



Otipemisiwak Métis Government

2025 Late Fall Election – Wabasca-Desmarais Métis District

Public Notice

By Notice of the Chief Electoral Officer on this day, October 8, 2025; the candidates in the **2025 Wabasca-Desmarais Métis District By-Election (22)** for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government have been determined in accordance with Part V of the Otipemisiwak Métis Government Elections and Referenda Act.

CANDIDATE DETAILS

DECLARATION OF CERTIFIED CANDIDATES

Notice is hereby given that the following individuals have 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 – Wabasca-Desmarais Métis District By-Election (22)** for the Otipemisiwak Métis Government.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR (1 position)

- Tara Hawryliw
- Jennifer Schacher

IMPORTANT DECISION REGARDING VOTING PERIOD AND METHODS OF VOTING

On September 2, 2025, the Otipemisiwak Métis Government's Chief Electoral Officer issued Notices of Vote for District Council elections in the Red Deer, Calgary Nose Hill, St. Paul-Cold Lake, and Wabasca-Desmarais Métis Districts, as well as for a province-wide by-election for the office of the Women's Representative of Citizens' Council. (collectively the "2025 Late Fall Elections"), which set the elections' voting periods as November 16 to 22, 2025 and established mail-in voting as an available voting method in each election.

However, on September 25, 2025, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) initiated a nationwide strike, halting all Canada Post services. As a result, mail can no longer be sent or received, rendering mail-in voting unfeasible.

In response, Cabinet convened a virtual meeting on October 7, 2025. Acting on the recommendation of the Chief Electoral Officer, Cabinet passed a motion to delay the Voting Period for the 2025 Late Fall Elections until such time as mail-in voting becomes a possible option for voters.

Section 15 of the Elections and Referenda Act authorizes Cabinet, in extraordinary circumstances, to make changes to the date of an election, provided voting has not yet begun. Cabinet has determined that the postal strike constitutes such an extraordinary circumstance, warranting a change under this provision of the Act.



Given this resolution, the voting period for the 2025 Late Fall Election will be delayed. Confirmed Candidates in contested elections will be able to campaign and access the preliminary voters list for the purpose of campaigning. The requirements of the Campaign Finance Regulation will remain in place for the 2025 Late Fall Election.

When all three methods of voting are available, the Chief Electoral Officer will announce a new Voting Period for the election to proceed.

VOTING DETAILS

Voters must be Métis Nation within Alberta Citizens and (16) years of age or older to be entitled to vote.

Voters must be ordinarily resident in **Wabasca-Desmarais Métis District (22)** for at least 90 days before the close of voting to be entitled to vote for District Councillor.

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 STATION

There will be **1 polling location** in the following community for **Wabasca-Desmarais Métis District (22)**:

Major Location (Dates to be determined)

- Wabasca

MAIL-IN VOTING

- A mail-in ballot package will be sent via mail to each Citizen that is eligible to vote when dates for the voting period have been determined.
- 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 when dates have been determined.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Del Graff", written over a horizontal line.

Del Graff
Chief Electoral Officer
Métis Nation of Alberta

October 8, 2025

Date