

FAQ for MNBC Citizens Running for the MNBC Board of Directors

Note: All members of the Board of Directors are legally considered “Directors” under the Societies Act, regardless of the title of position they are elected to.

What positions are there on the Board?

The President, Vice-President, Métis Women BC (MWBC) Chairperson, and Métis Youth BC (MYBC) Chairperson are elected in province-wide elections every four years. Regional Directors are elected every four years by Citizens from the region they wish to represent.

After the election, the Board members meet to appoint a Secretary and a Treasurer from among them. The President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer constitute the MNBC Executive

What is the role of the MNBC Board of Directors?

The MNBC Board of Directors:

- Derives its authority from the MNBC [Constitution](#) and [Legislative Acts of MNBC](#)
- Governs the Nation by setting direction and policy, providing leadership, and advocating on behalf of all Métis Citizens;
- Represents MNBC Citizens and asserts inherent Métis rights to other governments
- Governs as a collective, with each Board Member having one vote;
- Speaks with one voice: even if a Director votes against a Board decision, they should be supportive of that decision in public;
- Hires the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and provides annual reviews.
- Acknowledges that its role is a governance role. The CEO is responsible for carrying out operational and administrative matters, and implementing the direction from the Board, as well as the Strategic Plan

What are the responsibilities of Directors?

A Director (includes members of the Executive) must:

- Fulfill the responsibilities of a Ministerial Portfolio and Board Committee Member.
- Adhere to the *Code of Conduct* established by the MNBC.
- Provide notification in advance if unable to attend a Board or Committee Meeting.
- Review all minutes, reports, and prepared meeting materials that are provided in advance of meetings to fully inform themselves, identify errors, omissions, and actions that require follow-up.
- Prepare written reports, Motions, policies, etc., when required.

What is the difference between the Director Role and the Minister Role?

In addition to their roles and responsibilities as Directors, each Board Member has the following roles and responsibilities for the Ministries they are assigned:

- Serves as the Board’s representative for the respective Ministry.
- Serves, in conjunction with the MNBC President, as spokesperson on topics relevant to the Ministry, as delegated by the Board of Directors.
- Communicate as needed with the CEO and Senior Director of the respective Ministry on matters relevant to the Ministry.

- Communicate Ministry updates to the Board.
- Present proposals and topics of conversation relevant to the respective Ministry to the Board.
- Ensure the actions of the Ministry adhere to, and continuously seek to fulfill, the strategic direction of MNBC.

What is the time commitment?

Being a Director, regardless of position, is effectively a full-time job. Many directors have found it difficult to maintain other jobs while sitting on the Board. Board meetings occur at least monthly, either in person or electronically. Board members are assigned to one or more Ministries and Board Committees .

Additionally, Board members represent MNBC Citizens regionally, provincially, across Canada, and internationally. There is typically a large amount of travel required for Board positions.

Board-Specific Duties:

- **Role as Minister:** Dependent on activities within Ministries, can require daily involvement in providing feedback and advice to the relevant Senior Director.
- **Board Meetings:** At least monthly Board meetings, either in person or virtual. Meetings can last from 4-8 hours, and require preparation time. Preparation time can vary, and can be substantial depending on the topics on the agenda for the meeting.
- **Committee Meetings:** Members are appointed to [Board Committees](#), each of which meet periodically. Meetings are generally about 2 to 3 hours long, and also require preparation time.
- **Board Technical Briefings:** are held a few days prior to a Board Meeting, as a preview of what is going to be considered at the Board Meeting. Technical Briefings are an opportunity for members to ask detailed questions of staff in a more informal forum than a Board Meeting. Technical Briefings are usually scheduled for two hours, a few days before the Board Meeting.
- **Executive Meetings:** the four members of the Executive (President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) meet weekly. The length of Executive Meetings can vary, but typically run for two to three hours.
- Attendance at the MNBC Annual General Meeting (AGM), and three Métis Nation Governing Assembly (MNGA) meetings per year, as voting members.
- **Regional Governance Council (RGC) meetings** are held quarterly and are chaired by the Regional Director.
- **Regional Directors** are usually invited to Community Annual General Meetings and are invited to Community Annual General Meetings (AGM)

Director Remuneration

The following gross annual salaries were effective October 1, 2022:

President	\$150,000
Vice-President	\$105,000
Secretary Treasurer	\$75,000
Regional Directors, MWBC and MYBC Chairpersons	\$65,000

Travel expenses for Board business are covered by MNBC. Reimbursement rates for mileage, per diems, and incidentals adhere to [National Joint Council \(NJC\) rates](#) and are periodically reviewed. Board members receive extended health benefits, group insurance, and a pension allowance.

What are the desirable attributes of Board Members?

Candidates for the Board of Directors should possess the following attributes:

- A commitment to the mission of the MNBC.
- Capacity and willingness to serve as an advocate for Citizens and inherent Métis rights.
- A commitment to work as a team with fellow Board Members.
- A commitment to attend and participate fully in Board Meetings, MNGAs, and Annual General Meetings.
- As a Regional Director, commit to attending and chairing Regional Governance Council meetings.
- Review agendas and supporting documents before the meeting occurs. Agendas, particularly for Board Meetings, can be substantial and require some time to review.
- A willingness to serve on one or more Board Committees and attend Committee Meetings.
- A commitment to attend Board Orientation, Strategic Planning and other workshops/training programs necessary for Board development, as determined by the Board.
- Capability and willingness to excel at assigned portfolios, and
- Execute their responsibilities to a high ethical standard and in the best interests of the Nation, including a fiduciary duty.
- Candidates for the Board of Directors should have knowledge and skills, or a willingness to learn, in areas of Board governance, policy, finance, programs, human resources, public relations, and digital literacy and competency.

Where can I get more information about the different positions, roles, and responsibilities?

Candidates for election are encouraged to review the following documents and websites prior to registering as a Candidate:

All Candidates

[MNBC Website - Leadership Board Policy Manual](#)

[MNBC Constitution](#)

[MNBC Strategic Plan](#)

Métis Women

[MNBC Website - MWBC](#)
[MNBC Website: Ministry of Women and Gender Equity](#)
[Women's Act](#)
[Guide to Good Governance](#)
[MWBC Policy Manual](#)
[MWBC Strategic Plan](#)

Métis Youth

[MNBC Website - MYBC Youth Act](#)

[MNBC Website – Ministry of Youth](#)