

A Better Calgary Association
Constitutional Document 4 (Candidate Selection Rules)

Current as of February 21st, 2026.

Last amended at the February 21st, 2026 Annual General Meeting



Article 1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1. This Candidate Selection Rules document has been adopted by the A Better Calgary Party (the “Party”) pursuant to the Bylaws.
- 1.2. The A Better Calgary Party respects and values the Members and the significant role of the Ward Association as the primary organization through which Member rights are exercised. The Party strongly endorses the democratic selection of our Candidates and requires Ward Associations to abide by the Candidate Selection Rules and Procedures as set out in this document. The Party requires that all Ward Associations provide support to the Party’s Candidate for their Ward with the goal being to elect a Councillor.

Article 2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1. In this document, capitalized terms shall have the meaning given to them in the Bylaws unless otherwise stipulated. The following terms are defined as follows:
 - 2.1.1. “Applicant” means a person who has submitted an Application to become a Nomination Contestant;
 - 2.1.2. “Application” means the cumulative set of documents, including stipulated payments, a nomination Applicant must provide as part of their application;
 - 2.1.3. “CCNC” means a Council Candidate Nomination Committee, as formed by a Ward Association pursuant to these rules;
 - 2.1.4. “Endorsed Candidate” means the person who has been elected, acclaimed, or appointed to be the Mayoral Candidate or a Council Candidate;
 - 2.1.5. “Nomination Contestant” means a person who has successfully completed the application process and been approved by the PCSC to be on the ballot for the Nomination Vote;
 - 2.1.6. “Nomination Event” means the process to select an Endorsed Candidate and includes the proscribed time prior to a Nomination Vote and the Nomination Vote itself;
 - 2.1.7. “Nomination Vote” means an in-person vote, conducted with paper ballots, cast via secret ballot, to determine the winner of a Nomination Event;

- 2.1.8. "PCSC" means the Party Candidate Selection Committee as described in Article 10 of the Bylaws and the Standing Committee List;
- 2.1.9. "RO" means Returning Officer; and
- 2.1.10. "Rules" means these Candidate Selection Rules and Procedures.

Article 3. COUNCIL CANDIDATE NOMINATION COMMITTEE

- 3.1. Each WA Board shall appoint a CCNC for the purpose of interviewing and assessing Applicants to represent the Party in the next election.
- 3.2. The CCNC shall be comprised of:
 - 3.2.1. Three (3) Ward Association Board members;
 - 3.2.2. Two (2) Ward Members, who are not members of the Ward Association Board; and
 - 3.2.3. The Executive Director or their designate (*ex officio* advisor).
- 3.3. The WA Board may appoint two (2) Ward Members as alternates for the CCNC and specify which appointee shall be the first alternate and which shall be the second alternate. These alternates will not participate in any CCNC functions unless and until they become a member of the CCNC.
 - 3.3.1. In the event a member of the CCNC becomes unable or unwilling to participate in the CCNC, the first alternate shall become a member of the CCNC.
 - 3.3.2. In the event that a second member of the CCNC becomes unable or unwilling to participate in the CCNC, the second alternate shall become a member of the CCNC.
 - 3.3.3. In the event a third or subsequent member of the CCNC becomes unable or unwilling to participate in the CCNC, greater than five (5) days prior to the commencement of a Nomination Vote, the CCNC Chair shall request the WA Board hold an emergency meeting to appoint a replacement member to the CCNC. If fewer than five (5) days remain, the CCNC shall continue with no additional members.
- 3.4. The CCNC shall select one of its members as chair.
- 3.5. A majority of voting members of the CCNC shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of CCNC business.

- 3.6. The CCNC in each Ward shall administer a Nomination Event in consultation with the Executive Director or his/her designate and in accordance with these Rules, the Bylaws and any Applicable Laws, including nomination contest spending and contribution limits, if any.
- 3.7. All members of the CCNC, including ex officio members, shall be invited to attend every meeting of the CCNC and shall receive the minutes of all CCNC meetings.
- 3.8. Each CCNC member and alternate CCNC member must sign a pledge when they are selected by the WA Board, not to become an Applicant or Nomination Contestant for the Ward Association in which they are an CCNC member, and to remain neutral during the Nomination Event for that Ward. Any member of the CCNC who does not remain neutral must remove themselves from the CCNC, or they may be removed by the PCSC.
- 3.9. Each member of the CCNC must sign a confidentiality agreement to not use or disclose any confidential information they learn about any Applicant, Nomination Contestant, or the nomination process.
- 3.10. The PCSC, by a simple majority vote, may remove a member of the CCNC following a review of a formal complaint from the Executive Director, the CCNC, the WA Board, or any interested party.

Article 4. PARTY CANDIDATE SELECTION COMMITTEE

- 4.1. The PCSC shall administer the Nomination Event for the position of Mayoral Candidate in consultation with the Executive Director or his/her designate and in accordance with these rules, the Bylaws, and any Applicable Laws.
- 4.2. Each PCSC member must sign a pledge when they are selected by the Party Board, not to become an Applicant or Nomination Contestant in any Ward or for Mayor, and to remain neutral through all contests. Any member of the PCSC who does not remain neutral must remove themselves from the PCSC or they may be removed by the Party Board.
- 4.3. Each member of the PCSC must sign a confidentiality agreement to not use or disclose any confidential information they learn about any Applicant, Nomination Contestant, or the nomination process.
- 4.4. All members of the PCSC and the Executive Director shall be invited to attend every meeting of the PCSC and shall receive the minutes of all PCSC meetings.

Article 5. CRITERIA FOR COMMENCEMENT OF A NOMINATION EVENT

- 5.1. WA Boards may request to have their nomination opened only when they:
 - 5.1.1. have at least one hundred and fifty (150) Ward Members;
 - 5.1.2. have at least three thousand dollars (\$3,000) in their WA financial account; and
 - 5.1.3. have provided the Executive Director or their designate a proposed budget for the Nomination Event.
- 5.2. The CCNC shall monitor the preparedness of the WA Board and will indicate to the Executive Director or their designate to open their nomination only when there are potential Applicants, and the WA Board has met the thresholds set out in Article 5.1.
- 5.3. Notwithstanding anything in these Rules, the Executive Director or their designate has the authority to open a Nomination Event for a Council Candidate at any time he or she decides so long as they occur not less than twenty-one (21) days after the conclusion of the Nomination Event for a Mayoral Candidate. The PCSC has the authority to open a Nomination Event for a Mayoral Candidate at any time it decides.
- 5.4. In the event the WA Board fails to meet the criteria in Article 5.1 prior to April 1 of the year of a general election, the PCSC may, in consultation with the corresponding WA Board, appoint a Member to be the Council Candidate and there shall be no Nomination Event.

Article 6. NOMINATION APPLICATION PROCESS

- 6.1. In order to become a Nomination Contestant, an Applicant must:
 - 6.1.1. deliver a completed Application, including all stipulated payments and nomination petitions, to the Executive Director or their designate as required by these Rules;
 - 6.1.2. be interviewed by the CCNC if running for Council or by the PCSC if running for Mayor; and
 - 6.1.3. be permitted to contest the nomination by the PCSC.
- 6.2. An Applicant must meet the following eligibility requirements at the time of their Application;

- 6.2.1. Be eligible to be a candidate for the general election under the Applicable Laws, the Bylaws, and these Rules;
 - 6.2.2. be a Member for, at minimum, six (6) consecutive months immediately prior to the date a nomination is opened; and
 - 6.2.3. has resigned or taken a leave of absence from all WA Boards, Party Boards, and Committees.
- 6.3. An Applicant may request a waiver to the membership requirements set out in the above of the Rules from the PCSC by submitting their request in writing to the Executive Director or their designate. The Executive Director, or their designate, shall bring the request to the attention of the PCSC if, in the opinion of the Executive Director, or their designate, sufficient grounds for a waiver exist.
- 6.4. The Application shall consist of such forms, documents, and declarations as may be stipulated by the Executive Director, or their designate, in consultation with the PCSC. The Application shall include, at minimum, the following:
- 6.4.1. A completed and signed nomination contestant questionnaire.
 - 6.4.2. A current certificate of conduct/criminal records check and a signed authorization to enable the party to conduct its own searches;
 - 6.4.3. A current credit check report and signed authorization to enable the Party to conduct its own searches;
 - 6.4.4. A signed confidentiality agreement, in which the Applicant agrees not to publicly disclose any information concerning the process, procedure, conduct, or substance of the application process and not to misuse or disclose any of the information or data that they may be provided by the Party;
 - 6.4.5. Information required to access all social media accounts of the Applicant;
 - 6.4.6. A signed declaration and acknowledgement of the Applicant stating that:
 - 6.4.6.1. the PCSC has the authority not to permit or disallow his or her candidacy on any grounds it sees fit, which rejection may be appealed to the Party Board pursuant to these Rules, and

- whose decision shall be final and binding and not subject to appeal, challenge, or review on any grounds whatsoever,
- 6.4.6.2. membership information or other personal information provided by the Party will be used only for the purpose of campaigning for the nomination and not for any other purpose,
 - 6.4.6.3. use of the Party logo is not permitted in campaigning for a nomination,
 - 6.4.6.4. if they are successful in becoming an Endorsed Candidate, he or she will enter into any reasonable financial arrangements with the Party concerning the payment for the provision of campaign services by the Party to them as a Endorsed Candidate, that they will share any information or resources that will contribute to an effective campaign with the Party, including membership and voter information acquired while an Applicant and a Nomination Contestant,
 - 6.4.6.5. he or she agrees to follow applicable rules or legislation at all times and understands that breaching these rules in any fashion is immediate grounds for dismissal, and
 - 6.4.6.6. he or she agrees to only use campaign materials authorized by the Party as an Endorsed Candidate;
- 6.4.7. An original nomination petition signed by fifty (50) Ward Members if he or she is seeking to become a Council Candidate or two hundred (200) Members if he or she is seeking to become the Mayoral Candidate.
- 6.4.8. A non-refundable contribution in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) payable to the Party as a contribution to the corresponding Ward Association if he or she is seeking to become a Council Candidate or in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) payable to the Party if he or she is seeking to become the Mayoral Candidate;
- 6.4.8.1. In cases where this contribution would cause a person to exceed their maximum allowed contribution limit, the required contribution will be adjusted to ensure compliance.

- 6.4.9. A refundable good conduct bond payable to the Party, which shall not be considered a contribution, in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) if he or she is seeking to become a Council Candidate or in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) if he or she is seeking to become the Mayoral Candidate. The bond will be returned to the person at the conclusion of the municipal general election if the person has followed these Rules, the Bylaws, and all Applicable Laws, and has not otherwise acted in a manner deserving sanction as determined by the PCSC in its sole discretion.

Article 7. APPLICATION PROCESS

- 7.1. Applications must be delivered to the Party at the location specified by the Executive Director no later than 5:00 PM Mountain Time twenty-one (21) days after the nomination is opened. An Applicant may, prior to the deadline, provide amendments to their Application. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that a complete Application is received prior to this deadline.
- 7.2. Upon receipt of an Application, the Executive Director will forward the relevant portions of the Application to the chair of the relevant CCNC or PCSC within two (2) days of the submission of the Application.
- 7.3. An Applicant should be interviewed by the CCNC or PCSC within seven (7) calendar days of the submission of the Application.
- 7.4. After conducting an interview with the Applicant, the relevant CCNC shall make a recommendation to the PCSC to either approve or deny the Applicant as a Nomination Contestant. The PCSC may contact the Applicant directly to obtain any additional information or documentation it may reasonably require. The PCSC may also require that the CCNC provide further information or documentation regarding their recommendation.
- 7.5. The PCSC shall endeavor to render a decision to approve or reject an Applicant as soon as is practicable. The PCSC has the discretion to reject an Applicant, disqualify a Nomination Contestant, or disallow an Endorsed Candidate on any grounds it sees fit. The CCNC has no authority to reject an Applicant.

Article 8. NOMINATION PERIOD

- 8.1. There must be twenty-one (21) days between the opening of the nomination process and the deadline to submit an Application.

- 8.2. Notice must be given to all eligible Members, on the date the nomination process is opened, outlining the deadline to submit an Application.
- 8.3. There must be at least twenty-one (21) days and not more than thirty-five (35) days between the deadline to submit an Application and the date of the Nomination Vote.
- 8.4. Should a Nomination Vote be required, a second notice must be provided to all eligible Members outlining the date, time, physical location, and a description of the Nomination Vote, as well as the deadline to be eligible to vote.
- 8.5. The PCSC shall recommend an impartial Returning Officer (the "RO") to the Executive Director to administer the Nomination Vote. The RO cannot be a member of the CCNC, PCSC, or Party Board.
- 8.6. The PCSC has the discretion to vary this schedule if deemed necessary.

Article 9. NOMINATION VOTE

- 9.1. If, following the close of nominations there are no Nomination Contestants, any further action concerning the nomination process for a Council Candidate or for a Mayoral Candidate will be determined by the Party Board.
- 9.2. If, following the close of nominations there is only one Nomination Contestant, the relevant CCNC shall acclaim that person as the Council Candidate, or the PCSC shall acclaim that person as the Mayoral Candidate.
- 9.3. If following the close of nominations, a Nomination Contestant has not been acclaimed and a Nomination Event must be held, the remaining provisions of this section shall be followed.
- 9.4. The RO will work with the CCNC or PCSC to determine and secure the use of the physical locations that will be used to conduct each Nomination Vote.
- 9.5. No business other than the selection of candidates shall be conducted at a Nomination Vote.
- 9.6. The RO shall supervise the credentials of voters. To prove their eligibility, Members must provide either one piece of photo identification that provides their name and address or one piece of photo identification that provides their name and photo and a separate document that provides their name and address. Photo identification must be issued by the Government of Alberta or the Government of Canada. The RO may waive this requirement on an individual basis where the member is otherwise known, or other exceptional circumstances apply. Statutory Declarations in lieu of proper

credentials will not be allowed. The Party Board may provide supplementary rules and instructions for credentials.

- 9.7. The RO or the Executive Director can appoint deputy ROs to supervise a Nomination Vote.
- 9.8. The RO shall supervise the voting. Ballots shall be on paper only, with Nomination Contestants listed in alphabetical order by surname. Ballots shall be marked in secret. Proxy voting is not permitted.
- 9.9. Voting shall occur by means of a single preferential ballot wherein the eligible voters numerically rank the Nomination Contestants in sequence of their choice.
- 9.10. The RO shall supervise the vote count and declare the result of the count. Each Nomination Contestant will be entitled to have up to two people observing the vote count at each voting location. Observers shall not be permitted to interfere in the vote counting process and shall adhere to the instructions of the RO. The RO may provide supplementary rules and instructions for observers.
- 9.11. If, after the first counting of the ballots, no Nomination Contestant receives a majority of the valid votes cast, then the Nomination Contestant receiving the lowest number of first place votes shall be dropped and the second-place choices on their ballots re-apportioned to the remaining Nomination Contestants. If a tiebreaker is needed to determine which Nomination Contestant is eliminated at any stage of the process, there shall be a coin toss. This process shall be repeated until a Nomination Contestant receives a majority of valid votes counted.
- 9.12. The RO shall retain possession and custody of the ballots and the voter sign in sheets for fourteen (14) calendar days for delivery, if requested, to the Board. If not so requested, the ballots shall be fully and completely destroyed after the expiration of the fourteen (14) calendar day period. If requested by the Board, confirmation of ballot destruction shall be provided by the RO.

Article 10. MEMBERSHIP PROCESSING

- 10.1. Applicants and Nomination Contestants are required to process memberships they have sold using the Party's approved electronic format. Memberships that have been sold may not be held back to be submitted at a

later date. All memberships must be submitted at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the Nomination Vote.

- 10.2. The Executive Director or their designate will provide a list of Members as of the date the nomination was opened to each Nomination Contestant as soon as is practicable after he or she is approved by the PCSC.
- 10.3. After the deadline for membership submission has passed, the Executive Director or their designate will provide a list of Members who will be eligible to vote in the Nomination Vote as soon as it is available. Nomination Contestants will have forty-eight (48) hours after being provided this list to notify the Party of errors or omissions on the list for review and correction.
- 10.4. If amendments are made to the final list of Members, the Executive Director or their designate will provide an updated list in advance of the Nomination Vote. Any Member who resides in the Ward but is not on the list will be able to vote in the Nomination Vote once their membership eligibility and residency have been confirmed by the Executive Director, or their designate.

Article 11. ABRIDGEMENT OF THE RULES

- 11.1. The Party Board may alter, abridge, or suspend any of these Rules, if reasonably required.

Article 12. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 12.1. The Arbitration Committee shall have exclusive jurisdiction to inquire into, hear, and determine all matters and questions of fact and law arising from an appeal of the conduct or the results of a Nomination Vote, a decision to reject an Applicant, disqualify a Nomination Contestant, or remove an Endorsed Candidate, or all other disputes. Any appeal must be submitted to the Executive Director in writing within forty-eight (48) hours of the decision being communicated to the person. The Executive Director shall bring the appeal to the attention of the Party Board forthwith. The decision of the Arbitration Committee on an appeal is final and binding on the parties and is not subject to further appeal or review in any Court on any grounds whatsoever.
- 12.2. Without limiting any other provisions in these Rules, all Applicants, Nomination Candidates, and Endorsed Candidates expressly undertake and agree that they 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 Executive Director or their designate, an RO or

their designate, a WA Board, a CCNC, the PCSC, the Arbitration Committee, or the Party Board, or any member thereof. If an Applicant, Nomination Contestant, or Endorsed Candidate commences such a proceeding or pursues a course of action which involves an appeal, challenge, or judicial review, he or she 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 A Better Calgary Association.