

# SUMMARY OF MONTANA'S TRIBAL NATIONS' ELECTION SCHEDULES

STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE  
HJ 48 – "STUDY OF MOVING THE DATE OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION"  
PREPARED BY REBECCA C. POWER – NOVEMBER 17, 2025

## INTRODUCTION

At the June 2025 Legislative Council meeting, the council assigned HJ 48: Study of Moving the Date of the Primary Election to the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs (SAVA) Interim Committee. During the September 2025 SAVA meeting, committee members requested information about the Tribal Nations' election schedules and the division of labor for elections between the Tribes and counties in Montana. This summary is intended to provide an introduction to these requests and to complement the stakeholder comments scheduled for the November 17, 2025, SAVA meeting.

Generally, the Tribes run the elections for their governing body and work with the surrounding county or counties to manage all other local, state, and federal elections, including management of satellite election offices. Below is a list of the Tribal Nations' election schedules by reservation, along with links to their governing documents and/or event calendars.

## TRIBAL NATIONS' ELECTION SCHEDULES

### BLACKFEET RESERVATION – BROWNING, MT

#### *Blackfeet Nation*

- Election Schedule: Elections are held in June of every even-numbered year (*the primary is held on the first Tuesday in June and the general is held on the last Tuesday in June*)
- Constitution and By-Laws: <https://www.narf.org/nill/constitutions/blackfeet/bfconstitution.html#elections>
- Blackfeet Tribal Business Council: <https://blackfeetnation.com/government/>

### CROW RESERVATION – CROW AGENCY, MT

#### *Crow Nation*

- Election Schedule: Primary elections are held on the second Saturday in October before the General Election; General elections for Executive Officers are held on the first Saturday in November every fourth year (even years) and legislative general elections are held on the first Saturday in November every two years (odd years)
- Election Ordinance: [http://www.crow-nsn.gov/uploads/1/5/6/0/15609006/title\\_21.pdf-1.pdf](http://www.crow-nsn.gov/uploads/1/5/6/0/15609006/title_21.pdf-1.pdf)
- Crow Nation Tribal Government: <http://www.crow-nsn.gov/crow-tribal-govt.html>

### FLATHEAD RESERVATION – PABLO, MT

#### *Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes*

- Election Schedule: Elections are held every two years on the third Saturday prior to the expiration of the terms of office of the members of the Tribal Council
  - 2025 Primary Election: Saturday, October 11, 2025
  - 2025 General Election: Saturday, December 13, 2025
- CSKT Laws Codified: [file:///C:/Users/cla634/Downloads/CSKT.Laws\\_.Codified.2013\\_updated.pdf](file:///C:/Users/cla634/Downloads/CSKT.Laws_.Codified.2013_updated.pdf)
- 2025 Calendar: <https://cskt.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/FINAL-Schedule-of-Events-2025.pdf>

## FORT BELKNAP RESERVATION – HARLEM, MT

### *Fort Belknap Indian Community*

- Election Schedule: Primary elections are held the first Tuesday in October of the second year and general elections are held the first Tuesday in November of the same year
- Constitution: [https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/d94bfdb9-dd85-49bd-94c2-4822ef04bf3b/downloads/1bvvpitj\\_552731.pdf?ver=1762473279753](https://img1.wsimg.com/blobby/go/d94bfdb9-dd85-49bd-94c2-4822ef04bf3b/downloads/1bvvpitj_552731.pdf?ver=1762473279753)
- Event Calendar: <https://ftbelknap.org/calendars>

## FORT PECK RESERVATION – POPLAR, MT

### *Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes*

- Election Schedule: Elections are held on the last Saturday in October every two years (odd years)
  - 2025 Election: October 25, 2025
- Constitution and By-Laws: [https://fortpecktribes.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/fpt\\_constitution\\_bylaws.pdf](https://fortpecktribes.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/fpt_constitution_bylaws.pdf)
- 2025 Election Announcement: <https://www.facebook.com/FortPeckIndianReservation/posts/fort-peck-tribal-election-list-of-candidates-complete-a-total-of-66-candidates-ha/1354488553351957/>

## LITTLE SHELL CHIPPEWA TRIBE – GREAT FALLS, MT

### *Little Shell Chippewa Tribe*

- Election Schedule: Elections are held every two years on the second Saturday in November
  - 2025 Special Election: Saturday, March 22, 2025
- Little Shell Tribe Organization Code: <https://montanalittleshelltribe.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/LS-Election-Code-as-Amended-8.3.23.pdf>
- Tribal Elections Page: <https://montanalittleshelltribe.org/elementor-4296/>

## NORTHERN CHEYENNE RESERVATION – LAME DEER, MT

### *Northern Cheyenne Tribe*

- Election Schedule: The primary is held on a date set by the Council which is at least 30 days before the general election. The general is held on the date set for regular Congressional elections every four years.
  - 2025 Special Election: Thursday, October 30, 2025
- Election Ordinance: <https://www.cheyennenation.com/nct/legislative/district%20vote/tribalelection.PDF>
- Public Information and Announcements: <https://www.cheyennenation.com/Public%20Information.html>

## ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION – BOX ELDER, MT

### *Chippewa Cree Tribe*

- Election Schedule: The primary election is held in June and the general election is held in November. The specific dates are set by the Election Board.
- Election Ordinance: <https://cctcourt.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/OrdinanceElection-Ordinance.pdf>
- Events Calendar/Public Announcements: <https://www.chippewa-cree.org/blog>