

RULES FOR THE 2025 CANADIAN ELECTION TO THE 39th WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS

As Adopted by the Canadian Area Election Committee (AEC) as of March 25th, 2025

ELIGIBILITY TO REGISTER TO VOTE

- 1) Any Jewish person, who is or shall be at least eighteen years of age on June 1, 2025, is a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident in Canada, who maintains their primary residence in Canada, who did not vote in the November 2022 Knesset election, and will not vote in any future Knesset election which may be held prior to July 28, 2025, is eligible to vote in the Canadian Zionist election for delegates to the 39th World Zionist Congress, which is scheduled to convene in Israel in October 2025.
- 2) Personal registration is required for all voters. Registration will be available on the internet. The registration form shall require the following information: full name [first name, last name and middle initial (optional)], Canadian street address, apartment number (if any), city, province, postal code, email address (if available), preferred telephone number (mobile or home phone), and a statement, affirming that the registrant:
 - a) is **Jewish** and does not subscribe to another religion.
 - b) will be at least 18 years of age by June 1, 2025
 - c) accepts the Jerusalem Program (to be shown on website for voting)
 - d) is a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident in Canada
 - e) maintains their primary residence in Canada
 - g) did not vote in the November 2022 Knesset election and will not vote in any future Knesset election which may be held prior to July 28, 2025.
 - h) this is the first and only time the registrant has registered for the 2025 election to the 39th World Zionist Congress.
- 3) Votes can only be cast electronically. All registrations and ballots must be individual. Each voter shall personally certify and attest that the voter meets the requirements to vote.
- 4) Electors will cast a **single vote** for a slate of their choice
- 5) Electors may only vote once.

I. REGISTRATION

- 1) The Central Registry of Voters shall be established by the Canadian Zionist

Federation and shall be considered a registry of the Canadian Zionist Federation, as defined by the WZO Constitution, and as referred to in the WZO Rules for the Election of Delegates.

- 2) To be considered an eligible voter, all required information must be provided. If any information is found to be invalid, the registrant's vote will be voided
- 3) Registrants must provide a legal, residential address in Canada or its territories. A post office box will be accepted as the mailing address if a physical home street address is also provided. CFPO and other Military Mail addresses can be used.
- 4) Registration will be \$2.00 per individual, paid by personal credit card, excluding prepaid or business cards; 3 people from the same family may use the same payment card and up to 5 members of the same household may register.
 - a. The \$2 fee to register covers the administrative costs of the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF) to run the election and payment of the Zionist Shekel for 2025. This payment also permits the individual to join the movement
- 5) Registration forms, voter information and instructions will be available in English and French. The slate names will appear on the voting ballot in English for all voters.
 - a Any member organization wishing to have any other languages on the registration portion, the cost, including independent 3rd party review, cost from Votem and any additional cost will be covered by the requesting member organization.
- 6) Beginning June 5th, 2025, qualified registrants who register online will have the option of voting immediately upon registering.
- 7) Each qualified registrant will be assigned a unique "ID" number to be used in the voting process.
- 8) An individual voter with a complaint about registration will be afforded a process to submit the complaint to the election company. If the election company is unable to resolve the issue within 3 days of being notified of the problem the complaint will be presented in a timely manner to the Chair of the Area Election Committee (AEC).
- 9) An organization with a complaint about the registration process or electioneering practices shall present the complaint to the Chair of the AEC.

- 10) Upon receiving a complaint, the Chair of the AEC will resolve the issue in a timely manner; or present the complaint to the AEC; or to the Tribunal elected by the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF); or refer it to the appropriate WZO institution.

II. QUALIFICATION OF ELECTION SLATES

- 1) Voters shall cast ballots for slates and not for individual candidates.
- 2) The maximum number of delegates to be elected in Canada is 19. In addition, 38 alternates (two per delegate) can participate in the Congress. Each slate can include a maximum of 57 names, representing the total number of delegates and alternates from the Canadian delegation. Delegates and alternates are determined by position on the slate. A resignation is required to eliminate a candidate before proceeding to the next person on the list. The listed order of candidates shall comply with the requirements below.
 - A. A minimum of 25% of all slate representatives must be comprised of those who fall between the ages 18-35, as of June 1, 2025 (“young generation”), to be listed on the slate at a minimum of every fourth person.
 - B. The slate must be comprised of 40% female candidates to be accomplished by including at least two women amongst the first five names and at least two women amongst the next five names in the first ten names on each slate and continuing that pattern with each subsequent group of ten names Each female delegate may also serve as the young generation representative, if she is between the ages of 18-35, as of June 1, 2025.
 - C. If a delegate resigns the spot must be filled with same demographic. If the delegate was a female the spot must be filled with female, if delegate was part of “young generation” then must be filled with “young generation”.
 - D. Nothing precludes replacing a male over 35 with a female or person 18-35, However, they must be next person on the list.
 - E. The Chair of the AEC shall set up a committee consisting of 3 people, if needed, to decide allocation of final delegates with regards to young generation and female percentage to Congress.

- F. The Chair of the AEC will ensure all lists follow the rules of distribution of candidates as stated above. Any organization not following the rules will invalidate the whole slate.
- 3) Each participating slate is required to submit the name of its slate; its platform and a list of the sponsoring organizations of the slate; and the list of nominees for delegates and alternates, in the order they would be elected, no later than April 22, 2025. The sponsoring organizations of the slate shall be those organizations that are members in good standing of CZF, having had elected representation in the Canadian delegation to the 38th Congress, or the entity which filed to run a new slate, and they will be listed as the Sponsor(s) of the slate on the official slate platform document to be posted on the CZF election website. Additional Canadian organizations publicly supporting the slate may be listed as Endorsers on that document. An organization may endorse more than one slate. Individual endorser names may not be listed. World Unions within the WZO may be listed as endorsers. The slate must submit to CZF a letter from each endorsing organization confirming their listing. Nothing shall preclude any slate from listing any other supporters on their publicity and campaign material
 - 4) All organizations participating in the elections must be Canadian not for profit organizations incorporated under the laws of Canada or a Canadian province. All organizations must provide proof of not for profit to the Chair of the AEC no later than April 22, 2025. Failure to provide documentation will result in slate not being able to participate in the elections.
 - 5) Slate names shall be in English, up to 80 characters long, and should not create the likelihood of confusion with the name of a current or previously existing entity (e.g., a slate or organization or political party) that is not affiliated with the slate. If the AEC notifies a slate that its slate name creates the possibility of confusion, such slate shall have 15 days to notify the AEC of a new slate name. If the slate fails to timely select a new name, the AEC shall select the slate's new name.
 - 6) All candidates must meet the requirements to vote to appear on a slate. A Letter of Assent (online written acknowledgment that the candidate agrees to be listed on a slate) must be submitted for each nominee to the Chair of the AEC by April 22, 2025. Failure to provide documentation will result in nominee/ candidate not being able to participate on the slate as a delegate in the elections.
 - 7) Slates will be listed on ballot by a method chosen by the AEC.

- 8) Two or more organisations eligible to run a slate, may run on a joint slate.
- 9) New organisations must apply for membership by **December 31, 2024**. Any organisation that did not have mandates in 2020, will require endorsement of their slate by at least 500 eligible voters.

III. QUALIFICATIONS FOR CANDIDACY

- 1) Candidates for election as delegates or alternates to the World Zionist Congress must meet the requirements to vote and must meet the WZO requirements for election, including having made contributions in 2024 or 2025 to both the Zionist National Funds, namely:
 - a) the Jewish National Fund/KKL and b) UIA Canada, a local Jewish Federation or the Jewish Federation of Canada or to the Jewish Agency.
1. Lists shall submit candidates' names, Candidates address in Canada, assert that this is their primary address, candidates' assent to serve as a delegate, and candidates' Letters of Assent as affirmation and receipt of contributions (until such time when required to submit proofs of contributions) no later than April 22, 2025.
2. In addition, candidates will be required to indicate their gender and whether they will be age 35 or younger by June 1, 2025.
3. Delegates and alternates must submit proof that they are a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident in Canada. Failure to provide documentation after elected will result in nominee/ candidate not being able to participate on the slate as a delegate in the elections.

IV. THE CASTING AND COUNTING OF BALLOTS

- 1) The complete list of eligible slates and platforms and the names of people running on each slate, in the order they will be elected, shall appear on a publicly accessible website.
- 2) The election shall be organized such that upon online registration during the standard voting period, the voter may cast his/her vote upon the registration being accepted. If any problem with the registration is found, the vote may be voided, as per section II.2

- 3) An impartial elections agency shall be selected to maintain a secure internet site for the purpose of casting ballots online, to maintain the secure registry of voters, and to tabulate and compile the election results.
 - a) All data 90 days after of election will be deleted from election server.
- 4) Voting starts: June 5th, 2025 – 12:01am Newfoundland Time
Voting ends: June 15th 2025 – 11:59pm Pacific Time
- 5) The election shall be designed so that:
 - a) only registrations conforming to the registration rules are processed as valid; and,
 - b) with respect to online registrations, a voter may register and, upon its successful completion, cast his or her vote if voting is open.
- 6) A voided payment will invalidate the registration and their vote.
- 7) Individuals who do not vote immediately upon registration will be required to verify their identity as the registrant before casting a vote.
- 8) The total number of valid votes cast for all nomination lists in the electoral area shall be divided by the number of delegates to be elected and the resulting figure shall be the “election quotient.”
- 9) The number of votes cast for each slate shall be divided by the election quotient and the result, disregarding fractions, shall be the number of delegate seats (“seats”) received by the list, prior to the distribution of “remaining votes.”
- 10) The number of “remaining votes” shall be calculated in the following manner:

For each slate:

 - a) Multiply the number of seats received by the list by the election quota as defined in Section V9.
 - b) Subtract that number from the total votes received by the slate.
 - c) The resulting figure shall be the “remaining votes.”
 - d) Each Organization’s excess votes from a slate may be transferred to one pre-agreed slate as per prior agreements submitted to the Chair of AEC by June 4th 2025.
- 11) The slates shall be entitled to one additional seat, in the order of the size of the remaining votes, provided there are additional seats to be distributed.

V. CAMPAIGN PRACTICES

- 1) Campaigning will be positive in nature; slates are proscribed from demeaning or denigrating another slate or competing organization by name or inference.
- 2) Commentary regarding positions, platforms, issues, advocacy, statements, voting records, experience, and positions of slate members, and campaign and election practices and/or activities of other slates and/or their world unions, and/or constituent organizations, is permissible, and does not violate Election Rule V-1.
- 3) Violations of this provision shall be referred to the Chair of the AEC who shall make a ruling, which then may be appealed to, the CZF Tribunal for such sanctions as the Tribunal may deem appropriate.
- 4) Slates and their agents are prohibited from paying voters' voting fees, and from paying voters to vote in the election and/or for their slates. This rule prohibits payments in cash, cash equivalents and payments via other means, including but not limited to: gift cards, raffle entries (cash or cash equivalent), merchandise, synagogue dues credits, and event entry fees. However, slates may hold events at which voting is encouraged (without remuneration) but not required. Slates shall inform their agents and candidates, including sponsors and endorsers, of this rule. Financial disclosure of all election funds, expenditures and disbursement must be submitted to the Chair of the AEC by June 20th for review and appropriate action.
- 5) Slates are advised to consult the Chair of the AEC in case of questions regarding these provisions and to submit any alleged violations to the Chair for review and appropriate action.
- 6) Violation of these provisions will result in the disqualification of that vote, forfeiture of the fee, and such additional sanctions on the slate as may be imposed by the AEC and/or Tribunal.
- 7) Violation of this provision may result in disqualification of slate. The Chair of AEC will investigate any improprieties and refer to CZF tribunal for appropriate action.
- 8) If any institution or organization that is part of a slate is suspected of vote tampering or cheating inside the election, the matter will be referred to the tribunal for decision on whether they cheated, if so, the slate will be declared void.

- 9) An investigation will be triggered If a pattern of suspected voter fraud is detected in 3% of individual votes cast.

VI. PUBLICITY

- a. The AEC will ensure widespread communication about the election within the Canadian Jewish community.

VII. ELECTION APPEALS

1. Appeals of AEC decisions may be made to the Tribunal elected by the CZF and then to the Central Election Board or the Zionist Supreme Court in Jerusalem as provided for in the WZO “Rules for Election of Delegates to the Zionist Congress”.