



CHAMPAGNE AND AISHIHIK FIRST NATIONS

October 23, 2026

Questions and Answers on the CAFN General Election

When does the current CAFN Council's term end?

CAFN's Constitution (s. 43) only says that, "the Chief and all Councillors shall be elected for a term not exceeding four years." This leaves the exact end of the term open to interpretation but the current members of Council recognize that their term is at its end. None of the members of Council want to overhold their term in office - they are all ready to get back to their regular lives and jobs. That said – current members of Chief and Council cannot abandon the daily functioning of government until a new Chief and Council has been elected.

Current members of CAFN's Council are getting legal advice and seeking wisdom from the Elders Senate on the issues. In the meantime, CAFN's Chief and Council are acting as caretakers holding things together until they can pass their duties to a new Council.

What is the new CAFN election date?

The Election Board is independent of Council and is responsible for the election. The members of the Election Board resigned and a new Election Board (including pre-appointed alternates) is working through the issues. Council is waiting for direction on next steps from the Election Board and is anxious that the election be scheduled asap. CAFN is providing support to the Election Board as is appropriate under the Election Regulations.

When will CAFN Citizens know about the new election date?

Council will work with the Election Board to notify Citizens as soon as possible.

**What happens during the caretaker period when an election is underway?
(CAFN is in a caretaker period now)**

During the caretaker period, routine and necessary business can continue, such as: Responding to urgent issues that affect the community. Delivering programs and services. Processing payments, invoices, and payroll. Staffing vacant positions in administration. Taking actions that can easily be reversed without significant cost or disruption. Making routine administrative decisions. Implementing budgets and workplans as approved at the beginning of the fiscal year (April 1, 2026).

Is CAFN getting legal advice?

Yes. This is a new situation for CAFN. We are seeking legal advice on a regular basis to ensure we are following a sound path in this new and complex situation. The Election Board has its own independent legal advisors.

Has the Äshäw (Elder's) Executive been consulted for their guidance?

Yes. The Elder's Executive has provided guidance on an Interim Continuity Plan during the election period.