

2024 Temple Election for the Hindu Temple Society (HTS), Board of Trustees (BOT) & Board of Governors (BOG), and Hindu Cultural Center (HCC) Board of Directors (BOD)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2024, from 1:00 - 3:00PM

Message #1 from the Nomination & Election Committee (NEC)

Dear Devotees,

I hope all of you had an enjoyable summer this year. As announced by the Board of Trustees, the temple elections will be held this year on November 17th.

Election documents will be available soon on the temple website at www.albanyhindutemple.org.

Please feel free to share this information with other devotees and temple members. It is in the interest of the members to participate in the election process since BOTs and BOGs play a vital role in governing the affairs of the temple and BODs in the governing of HCC. Nominations have been few the last couple of years. We would encourage more members to come forward to support the community by serving in the Temple board. Through this election, temple members will elect BOTs, BOGs, and BODs.

We are pleased to announce the following vacancies.

BOT (Board of Trustees): Seven for a term of Three Years each

BOG (Board of Governors): Four for a term of three years each

BOD (Board of Directors of HCC): Two for a term of three years each

We seek nominations for each of the boards. You can download the nomination form from:

<https://www.hindutemplealbany.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Nomination-form-2024.pdf>

You can email the scanned copy of the completed nomination form with signatures to “THE NEC” at HTSNEC2024@gmail.com. You can also submit your nomination form in the main temple in person to a NEC member on the following dates mentioned below. Please note that nominations dropped in the Hundi will not be accepted. In the event of an election, it is important that you bring a photo ID to enable you to cast your vote. In the absence of a photo ID, the NEC may ask two voters with photo IDs to certify your identity.

Following are the important dates and deadlines:

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| • Date by which Certified Member list is available | 04-Oct-24 |
| Nomination Process¹ | |
| • Nominations will be accepted in person at the DVD desk between 7pm -9pm | 12-Oct-24 |
| • Last date by which completed nomination should be received (via email or post) by NEC | 12-Oct-24 |
| • Date on which initial candidate list will be published by NEC | 13-Oct-24 |
| • Date by which candidates can withdraw their nomination | 18-Oct-24 |
| • Date on which final list of candidates (after withdrawals) will be published by NEC. | 19-Oct-24 |
| Absentee Ballots² | |
| • Last date by which request for an absentee ballot should be received by NEC | 19-Oct-24 |
| • Absentee ballots to eligible members ³ to be mailed by the NEC | 21-Oct-24 |
| • Last date by which completed absentee ballot should be received by NEC | 10-Nov-24 |

- **Elections Day** **17-Nov-24, 1:00pm – 3:00pm**

¹ Nomination forms are available for use on the Temple website. Nominations received after the last date will not be accepted. You can download the nomination form from:

<https://www.hindutemplealbany.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Nomination-form-2024.pdf>

² Absentee ballots received after the last date will not be considered towards counting. If NEC decides that elections are not necessary, the absentee ballots will not be mailed out.

³ If your name does not appear on the membership database, and you believe you are a qualified member to vote, please contact the Membership Secretary – Smita Jain at 518-445-5678, manojsandmita@gmail.com

You can view the lists of Life and Annual members at:

<https://www.hindutemplealbany.org/support-us/membership/>

Nomination & Election Committee (NEC)
Mr. Kirthi Nagarajan, (518) 285-9794
Mr. Thiagarajan Subramanian (518) 275-9035
Mr. Jayakumar Thirumalai (518) 898-7394

Election Appeals Committee
Mr. Arvind Salgam
Mr. Prakash Joshi
Mr. Anil Bisht

Election Guidelines 2024

Note on filing nomination

Nominations could be filed in one of 2 ways.

- 1) Nominations could be handed over in person to a NEC member who will be present at the temple at specific times mentioned in NEC bulletin 1.
- 2) Scanned nominations could be emailed to the NEC member at HTSNEC2024@gmail.com.

Please note that nominations can **no longer be dropped in the Hundi** as was the practice in past years. The nomination form has to be filled in completely to avoid any confusion.

Absentee ballot request

There is no need to fill in an Absentee Ballot Request form. Request can be made via email to HTSNEC2024@gmail.com. However, the following information is mandatory to receive the Absentee ballots. The person who needs the absentee ballots will have to make the request. **Any absentee ballot request from anyone else other than the member will not be entertained.**

Name:

Address:

Membership: Life or Annual (Please verify before you request absentee ballot)

Telephone number:

Please note the last date to request an absentee ballot is October 19, 2024.

NEC will communicate in Message-2, the postal address where the completed absentee ballots should be mailed to.

Election Process

Elections will be conducted consistent with Article 6 of the constitution. Given the learnings during the past few elections the following guidelines will be adopted.

Term of Office: Members will be elected only for such term that fulfils Article 6, Section 7 of the Constitution.

Tie: In case of a tie, a flip of a coin by the EAC Chairman will determine the winner.

Absentee Ballots: Every effort will be made to ensure return of absentee ballots. However, if the completed absentee ballots are not returned on time by the members, NEC has no option but to assume that requestor has not returned the ballot.