

Qikiqtani Inuit Association
Candidates Manual

Overview

This is an adaptation and summary of key parts from the Qikiqtani Inuit Association Election Regulations approved by the Board of Directors and in force as of March 7, 2024 (RSB-24-03-10). This summary is not authoritative and is for information purposes. Decisions relating the candidacy will be determined by the Chief Returning Officer according to the Election Regulations.

The full regulations are also available at www.qia.ca or from your local Qikiqtani Inuit Association Community Liaison Officer.

Candidate Eligibility

A member of Qikiqtani Inuit Association is eligible to be nominated and stand as a candidate for Community Director if the person:

- Has attained the age of 16 years
- Has for at least twelve consecutive months immediately preceding the day nominations close been a resident of the electoral community
- Is a resident of the electoral community
- Is not disqualified by subsection 2

The same rules apply for candidates for President, but the residency requirement is for the region as the electoral community.

A person is not eligible to be nominated or stand as a candidate if the person:

- Is a judge, territorial judge, youth court judge, or justice of the peace
- Is a member of the Legislative Assembly
- Is an elected member of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
- Is a full time permanent employee of Qikiqtani Inuit Association or its controlled organizations in receipt of a salary
- Is an election officer

- Has been convicted of a corrupt practice under these Regulations within three years immediately preceding election day
- Has been convicted of an offence that could be punishable by imprisonment for five years or more within the three years immediately preceding election day, or whose sentence of imprisonment as a result of any conviction ended within the three years immediately preceding election day
- Is personally indebted to Qikiqtani Inuit Association or its controlled organizations for a sum of $500 for more than 90 days, other than in respect of any monies received from programs offered by Qikiqtani Inuit Association or its controlled organizations of which all Members of Qikiqtani Inuit Association may make application for.

Nomination of Candidates

In order to qualify as a candidate for a Qikiqtani Inuit Association election, a person must submit completed nomination papers to the Chief Returning Officer by 5 p.m. local time, on the Friday four (4) weeks (November 13, 2026) prior to Election Day. Late nomination papers shall not be accepted.

The date for the close of nominations may be extended for one week if the number of candidates nominated for election is less than the number of persons required to be elected. The Chief Returning Officer shall give notice of the extension.

The Chief Returning Officer shall make nomination papers available beginning five (5) weeks (November 9, 2026) prior to Election Day.

The nomination papers must disclose the name and address of the candidate; be signed by the person who wishes to become a candidate and by at least 3 eligible voters; and if required by the Chief Returning Officer, be accompanied by a small recent passport type photo of the potential candidate alone.

If a candidate is an incumbent, they must take a leave of absence without pay for the duration of the election period and submit a prescribed form that is duly signed and approved.

A candidate may withdraw within 72 hours of the close of nominations (November 16, 2026, 5 p.m. local time) by filing a written declaration with the Chief Returning Officer.

No person may be nominated to more than one position at any given QIA election.

Where the Chief Returning Officer believes on a reasonable grounds that a person nominated as a candidate is not eligible to be a candidate, the Chief Returning Officer may, by written notice, specify the grounds for being ineligible and require the person to comply with the regulations or rescind the nomination.

Immediately, after the close of nominations, the Chief Returning Officer shall give public notice of the list of nominated candidates for Community Director by each electoral community and the list of nominated candidates for each Officer to be elected at large within the region.

Any eligible voter who believes that a candidate is not eligible to be a candidate may, writing within 72 hours after the publication of the names of the candidates, advise the Chief Returning Officer in writing of the grounds for which the candidate is not eligible.

The Chief Returning Officer, in turn, must provide a written notice to the candidate and have the candidate make a declaration of their eligibility in the form that the Chief Returning Officer requires. The declaration by the candidate must be filed with 48 hours of the written notice.

The Chief Returning Officer will make a determination of candidate eligibility. Where the Chief Returning Officer rejects the nomination for not being eligible, they must inform the candidate immediately in writing.

Voting Day

No candidate shall, nor shall they authorize their campaign workers, to engage in any campaigning activities on Voting Day (December 14, 2026). No campaigning materials are allowed in the polling stations on Advance Polls or Voting Day.

Candidates are allowed to be at the polling station during the conduct of the election and can also appoint an Agent as their representative to be present in the polling station – see Candidate Agent form. The Agents are also allowed to be present while the votes are being counted on condition that the Candidates Agent form has been duly filled out and signed and provided to the Deputy Returning Officer at the polling station.

On Advance Polls or Voting Day, conversations are not permitting at the polling station and should occur outside of the polling station.