

## **Non-Resident Nepalis – National Coordination Council (NRN Canada)**

### **Election Guidelines 2025**

#### **Background**

The Non-Resident Nepalis – National Coordination Council (NRN Canada) proudly serves as the collective voice of the Nepali diaspora across Canada. Rooted in the principles of inclusivity, transparency, and democratic engagement, NRN Canada conducts biennial elections to renew its leadership through a participatory and community-driven process.

These guidelines have been developed to ensure a fair, accessible, and accountable framework for the 2025 elections. They define the scope and authority of the Election Commission and detail the procedures for nominations, nomination fees, electoral region structures, regional representation, voting methods, and oversight mechanisms.

By upholding these standards, NRN Canada reaffirms its commitment to good governance and community empowerment. These elections are a vital expression of our shared values and a cornerstone of our mission to foster unity, amplify advocacy, and deepen engagement within the Nepali Canadian community.

This document outlines the official process for electing the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of NRN Canada's National Coordination Council for the 2025-2027 term.

#### **Part I: Election Commission**

1. At the Annual General Meeting held on July 21, 2024, Mr. Binay Nepal was appointed as the Chief Election Commissioner. He is authorized to form a National Election Team and appoint local Election Officers to facilitate a fair and transparent election process in each electoral region.
2. The primary purpose of the election is to establish the NRN Canada's Board of Directors and Executive Committee.
3. Local Commissions shall establish local election teams to effectively oversee regional election processes.
4. The Election Commission is responsible for managing the election in accordance with these guidelines and has full authority over all election-related decisions.
5. Members of the Election Commission are not eligible to run for any positions within NRN Canada.
6. All NRN Canada members are expected to support the Commission's duties. NRN Canada is responsible for ensuring adequate financial and logistical resources for the process.
7. The election results announced by the Chief Election Commissioner shall be final and binding on all general members.

8. The Election Commission reserves the authority to resolve disputes and issue final rulings on election-related matters.
9. Upon receiving the final voter list from NRN Canada, the Chief Election Commissioner shall recommend electoral demarcations to NRN Canada's current Board.
10. All election-related communications and decisions made by the Election Commission must be transparent and documented in writing.

## **Part II: Election Procedure**

1. Elections for the Board of Directors will be held in each designated electoral region, based on the number of seats assigned to that region.
2. The Commission shall publish all election-related documents—including the voter list, candidate nomination forms, protest forms, withdrawal forms, candidate lists, and the official election schedule—on the NRNA Canada website. These materials will also be circulated to the current Board and community organizations.
3. Voting for the 2025 election will be conducted online using "Simply Voting," a reputable Canadian platform approved by the Board during its meeting on June 26, 2025.
4. Eligible general and life members (as defined under Article II, Clause 8 of the NRNA Canada by-laws) may file their nominations with endorsements from one proposer and one supporter. The following candidacy fees must be submitted by e-transfer to [treasurer@nrnacanada.org](mailto:treasurer@nrnacanada.org), and a receipt of the transfer must be presented with the nomination application.
  - ICC Member: \$1250
  - President: \$1250
  - Senior Vice President: \$1000
  - Vice Presidents: \$900
  - General Secretary: \$900
  - Treasurer: \$900
  - Secretary: \$800
  - Joint Treasurer: \$800
  - Youth Coordinators: \$800
  - BODs: \$500

Note: Nomination fees will be refunded before the publication of the final candidate list. No refunds will be issued after the publication of the final candidate list.

5. Candidacies shall be declined if the individual does not meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the bylaws.
6. The Commission may seek support from local Nepalese community organizations as needed.
7. Online voting will take place through a secure platform as follows:

Date: 20 July 2025

Time: 6:00 AM EST to 11:59 PM EST

8. Once the voting period concludes, results shall be counted, validated, and officially declared by the Chief Election Commissioner.
9. Individuals currently serving as Board or Executive members of political parties or their affiliated organizations, or an official representative of the government of Nepal or Canada, shall be ineligible to run for any NRN Canada position unless they officially resign and publicly disassociate themselves from those roles prior to nomination. A signed resignation and approval letter must be submitted with the nomination.
10. A candidate is strictly prohibited from forming or promoting a panel or team during the announcement or promotion of their candidacy. All candidates must present themselves as independent individuals and refrain from campaigning publicly under a shared platform or group.
11. No candidate shall use hate speech, misinformation, personal attacks, or defamatory language during their campaign. Violation may lead to immediate disqualification.
12. Campaigning using official NRN Canada platforms or resources is prohibited. Personal resources must be used without misrepresenting NRN Canada's official channels.
13. Election disputes, complaints, or violations must be submitted in writing to the Commission within 24 hours of the occurrence. The Commission will aim to resolve disputes within 48 hours of receiving them.
14. The Commission reserves the right to disqualify candidates who violate any rules set forth in this guideline or the NRNA Canada bylaws.

### **Part III: Executive Committee**

The tenure for both the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee is two years. Positions open for election include:

1. President – National electorate
2. Senior Vice President – National electorate
3. Vice President (Federal Govt. Liaison, International Relations, and Trade) – Ottawa (Candidate must reside in the Ottawa region)
4. Vice President (Women) – National electorate
5. Central Vice President – Central region (candidates must reside outside the Ottawa region)
6. Atlantic Vice President – Atlantic region
7. Western & Northern Vice President – Western region
8. General Secretary – National electorate
9. Secretary – National electorate

10. Treasurer – National electorate
11. Joint Treasurer – National electorate
12. Spokesperson – Appointed by the President
13. Youth Coordinator (Women) – National electorate
14. Youth Coordinator (Men) – National electorate
15. Board of Directors – Elected from their respective electoral regions.

### **Electoral Region Representation**

Any province or territory with at least 50 registered voting members shall receive one seat on the Board of Directors:

<b>Province/Territory</b>	<b>Seats</b>
British Columbia	1
Alberta	1
Saskatchewan	1
Manitoba	1
Ontario	1
Quebec	1
New Brunswick	1
Prince Edward Island	1
Nova Scotia	1
Newfoundland & Labrador	1
Yukon	1
Northwest Territories	1
Nunavut	1

City or area representation will be based on the voting membership numbers threshold as follows.

### **Voting Members (City/Area) Seats Allocated**

100 or more	1 seat
350 or more	2 seats

### **Voting Members (City/Area) Seats Allocated**

750 or more	3 seats (minimum one female)
1200 or more	4 seats (minimum one female)

### **Regions and Vice Presidents:**

Three major regions will elect their respective Vice Presidents.

- a) Atlantic Region: New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.
- b) Central Region: Ontario and Quebec
- c) Western and Northern Region: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon.
- d) Ottawa Region: Candidates and voters are from the Ottawa region

### **Additional Notes:**

1. A maximum of four Board of Directors is allowed per electoral region, excluding candidates running for Executive Committee positions.
2. The definitions of cities, towns, or villages shall follow official municipal boundaries as defined by the Government of Canada. Areas with fewer than 100 voting members may be merged with the nearest locality, based on the Chief Election Commissioner's recommendation.
3. All candidates and voters are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct and ethical behaviour, ensuring mutual respect and non-discrimination throughout the process.
4. The election process shall be inclusive, transparent, and democratic, reflecting the core values and vision of NRN Canada.

Thank You.



**Binay Nepal**  
Barrister and Solicitor  
Chief Election Commissioner  
NRN Canada Election 2025

Dated: 10 July 2025