed to obtain for 50% plus 1 of the total votes available.

9.4.4 The process required by sections 9.4.2 and 9.4.3 shall be repeated until there are only two Candidates with the Candidate receiving the majority of the votes being declared elected.

9.5 For a Province with more than one National Council seat, the ballots shall be totalled initially by the Calculated Votes.

Example: On the first round of counting for a Province with three (3) councillors, the total number of 1st place, 2nd place, and 3rd place votes would be the Calculated Votes for each of the Candidates.

9.5.1 If the first place Candidate received the Calculated Votes of at least 50% plus 1 of the eligible electors for that province, that Candidate would be declared elected. If the second place Candidate received the Calculated Votes of at least 50% plus 1 of the eligible electors for that province, that Candidate would also be declared elected. If there are no further Council seats to fill, the election for that province would be complete. If there is a third National Council seat available, and the third place Candidate received the Calculated Votes of at least 50% plus 1 of the eligible electors for that province, that Candidate would also be declared elected. If there are no further Council seats to fill, the election for that province would be completed. If there is a fourth National Council seat available and the fourth place Candidate received the Calculated Votes of at least 50% plus 1 of the eligible electors for that province that Candidate would also be declared elected and all positions would be filled.

9.5.2 If the total number of seats on National Council for a Province are not elected after the process required by section 9.5.1, the balance of councillors shall be elected by the following process:

9.5.2.1 The last place Candidate and any other Candidates with less than 5% of the Calculated Votes (as long as there are at least two Candidates remaining) would be eliminated from the counting. Then, the n plus 1 place votes (or next available place if their n plus 1 place was no longer in the running) of the successfully elected and the eliminated Candidates will be considered Calculated Votes to be allocated among the remaining Candidates. Any of those ballots that only voted for 1 to n and did not have a next place Candidate would be extinguished and removed from the calculation needed to obtain

50% plus 1 of the total votes available. Any Candidate receiving the Calculated Votes of at least 50% plus 1 of the electors then shall be declared elected for the National Council seat.

- 9.5.2.2 If there is still one or more vacant National Council seats to fill after the process required by section 9.5.2.1, the Candidate with the least number of votes would be eliminated from the counting. Then, the n plus 1 place votes (or next available place if their n plus 1 place was no longer in the running) of the successfully elected and the eliminated Candidates will be considered Calculated Votes to be allocated among the remaining Candidates. Any of those ballots that only voted for 1 to n and did not have a next place Candidate would be extinguished and removed from the calculation needed to obtain 50% plus 1 of the total votes available.

- 9.6 Any decision of a Deputy Returning Officer to reject a ballot may be appealed by a scrutineer to the Returning Officer, whose decision shall be final and binding.
- 9.7 A spoiled or otherwise rejected ballot shall be removed from the calculation needed for 50% plus 1 of the total votes available.
- 9.8 In the event of a tie for the only or last position for a particular Province, the result shall be determined by a coin toss made under the supervision of the Returning Officer.
- 9.9 The tabulation of the vote by the Returning Officer shall be final and binding.

10. CANDIDATE WITHDRAWAL

- 10.1 Withdrawals by Candidates shall be accepted, and their names shall not appear on the ballot where the Notice of Withdrawal (Form E) is signed by the Candidate and is delivered to the Returning Officer no later than 5 p.m. ET on December 19, 2025.

11. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 11.1 Except where otherwise provided in these Rules, a dispute related to the election of National Council arising from or related to the operation or interpretation of these Rules shall:
- 11.1.1 be submitted promptly in writing to the Returning Officer by a Candidate, or, where the dispute relates to the refusal of the Returning Officer to certify an individual as a Candidate, by an individual who submitted a National Council Candidate Filing (Form A); and
- 11.1.2 detail the nature of the dispute.
- 11.2 The decision of the Returning Officer on the dispute shall be final, binding and not subject to appeal.

12. GENERAL

- 12.1 These Rules may be amended or supplemented at any time by the Returning Officer, subject to review by members of National Council not currently seeking re-election.
- 12.2 In the event of any conflict between the Constitution and these Rules, the Constitution shall prevail.



NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING

NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

E-mail _____

NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE AFFIRMATION

I have read, understand, and do hereby affirm my personal commitment to the principles and policies of the Conservative Party of Canada and the Constitution of the Conservative Party of Canada.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date Received: _____

By: _____

National Council of the Conservative Party of Canada

Code of Conduct

Certificate of Understanding and Compliance

As a Member of the National Council or a non-council member of a National Council Committee:

- I certify that I have read and understand the Code of Conduct for Councillors;
- I certify that I have made all disclosures required under the Code as at the date of this certificate; and
- I agree to conduct myself in accordance with this Code.

Name (Print)

Name (Signature)

Date Signed

Date filed with the Secretary of the National Council: _____

NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE DECLARATION

I, _____, an applicant seeking election to the National Council of the Conservative Party of Canada hereby agree to:

- Abide by all Rules and Procedures governing the National Council Election Process as may be developed from time to time; and
- Respect the confidentiality of the list of delegates which I may receive and not permit the use of the list for any purpose other than my election to National Council.

Furthermore, I recognize that any breach of this agreement may result in sanctions by the Returning Officer. Such sanctions may include one or more of the following:

- The forfeiture of part or all of my Compliance Deposit.
- The revocation of my National Council Candidate Certification which would result in my ineligibility to stand for election to the National Council.

Additionally, I recognize and agree that I expressly undertake that I will not seek the review by the Courts in contract, tort, judicial review or otherwise of any decision of the Party or any of its representatives, including any decision of the Returning Officer or their designate, the National Council, or member thereof. If I, in breach of this undertaking, commences such a proceeding or pursues a course of action which involves an appeal, challenge or judicial review, I shall be responsible for any and all costs thereof and shall bear the legal fees and expenses incurred by all persons named as defendants or respondents on a full indemnity basis, including but not limited to any and all legal fees and expenses incurred by the Party or the Conservative Fund Canada.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date Received: _____

By: _____

NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE COMPLIANCE DEPOSIT

A five hundred (\$500.00) dollar compliance deposit, payable by cheque or Electronic Fund Transfer, to the "Conservative Fund Canada in Trust" representing the Candidate's compliance deposit in accordance with section 4.1.1.2 of the *Rules and Procedures for the Election of National Council*.

Date Received: _____

By: _____

NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE NOMINATION OF CANDIDACY

The undersigned members in good standing of the Conservative Party of Canada certify by signing this form that they have been members in good standing for at least twenty-one (21) days prior to signing this form and that they endorse the nomination of _____, who wishes to seek election to the National Council of the Conservative Party of Canada.

[Add additional sheets as needed]

NAME (print)	Address	Signature	Date (D-M-Y)

NOTE: Consider obtaining additional endorsements in the event that memberships are expired or text is illegible.

CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT

I, _____, Returning Officer for the National Council Election,
confirm that I have received, in accordance with section 4 of the *Rules and Procedures for the
Election of National Council*, a completed National Council Candidate Filing for _____.

Signed,

Returning Officer

NATIONAL COUNCIL CANDIDATE CERTIFICATION

To: _____

Dear _____:

I, _____, Returning Officer for the National Council Election, wish to advise you that you have been confirmed as a Candidate for election to the National Council of the Conservative Party of Canada.

Yours truly,

Returning Officer

SCRUTINEER DESIGNATION FORM

I, _____, a Candidate do hereby appoint _____
as my official scrutineer.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date Received: _____

By: _____

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

I, _____, voluntarily and formally withdraw as a National Council Candidate for the Conservative Party of Canada.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Date Received: _____

By: _____

FORM (A-Email)

EMAIL NOMINATION ATTESTATION

I _____ (name of member) certify by sending this email form, that I have been a member in good standing for at least twenty-one (21) days prior to submitting this email form and that I endorse the nomination of _____, who wishes to seek election to the National Council of the Conservative Party of Canada.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Mobile Phone: _____

E-mail _____