Otipemisiwak Métis Government

2025 Late Fall Election – Provincial Women's Representative By-Election

Public Notice

*By Notice of the Chief Electoral Officer on this day, December 10, 2025; the voting period for the **2025 Provincial Women's Representative By-Election** for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government will resume with the final day of voting to be February 22, 2026.*

CANDIDATE DETAILS

DECLARATION OF CERTIFIED CANDIDATES

Notice was hereby given that the following individuals had successfully submitted their nomination packages and have satisfied the requirements set out in the *Otipemisiwak Métis Government Elections and Referenda Act (the Election Law).* As such, the Chief Electoral Officer has deemed the following individuals as candidates in the **2025 Late Fall Election – Provincial Women's Representative By-Election** for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government and has accepted a withdrawal of one candidate.

WOMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE (1 position)

- **Karen Acuna**
- **Rhonda Baglot**
- **Gabrielle Blatz**
- **Jody L'Hirondelle Swanson**
- **Carol Ridsdale**
- **Laura Waniandy *(Withdrawn)***

ELECTION UPDATE

On October 8, 2025, the Otipemisiwak Métis Government's Chief Electoral Officer issued a Public Notice in response to the Canada Postal strike.

Given a Cabinet resolution, the voting period for the 2025 Late Fall Election was delayed. Confirmed Candidates in contested elections were able to campaign and access the preliminary voters list for the purpose of campaigning.

There are indications that consistent mail service is in place. With all three methods of voting available, Cabinet has approved a resolution to authorize the Chief Electoral Officer to resume the Voting Period for the 2025 Late Fall Election (completed Winter 2026) as well as extend the time period for mail-in ballots from 21 days to 28 days. In addition, all in-person polling locations will run for 1 day only.

VOTING DETAILS

Voters must be Métis Nation within Alberta Citizens and (16) years of age or older to be entitled to vote for Provincial Women's Representative.

The exact addresses for each polling location are to be determined, along with any additional locations that may be deemed necessary and approved by the Chief Electoral Officer in consultation with District Leadership.

All polling station hours will operate from **8am** to **8pm**.

IN-PERSON VOTING – POLLING VOTING STATIONS

There will be **22 polling locations** in the following communities for **Provincial Women's Representative By-Election:**

(All Minor Locations) **February 22, 2026**

Métis District	Community
1 – Foothills	Lethbridge
2 – Medicine Hat	Medicine Hat
3 – Red Deer	Red Deer
4 – Rocky View	Airdrie
5 – Calgary Nose Hill	Calgary North
6 – Calgary Elbow	Calgary South
7 – Jasper House	Hinton
8 – Lac Ste. Anne	Spruce Grove
9 – Fort Edmonton	Edmonton North
10 – Edmonton Whitemud	Edmonton South
11 – St. Albert	St. Albert
12 – St. Paul – Cold Lake	Cold Lake
13 – Grande Prairie	Grande Prairie
14 – Peace River	Peace River
15 – Fort Vermilion	Fort Vermilion
16 – Fort Chipewyan	Fort Chipewyan
17 – Fort McMurray	Fort McMurray
18 – Conklin	Conklin
19 – Lac La Biche	Lac La Biche
20 – Athabasca Landing	Athabasca
21 – Lesser Slave Lake	Slave Lake
22 – Wabasca – Desmarais	Wabasca

MAIL-IN VOTING

- A mail-in ballot package will be sent via mail to each Citizen that is eligible to vote on January 20, 2026.
- Mail-in ballot packages will be sent to the address on file with the MNA.
- If a mail-in ballot is not received, or a replacement mail-in ballot package is required, Citizens should make this request no later than 10 days prior to the final day of the vote.

ELECTRONIC VOTING

Electronic voting will be open for the entire duration of the voting period which is from February 16 - 22, 2026**.**

VOTER SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE

Voter support and assistance will be made available for Citizens during the voting period. Citizens requiring support and/or assistance should contact Elections@metis.org.

NAME/MAILING ADDRESS OPT-OUT

The list of voters will be distributed to each candidate. *Note that a candidate is entitled to receive a list of only the voters that are ordinarily resident in the District in which the candidate is running.

Citizens may opt-out of having their name and/or mailing address included on the list of voters that will be circulated to candidates.

- To opt-out, please email: Elections@metis.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of the Chief Electoral Officer:
12304 111 Ave NW
Edmonton, Alberta
T5M 2N4

For general inquiries please reach out to: Elections@metis.org or call 1-877-576-4250

Del Graff
Chief Electoral Officer
Métis Nation of Alberta

December 10, 2025
Date