

---

## 2SLGBTQQIA+ PROVINCIAL GOVERNANCE COUNCIL - FAQ

---

At MNBC's 2024 AGM, a resolution to create an elected 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council was passed. This historic decision makes MNBC the first Metis to have a democratically elected representative body of 2SLGBTQQIA+ people. There have been a number of questions around eligibility for voting and candidacy and this FAQ provides some of the answers. If anything is unclear, please contact the Chief Electoral Officer.

**FAQ 1:** What does it mean to self-identify as 2SLGBTQQIA+?

**Answer 1:** 2SLGBTQQIA+ means:

- 2S = Two Spirit: A contemporary umbrella term that can refer to a combination of multiple LGBTQQIA+ identities and/or experiences of gender and sexuality unique to Indigenous peoples, often with spiritual elements.
- L = Lesbian: refers to women who are attracted to women.
- G = Gay: refers to men who are attracted to men
- B = Bisexual: refers to individuals who are attracted to their gender and others.
- T = Trans: refers to a person whose gender differs from their assigned/assumed gender or sex at birth
- Q = Queer: an umbrella term used to encompass diverse 2SLGBTQQIA+ identities.
- Q = Questioning: refers to a person who has not yet found the words to describe their experience of gender and/or sexuality.
- I = Intersex: refers to a person who was born with anatomy or chromosomes that do not fit the traditional binary of male or female.
- A = Agender/Asexual: refers to a person who does not experience gender, or sexual attraction to any group of people.
- + refers to diverse identities not captured in the acronym. This might include nonbinary, genderfluid, pansexual, demisexual, and others.

A person is not 2SLGBTQQIA+ if they are **cisgender** (their internal sense of gender corresponds to the sex they were identified as having at birth) **and heterosexual** (they are sexually or romantically attracted exclusively to people of the other sex).

“Sex” refers to anatomical sex, based on physical or biological attributes, including some combination of genitalia, chromosomes, hormones, and physical appearance. Sex at birth (male/female) is assigned based on genitalia.

“Gender” refers to a person's concept of self, often influenced by social, cultural, and personal experiences. The two ends of the gender spectrum are usually “masculine” and “feminine”.

**FAQ 2:** Who can run for a position on the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council?

**Answer 2:** MNBC Citizens who self-identify on their candidate documents as 2SLGBTQQIA+ may run for a position on the Council.

**FAQ 3:** Who can nominate a candidate for a position on the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council?

**Answer 3:** MNBC Citizens who meet the requirements in the nomination requirements table on page #, and who self-identify on the nomination documents as 2SLGBTQQIA+ may nominate a Candidate for the Council.

**FAQ 4:** Who will receive a ballot for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ positions?

**Answer 4:** Ballots for the provincial chairperson for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council will be sent to/available online for all MNBC citizens over the age of 18, in addition to the ballot for the representative for their region. (Art 6). The intent of this provision is to preserve the privacy and safety of 2SLGBTQQIA+ voters, recognizing that requiring a database of 2SLGBTQQIA+ people would create a disproportionate risk for 2SLGBTQQIA+ citizens and further marginalize some of the most vulnerable members of our nation.

**FAQ 5:** Who can vote for candidates for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Provincial Governance Council?

**Answer 5:** MNBC Citizens who are 18 years of age and older and self-identify as 2SLGBTQQIA+ can vote for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ Council. Voters are required to declare they are eligible to cast a ballot for the positions for which they have submitted a ballot.

**FAQ 6:** Will self-identification information be stored by MNBC or by OneFeather?

**Answer 6:** Self-identification information will **not** be stored in any way. This is to preserve the privacy and safety of 2SLGBTQQIA+ voters, recognizing that requiring a database with this information would create a disproportionate risk for 2SLGBTQQIA+ Citizens. Ballots will be separated from other identifying information prior to counting; the electronic system will record that a Citizen has voted, but not how they have voted.

**FAQ 7:** How can someone who is not 2SLGBTQQIA+ be prevented from running or voting for the 2SLGBTQQIA+ positions?

**Answer 7:** This system relies upon the integrity of our Citizens to represent themselves with authenticity. Please support the right of 2SLGBTQQIA+ MNBC Citizens to have a democratically elected voice in the nation and run for a position or cast a ballot only if you identify as 2SLGBTQQIA+.