

Guidance to MN Forest Resources Council (MFRC) Members in Selecting an Alternate

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The only formal written guidance for MFRC members in selecting an alternate is included in the MFRC Operating Protocols that were provided to the members as part of their new member orientation handbook:

“Alternates: Council members may designate an alternate to participate in Council discussions in their absence. Alternate participation is limited to engaging in Council discussion -- alternates cannot take part in any voting or other decision-making of the Council. Each Council member shall designate to the chair an alternate to serve in his or her absence as soon as practical after being appointed to the Council.”

Over the past 15 years, the following additional informal guidance has been provided to MFRC members in selecting an alternate. The alternate should be a person who:

- 1) Is actively engaged with and fully capable of representing the interest represented by the Council member;
- 2) The Council member trusts and with whom the Council member has good communication; and
- 3) Is willing and able to attend Council meetings and participate in Council discussions.

Alternates are eligible to receive per diem payments and reimbursements when attending Council meetings in the absence of the Council member.