ELECTION RULES, REGULATIONS, AND PROCEDURES

Student Nominee to the Board of Governors of York University

NOTE: These "Election Rules, Regulations and Procedures" are in effect for the 2026 election of the Undergraduate Student Nominee to the Board of Governors of York University.

The governing regulations for this election are: "Policy and Procedures: Composition, Criteria, and Responsibilities of Student Nominees to the York University Board of Governors";
http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/board-of-governors/nominations-to-the-board-of-governors/

Appointment of CRO:

The Chief Returning Officer (CRO) is appointed by the Student Senator Caucus (SSC). For this election, Vincent Vuong has been appointed CRO.

The CRO has the full authority to administer elections, and shall follow and apply the rules, regulations and procedures of "Policy and Procedures: Composition, Criteria, and Responsibilities of Student Nominees to the York University Board of Governors"; in addition to, Presidential Regulations on Student Governments and Organizations and to apply any subsidiary rules, regulations and procedures that may arise out of the York Senate and York Board of Governors.

The CRO will:

- set all election dates,
- notify the community of upcoming elections, produce and make available nomination packages and any subsidiary regulations to potential candidates,
- receive and verify completed nomination packages,
- notify candidates of their status,
- together with the University Secretary and/or Board members, meet with candidates to explain rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to the election,
- make ready the eVote system,
- receive and adjudicate all complaints and may refer serious complaints or complaints that represent a conflict of interest for the CRO, to the Student Senate Caucus.

- advertise information about voting processes and candidates to the community,
- receive election results from the eVote system and make these results known to the community through a variety of means at the appropriate time,
- prepare an Election Report
- submit the Election Report to the Chair of the Student Senator Caucus and the University Secretary, which will include election results, a summary of any major issues and complaints that arose during the election period, voting statistics and any recommendations for future changes to the process.

The CRO may make interim decisions, rulings or orders deemed appropriate, reasonable, equitable, fair and just.

The CRO shall act in an impartial manner and shall not vote in this election.

The CRO will investigate appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities.

The CRO shall inform candidates of their rights and responsibilities.

Appointment of Deputy Returning Officers (DROs):

- DROs are appointed by the CRO and hold office at the pleasure of the CRO.

- DROs shall act in an impartial manner. DROs are entitled to vote in elections for which they are eligible.

- DROs shall hold the authority of a CRO and shall assist the CRO as directed by the CRO.

Role of University Secretary

The University Secretary or delegate will monitor the process on behalf of the Board of Governors. The CRO and/or DROs will update the University Secretary regularly during the course of the election and may seek the Secretary's advice with respect to any issues arising during the process.

Qualification of Electors:

Every student is qualified to vote in an election, if on the voting dates of those elections the student is a registered student of York University.

Qualification of Candidates:

Every undergraduate student is qualified to be a candidate in this election so long as they are a full-time York University Student, are eligible to maintain full-time status for the duration of their tenure as defined by the program in which they are currently registered and confirm their intention to remain a full-time undergraduate student for the duration of their term as a governor, if appointed.

A student cannot be a member of the Executive Council of the York Federation of Students, Graduate Students Association or Glendon College Student Union during their projected term on the York University Board of Governors due to the conflict of interest that is inherent in serving on these two bodies simultaneously. In addition, a candidate who is or becomes a member of a certified trade union or employee association representing York employees is not eligible to serve as a governor while they are actively serving as an officer or other official of their union or employee association.

No student who has been retained as an auxiliary staff member by the CRO may be a candidate.

No student may be nominated for more than one (1) position in a constituency for which they are a member.

A student who has been nominated, and who wishes to withdraw from being a candidate, shall withdraw by written submission to the CRO no later than three school days before the start of voting.

Elected Positions:

The Board of Governors appoints its members. The Student Senator Caucus is responsible for nominating those members, and in practice has done so through an election. Following the election results, SSC will confirm the results and recommend to the Board that the candidate with the highest vote total be appointed to the Board.

For the “Student Nominee to the Board of Governors of York University” the position to be elected is determined by the By-Laws of the Board of Governors of York University:

Article VII The Board of Governors

(1) *Composition of the Board*

(ii) Two students of York University shall be appointed or elected by the Student Senator Caucus to be members of the Board, and members of the Student Senator Caucus shall not be disqualified from being so appointed or elected. One such member shall hold office initially for one year and the other for two years and thereafter one member shall be appointed or elected each year by the Student Senator Caucus to serve as an internal member for a term of two years from the date of such election or appointment.

For further information please consult the following web sites:

By-Laws: http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/board-of-governors/

Conflict of Interest:
http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/conflicts-of-interest-for-members-of-the-board-of-governors-policy/

Election Dates:

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: THE NOMINATION PERIOD FOR 2026 WILL RUN FROM FEBRUARY 23, 2026 9:00 AM UNTIL MARCH 6, 2026 AT 9:00 AM.

Advertising Period:

The CRO shall advertise the start of the nomination period. Such advertising will typically include:

- Dates of the elections
- Dates of the nomination period
- Dates of the campaign period
- Dates of the voting period
- The position(s) to be contested
- The location(s) where nomination forms/packages can be obtained
- The location(s) where the rules, regulations and procedures for elections can be obtained
- The means of voting and any special arrangements for voting

Nominations:

For a general election there shall be a nomination period of not less than seven calendar days (of which 5 shall be regular school days) and no more than fourteen consecutive calendar days.

During the nomination period the CRO shall ensure that nomination forms and nomination packages are prepared and easily available during the University's normal business hours and online through the University Secretariat web site.

The Nomination Form shall require:

- The name of the nominee, her/his student number, and signature
- The names, signatures and student numbers of the nominators (the number of nominators being determined by the rules set out in the constitution of each funded student government)
- Candidate Declaration of Interest in Serving on Board of Governors
- Signed Acknowledgement and Confirmation of the Standards of Conduct Required to Serve on the Board of Governors

The CRO will require candidates to complete a Candidate Declaration Form during the nominated candidates meeting. This form shall include the candidates contact information and shall be kept confidential by the CRO.

Properly completed nomination forms shall be submitted to the CRO. Candidates are strongly encouraged to submit extra signatures with their form and try to submit the form at least the day before the close of nominations. **No late or incomplete forms will be accepted.**

The name of the nominee shall reflect one or more of the following:

- Name of student as recorded on the Student Information System (SIS)
- Common abbreviations of given names or names that the individual is typically addressed by (e.g., Bobby for Robert, or Sue for Susan; or a nickname by which they are publicly known)

The names of the nominees will not be released by the CRO or any other election official until the close of nominations. The list of nominees will be posted on the University Secretariat web site and advertised to the community campus media.

Following the close of nominations the list of nominated candidates shall be posted within 48 hours on the University Secretariat web site.

Campaign Period:

For elections to the Board of Governors, the campaign period shall not be less than seven (7) calendar days and typically not more than fourteen (14) consecutive days of which at least five (5) shall be regular school days.

Campaigning:

The Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities (the "Code") affirms that "York University is a place of research, teaching and learning where people value civility, diversity, equity, honesty and respect in their direct and indirect interactions with one another." It articulates students' right to participate in activities for students at the University, without harassment, intimidation, discrimination, disruption or acts of violence. Student behaviour during election campaigns is governed by the Code. Complaints alleging a student's behaviour in an election campaign has breached the community standards will be dealt with in accordance with the complaints procedures of the Code.

a. Poster and Banner Hanging Regulations

The University's Policy on Posters and associated Procedures governing the posting of advertisements, notices, posters, flyers, or other documents on York University premises shall apply to campaigning for the election of student nominees to the Board of Governors.

b. Social Media Regulations

Candidates shall confirm they will engage in civil and respectful use of social media during the campaign, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure their supporters abide by the same standards.

Voting:

Voting will normally be conducted through EVote – York University's Online Voting System. EVote will be jointly administered by the CRO and representatives from Computing and Network Services (CNS).

The E-Ballot will have the position, name of the nominated candidates, and a web site link to information about the candidates (platform statements, Q & A section, and candidate profile). A candidate's position on the ballot shall be chosen by the CRO through a random draw of all candidate's names.

Electors may vote through the EVote system twenty-four hours a day from the time the election begins until it ends.

NB: For more information concerning EVote (security and robustness of the system, etc.) please visit the Elections York web site at: www.yorku.ca/electionsyork and click on “About EVote”

Voting Days:

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: VOTING BEGINS ON MARCH 24 AT 9:00 AM AND ENDS ON MARCH 30 AT 5:00 PM, FOR 2026.

Results:

Following the election results, SSC will confirm the results and affirm that the election process was conducted in a fair manner consistent with these rules and regulations. On that basis, the SSC will recommend to the Board that the candidate with the highest vote total be appointed to the Board. The final decision on acclamations rests with the Student Senator Caucus and the Board of Governors. The CRO can only recommend acceptance of a candidate.

Complaints and Objections:

If a student or candidate has an objection to the election process or EVote process they shall place their objection in writing and forward it to the CRO. In serious cases, the CRO may refer the matter to the Student Senate Caucus.

Complaints and objections must be submitted within three business days of the close of elections.

A candidate may appeal a decision by the CRO to the Student Senate Caucus. The SSC will first decide whether to hear the appeal, and if yes, then decide on the merit of the appeal. The SSC shall then inform the CRO and the candidate of its decision.

Election Results:

The EVote system is jointly administered by CNS and the CRO. The responsible person from CNS will do an electronic audit of the voting system, tally the results and forward all results simultaneously to the CRO on the same business day that voting closes.

The CRO shall make ready an Election Report and send it to the University Secretary within three business days of the close of the election. All electronic voting information will be kept on file by CNS for one year following the election. The CRO will retain the voter tally information from CNS.

Election Expenses:

Every candidate shall maintain an accurate, precise and complete record of

- All benefits or funds given to that candidate for the conduct of their election candidacy
- The source of all benefits or funds
- The application of such benefits and funds in the conduct of that candidate's election
- The maximum amount of funds that any candidate may individually spend running for this election is $400.00 Canadian.

If there is a dispute regarding the true valuation of goods or services provided to the candidate, the CRO shall randomly choose three similar providers and ask for exacting quotes for those goods or services.

Additional Rules:

The CRO may establish additional rules and regulations on the advice of the Student Senator Caucus.