



Whitecap Dakota Nation Candidates Information Package 2024 Council Election

WDN Election Schedule



**November 29
Election Day**

WDN Members who may be considering serving their Nation by running for and serving on Council can find information in this package about:

- Candidate preparation
- Critical dates for WDN Election
- Candidate Conduct
- Becoming a Council Member
- Responsibilities as a Member of WDN Council

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

In order to run for WDN Council, you must:

- Be 18 years old on Election Day (November 29)
- Must be a Member of Whitecap Dakota Nation
- Must be in good financial standing with WDN as of Nomination Day (November 15)

**Whitecap Dakota Nation's
Formal Campaign period is from
November 15-November 29**

Copies of the WDN Constitution, Governance Code, Finance Code and all relevant documents available at:
whitecapdakota.com/elections2024 or in-person at the WDN Government Office (182 Chief Whitecap Trail)

KEY STEPS IN RUNNING FOR COUNCIL



Prior to November 8 at 11:59 pm

Candidates must complete the following to be considered for WDN Council Election:

- ✓ “Declaration of Intent to Seek Office” (See Appendix C of WDN Election Code). Copies are available at the WDN Government Office, open Monday-Friday 8-4:30 pm
- ✓ Request written confirmation by the WDN Chief Financial Officer that you do not have any money owing to the Nation by contacting Samanta at sbuscariolli@whitecapdakota.com or at 306-477-0908
- ✓ Request a letter confirming WDN Membership from the WDN Membership Clerk by contacting Sheila at scaisse@whitecapdakota.com or at 306-477-0908

Submit the above three items to the Electoral Officer at:

Electoral Officer Contact Information:

loretta@petelambert.ca

Phone: 306-227-3373 / Fax: 1-877-339-7781



Prior to or on Nomination Day - November 15

Candidates must complete the following to be considered for WDN Council Election prior to WDN Council Election:

- ✓ Pay any amount owing to WDN with written confirmation from the Chief Financial Officer.
- ✓ Attend the Nomination Meeting **in-person** on November 15
 - Identify a mover and seconder (both WDN Electors) for your nomination
 - Have a mover provide a nomination speech
 - Accept nomination in acceptance speech
- ✓ Attend the Candidates Forum
 - Immediately following the Nomination Meeting, you will appear before the Electors who will ask you questions during a 10-minute Q&A Period

WDN EMPLOYEES RUNNING FOR COUNCIL

If you are a WDN employee and you decide to run for Council, you will be required to take leave of absence effective at 4:30 on November 15 (Nomination Day). Candidates will need to have their leave of absence approved. Election leaves of absence are paid, as per the Election Code. If you are elected, you will be deemed to resign your employment effective Election Day. If you are not elected, your leave shall cease and be expected to return to your position.

CANDIDATE CONDUCT

Candidate's Code of Conduct & Responsibilities

Candidates must conduct themselves in a manner that is responsible and is guided by Dakota Values, including those listed below and as set out in the Governance Code.

Waóhoda/Oho'da – Respect

Wóksape – Wisdom

Wówaditika – Bravery

Wówicake/Wòowotaŋna – Honesty

Wóohitika – Courage

Wówaciŋtaŋka – Patience

Wóokiya – Helpful

Tehiŋda – Cherish, Value, Love

Wòwachaŋtohnake/Ohaŋwašte – Generosity

Wówaciŋya – Dependable

Wóbdiheiç'iyá – Positiveness

Wòwauŋsida – Compassion

Wowahbadaŋ – Humility

Wòwaštedaka – Love

Wòwakišake – Endurance/Strength

Wòyuonihaŋ – Honor

During the Election Period, each Candidate must:

- Respect and promote the spirit and intent of the Constitution and WDN Laws
- Uphold and maintain the integrity, honour and dignity of WDN
- Respect and follow all WDN Laws
- Promote and protect the fundamental rights of WDN including the inherent and aboriginal rights
- Treat the other Candidates with respect and in accordance with Dakota Values
- Campaign in accordance with the principles of honesty, trustworthiness, selflessness, prudence, care, efficiency and fairness
- If already on Council, must not use the authorities of their office such as the ability to provide employment or housing within WDN, either current or future should they be elected, in exchange for promise that an Elector vote for them
- Not engage in any illegal, criminal, or Corrupt Practices

Permitted Practices during the Formal Campaign and Election Period

- You may provide transportation to Electors to polling stations on Election Day, as long as the transportation is not provided in exchange for a promise that the Elector must vote for a specific Candidate
- You may provide food and refreshments to Electors who support and/or volunteer for a Candidate during the Election Period, as long as the food and refreshments are not provided in exchange for a promise that the Elector must vote for a specific Candidate

ELECTED OFFICIALS RESPONSIBILITIES

WDN's Constitution, Governance Code and Finance Code identify a number of responsibilities and duties of Council. Most importantly, Council will respect the privacy of WDN Members and ensure compliance with WDN Law and applicable provincial or federal jurisdiction. Council will also be responsible for important decisions that benefit the WDN and Members of the Nation.

Council will be responsible for important decisions that will benefit the WDN and Members including, but not limited to:

- Hire and set employment terms for senior executive staff
- Establish a Governance Committee & a Council Compensation Committee
- Participate in Council Meetings regularly
- Call Membership Meetings in compliance with the Governance Code
- Work with Members' Advisory Committees
- Represent WDN in meetings with other governments and Indigenous organizations
- Preserve and protect WDN assets and ensure prudent financial management and administration of WDN funds
- Appoint an Auditor and review the Auditor's report and audited financial statement of WDN
- Ensure WDN Law is enacted in accordance with the Constitution and WDN Governance Code
- Jointly with Chief and Council, discipline Council members who violate their Oath of Office
- A report will be prepared each year summarizing Council members' compensation

COUNCIL BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION

If you are elected to Council, your salary will be determined by WDN's Council Compensation Commission, using WDNs existing salary grid for WDN Council:

- Benefits also include pension benefits and a comprehensive health plan
- Council Members will be eligible for vacation days as per the WDN Personnel Policy