

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### E-VOTING

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#### **What is e-voting?**

Generally speaking electronic voting, or e-voting, refers to both the electronic means of casting a vote and the electronic means of tabulating votes. Although there are several different methods of e-voting, the method the CMA has moved to is Internet based accessible by members via your own computer or mobile device.

#### **What do I need to vote electronically?**

All you need is an email address and access to a computer or mobile device.

#### **How will the E-voting process work?**

Instead of receiving a paper ballot and pages of voting information in the mail, you will now receive this information electronically via your email. As well, a link will be provided taking you to the elections page on [cma.ca](http://cma.ca) where you will be prompted to enter your [cma.ca](http://cma.ca) account log in information. Once logged in, you will have access to the link to the secure voting website where you can cast your vote using your unique PIN.

#### **Why is the Association moving to e-voting?**

E-voting is becoming the method of choice among jurisdictions that employ voting procedures. It has numerous benefits including:

- Increased convenience and flexibility for members
- Improved voter turnout as a result of easier access
- Reduced costs compared to paper ballots
- Eliminates spoiled ballots
- Results are available immediately

#### **How does e-voting protect my privacy and confidentiality?**

The CMA is working with an external election system company called *Everyone Counts Canada* (ECC) that is providing the software application to ensure the CMA's voting process is secure, reliable, accessible, and transparent.

The ballot database is fully encrypted and remains anonymous. Each voting member will be assigned a PIN (personal information number). This PIN is not linked to submitted votes at any time.

**How will I know what my PIN is?**

Your PIN will be sent to you by *Everyone Counts Canada* in the same email that notifies you of the upcoming vote and provides the link to [cma.ca](http://cma.ca) that will have the voting information and the link to the voting website.

**What if I lose my PIN?**

Contact Everyone Counts Canada at: [helpdesk@everyonecounts.com](mailto:helpdesk@everyonecounts.com) or 888-492-4763 (toll free) and after verifying yourself, you will be reissued a new PIN. Verification ensures that no one person can obtain multiple PIN numbers and cast multiple votes.

**Who do I contact if I have trouble logging into the e-voting site?**

Contact Everyone Counts Canada at: [helpdesk@everyonecounts.com](mailto:helpdesk@everyonecounts.com) or 888-492-4763 (toll free) with any log in issue.

The helpdesk is available 7 days a week between the hours of 8:00 am and 8:00 pm (EST).

**Is E-voting completely risk free?**

No. However, it is more secure than paper ballots that leave room for fraud, human error, and lost envelopes going back and forth via Canada Post.

**How do I vote if I don't have access to the internet?**

If you have limited or no access to the Internet, there are some options available. Local libraries have computers that individuals can use to login and vote, or perhaps you could use a friend or relative's computer.

**Do physicians have a choice between electronic voting and paper ballots?**

For the reasons stated above, CMA only offers an electronic voting option.

**Can I modify a vote already cast before the closing of the e-voting session?**

No. As with paper ballots, once a vote has been cast, it will be considered final and cannot be modified.

**How will the results be made available?**

The CMA and the Provincial Territorial Medical Association of the current jurisdiction eligible to vote will provide the results through a variety of communication channels.

**Will e-voting be used for all votes or only those pertaining to elections?**

Currently only the CMA President-Elect Nominee election is completed through e-voting.

**What is the CMA doing to ensure that members have all the directions they need to be able to do e-voting properly?**

Information on how to vote will be provided through the CMA website and emails.

**Can physicians vote using their Smart Phones or Smart Pads?**

Members are able to access the voting site from any web browser or smart device. However, we recommend accessing from a computer simply because of the small screen size and the large amounts of information provided.

**Where does my vote go once I hit “submit?”**

The voting system is housed on the Everyone Counts server. When you make your selection and hit submit, the results will remain encrypted on the Everyone Counts server until the voting session is closed. At this time Everyone Counts will decrypt the data and send the final decrypted results to CMA.

**Who can I contact with general questions regarding e-voting?**

Jacqueline Ethier at [jacqueline.ethier@cma.ca](mailto:jacqueline.ethier@cma.ca); or Melinda Lauzon at [melinda.lauzon@cma.ca](mailto:melinda.lauzon@cma.ca)