

Charles Noir (.CA), North American region

Written Candidate Statement — ccNSO Council

9 October 2025

Dear ccNSO colleagues,

I'm honoured to put forward my candidacy for the ccNSO Council as a representative of the North American region. I'm grateful to Sean Copeland (.VI) and Stephen Deerhake (.AS) for the support.

As Councillor, I would work to strengthen the ccNSO as a vibrant and dynamic community, one where country code operators collaborate, learn from each other and tackle shared challenges. Together, we can build on our collective commitment to a stable, secure Internet, reinforce the multistakeholder model and celebrate the diversity that defines our community.

About me

I serve as Vice-president of Community Investment, Policy and Advocacy at the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA), where I lead policy and advocacy in support of CIRA's mission to build a trusted internet for Canadians. I also oversee community investment programs, including the CIRA Grants program and CIRA's role as Secretariat of the Canadian Internet Governance Forum (CIGF).

Before joining CIRA, I spent more than fifteen years with the Government of Canada, where I led teams responsible for internet governance policy, international telecommunications negotiations, cybersecurity and technology regulation. This included overseeing Canada's participation in the ICANN Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council.

I hold a PhD in Management and Information Systems from the University of Cambridge, an MSc from the London School of Economics and a BA from Simon Fraser University.

Experience and suitability for the ccNSO Council

My government experience and work at CIRA sits at the intersection of policy, operations and community investment.

- I bring public policy depth and multistakeholder experience from national government service (GAC representation, ITU Council) and from leading policy and advocacy at Canada's ccTLD operator (CIRA).

- I have a strong interest in operational and strategic planning, particularly in planning and budgeting, which is why I joined the ccNSO's Strategic & Operational Planning Standing Committee (SOPC) to explore how ccTLD perspectives could be better reflected in priorities and resource allocation at ICANN.
- I have a strong instinct for cross-community collaboration, shaped by leading CIRA's role as a founding member of a Technical Community Coalition for Multistakeholderism (TCCM). I also lead or support CIRA's engagement on issues such as internet governance, DNS abuse and universal acceptance. These are areas where ccTLD practices and evidence can meaningfully inform broader ICANN and public policy discussions.

If elected, I will focus on three priorities:

- Work to ensure that ccTLD priorities and operational realities are better reflected in ICANN's planning, budgeting and resource allocation processes.
- Foster and reinforce ccTLDs' role in defending and strengthening multistakeholder internet governance.
- Translate policy into practical workstreams to strengthen the ccNSO's voice across ICANN.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to serve. Please don't hesitate to reach out for further information on my interest or background—and looking forward to seeing many ccTLD colleagues at ICANN84 in Dublin!

Charles Noir

Vice-president, Community Investment, Policy and Advocacy, CIRA (.CA)

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