



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

OF THE

BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBERTARIAN PARTY

MEMBER-APPROVED REVISION

9 AUGUST 2020

INDEX

CONSTITUTION

1. Party Name
2. Purpose and Principles

BYLAWS

1. Amending the Constitution and Bylaws
2. Party Membership
 - Membership
 - Becoming a Party Member
 - Membership Fees and Associated Regulations
 - Termination of Party Membership
3. Constituency Associations
 - Purpose of Constituency Associations
 - Constituency Association Responsibilities to the Party & Party Member Relations with Constituency Associations
 - Founding a Constituency Association
 - Dissolving a Constituency Association
 - Governing Documents of Constituency Associations
4. Candidate Recruitment, Approval, Training, Re-Approval and Removal
 - Constituency Associations and the Recruiting of Candidates Within Electoral Districts
 - Approving a Candidate by the Executive Council
 - Training of Candidates
 - Extraordinary Removal of Candidates as Party Nominees Before Election Day
 - Renewal of Candidates After a General Election or By-Election
 - Filling Vacant Candidacies
5. Party Executive Council
 - Composition of the Executive Council
 - Responsibilities of the Executive Council
 - Selection of Members of the Executive Council
 - Term Duration and Term limits of Executive Council Members
 - Ineligibility for Membership on the Executive Council
 - Conduct of Meetings of the Executive Council
 - Calling Meetings of the Executive Council
 - Committees of the Executive Council
 - Vacancies of Executive Council Members
 - Removal of Members of the Executive Council
 - Repeat Absences of Members or Failures to Meet Quorum
6. Responsibilities of the Members of the Executive Council
7. Party Regional Caucus
 - Function and Purpose of the Party Regional Caucus
 - Membership on the Party Regional Caucus

- Meetings of the Party Regional Caucus
- Calling a meeting of the Party Regional Caucus
- Election of the Party Regional Caucus Chair
- Removal and replacing a Party Regional Caucus Chair

8. Annual General Meeting of the Party

- Chair of the Annual General Meeting
- Scheduling Annual General Meetings
- Calling a Session of the Annual General Meeting
- Conduct of Annual General Meetings
- Voting at Annual General Meetings and through Constituency Associations
- Electing Party Leader, Party Deputy Leader, Party President, and Party Vice President at the Annual General Meetings
- Electing Party Secretary, Party Treasurer, Party Executive Directors and Ethics Committee Chair at the Annual General Meetings
- Voting on the Party Constitution and Bylaws Amendments at Annual General Meetings
- Mandatory review of Party Leader at Annual General Meetings

9. Financial Organization of the Party

10. Party Offices

11. Party Officers / Coordinators

12. Internal Party Campaigns and Elections

- Member Responsible for Organizing Elections
- Declaring and Approving Candidacy
- Dissemination of Campaign Materials by Candidates
- Party Events Pertaining to Internal Election Campaigns
- Appealing Election Results
- Breach of Conduct
- Counting Ballots
- Storage of Ballots
- Acclaimed Candidates

13. Auditor

14. Party Ethics Committee

- Role of the Ethics Committee
- Composition of the Ethics Committee
- Voting on the Ethics Committee
- Conduct of Meetings of the Ethics Committee
- Appealing to the Ethics Committee - Requesting a Meeting of the Ethics Committee
- Responses from the Ethics Committee
- Vacancies on the Ethics Committee
- Limitations of the Ethics Committee

CONSTITUTION

1. PARTY NAME

- 1.1. The name of the Party shall be the **BRITISH COLUMBIA LIBERTARIAN PARTY**, henceforth to be referred to as "the Party".

2. PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

- 2.1. The purpose of the Party is to bring about the election of BC Libertarian Party candidates to the British Columbia Legislative Assembly in promoting the following core principles;
 - 2.1.1. That no individual or group is permitted to initiate the use of force or fraud against any other,
 - 2.1.2. That the universal natural rights to life, liberty, property, expression, and the peaceful pursuit of happiness are essential to the preservation of civil society,
 - 2.1.3. That the role of government is to protect and preserve such rights, and
 - 2.1.4. That the citizens of British Columbia have the right to defend and be defended from those persons or institutions that seek to diminish any of the above principles.

BYLAWS

1. AMENDING THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

- 1.1. The Party Constitution may only be amended by a 2/3 majority vote in favour at a General Meeting of the Party and with 2/3 majority support of the Party Regional Caucus.
- 1.2. Bylaws may only be amended by a majority vote in favour at a General Meeting of the Party.
 - 1.2.1. An exception to this rule is Section 1.1 of the bylaws "Amending the Constitution and Bylaws". Amendments of this section require a vote 2/3 in favour at an Annual General Meeting of the Party and with 2/3 support of the Party Regional Caucus.
 - 1.2.2. An exception to Section 1.2.1 is Section 3. of the bylaws, titled "Constituency Associations". Amendments of this section require a majority vote in favour by the Party Executive Council and majority vote in favour by the Party Regional Caucus. Amendments made are to be ratified by a majority vote at the next General Meeting of the Party. If not ratified at the next General Meeting the original bylaws remain in force.
- 1.3. Between General Meetings, Party and political policies consistent with the Principles of the Party and bylaws are to be determined by the Party Leader and Deputy Party Leader in consultation with and approved by a majority vote of the Executive Council.

2. PARTY MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1. Membership is open to any Canadian citizen sixteen years of age or older whose primary residence is within the Province of British Columbia. All members must support the Principles of the Party which is stated in the Party Constitution. Any member over the age of eighteen may serve in any elected body or hold any elected position within the Party.

BECOMING A PARTY MEMBER

- 2.2. Eligible applicants shall become members of the party upon completion of the following:
 - 2.2.1. Payment of the membership fee,
 - 2.2.2. Signing, in writing or digitally, a statement agreeing to become a member of the Party and support the Principles of the Party as stated in the Party Constitution.
 - 2.2.3. Entering the name of the applicant in the official membership list of the Party. The date entered on this list shall be considered the day upon which party membership begins.

MEMBERSHIP FEES AND ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

- 2.3. The duration of membership options available and associated membership fees shall be determined by the Executive Council and may only be changed with the approval of 2/3 of the council.
- 2.4. Only individual persons who reside in British Columbia may donate to or become members of the Party.

TERMINATION OF PARTY MEMBERSHIP

- 2.5. Termination of membership occurs when:

- 2.5.1. Failure of a member to pay the applicable membership fee within sixty days of the due date.
 - 2.5.2. Resignation of the member submitted to the Party in person or by writing.
 - 2.5.3. Death of the member.
 - 2.5.4. No longer meeting the relevant requirements for membership in section 2.1.
 - 2.5.5. For just cause and for conduct judged to be improper or likely to adversely affect the interests of the Party or in violation of the Principles of the Party as determined by the Party Executive Council and the Member's Constituency Association Executive Council.
- 2.6. Any termination of membership may be appealed by the member within twenty eight days of receiving notice of termination. An appeal should be made in writing to all members of the Ethics Committee and to the President and Vice President of the Party. Final decisions regarding an appeal are to be determined by a majority vote of the Ethics Committee.
- 2.7. The decision made by the Ethics Committee is final.

3. CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

PURPOSE OF CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

- 3.1. Constituency Associations affiliated with the Party are delegated certain tasks, which include but are not limited to the following:
- 3.1.1. To advocate within the Party and British Columbia issues of particular local concern to the members of the association and to develop solutions to local concerns consistent with the Party principles outlined in the Party Constitution.
 - 3.1.2. To advocate and promote within the Constituency Association the Party policies and platform.
 - 3.1.3. Establish regional Party infrastructure to promote the stated Party principles. This infrastructure can be but is not limited to, educational, material, and human resources. These resources are to be developed within the region affiliated with the Constituency Association and within the Party as a whole.
 - 3.1.4. To assist the Party in recruiting candidates to represent the Party in provincial elections.
 - 3.1.5. To provide support to Party candidates affiliated with the region in which the Constituency Association operates.
 - 3.1.6. To provide the means for their members to participate and vote in Party General Meetings.
 - 3.1.7. To represent the Party members residing within the region affiliated with the Constituency Association on the Party Regional Caucus.
 - 3.1.8. To elect officers of the Constituency Association to advance the purposes of Constituency Associations as stated in the Party bylaws.
 - 3.1.9. To assist the Party in raising funds within the region associated with the Constituency Association.

CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PARTY & PARTY MEMBER RELATIONS WITH CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

- 3.2. Members of the party shall be organised according to their primary residence relative to the electoral districts of British Columbia. Any member of the party residing in an electoral district where a Constituency Association exists is to be considered a member of that Constituency Association.
- 3.3. Only Party members can be eligible for membership in a Constituency Association.

- 3.4. A Constituency Association may invite Party members from outside their region to be non-voting members of any given Constituency Association. These non-voting members may not run for elected positions in a Constituency Association, and they may not vote in all members meetings of the constituency association.
- 3.5. A Party member may only hold one elected position within any recognized Constituency Association at any given time.

FOUNDING A CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION

- 3.6. Members may found a Constituency Association which represents a geographic region where at least three full members of the Party reside and where no Constituency Association presently exists.
- 3.7. To found a Constituency Association the following must occur:
 - 3.7.1. There must be a co-founding Constituency Association President and Vice-President registered with the Party.
 - i) The Constituency Association President or Vice President may be registered as the "Financial Officer" of the association with Elections BC, however, the association may delegate this task to another officer within its bylaws upon its discretion.
 - 3.7.2. The Party Executive Council is to approve the geographic area represented by the proposed Constituency Association.
 - 3.7.3. The co-founding Constituency Association President AND Vice-President must submit association founding documents to the Party Executive Council for approval.
 - 3.7.4. The Constituency Association must agree in writing to support and promote the Principles of the Party as outlined in the Party Constitution.

DISSOLVING A CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION

- 3.8. A Constituency Association may be voluntarily dissociated or dissolved by the Party through the following means:
 - 3.8.1. A vote at a Constituency Association meeting where at least $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members of the Association present vote in favour of dissolution.
 - 3.8.2. By a majority vote of the Party Executive Council if the Constituency Association has been inactive for more than one hundred and eighty days, and with greater than twenty-eight days notice given to the Regional Caucus of the intent to dissolve the Constituency Association.
 - i) An inactive Constituency Association is defined as not having Executive Meetings and/or no hosted events in the prescribed period of time.
 - 3.8.3. By $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Party Executive Council and a majority vote of the Regional Caucus in favour, under any condition at any time, results in the dissolution of the Constituency Association.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS OF CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

- 3.8.9. All Constituency Associations of the Party are to adopt, as a minimum, the Constituency Association Bylaws as approved by the Executive Council. Amendments to the Constituency Association bylaws may be applied by a majority vote of the members of these associations on an ad hoc basis.
- 3.8.10. In areas where the Party bylaws are in conflict with a Constituency Association's bylaws, the Party's bylaws shall supersede the Constituency Association's bylaws in all cases.

4. CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT, APPROVAL, TRAINING, RE-APPROVAL AND REMOVAL

CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS AND THE RECRUITING OF CANDIDATES WITHIN ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

- 4.1. In electoral districts where a Constituency Association exists, the Constituency Association shall seek out and recruit candidate/s to represent the people of that Constituency Association in the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. The Party Leader may then authorise the nominated candidates to be the officially recognised Party candidates for a given Constituency Association in a provincial election.
- 4.2. If no candidate is put forward, the Party Leader may select a candidate from outside the Constituency Association to fill the position, or defer to the Regional Caucus to select a candidate.
- 4.3. The Party Leader or a majority of the Regional Caucus may nullify the candidate proposal made by the Constituency Association. In such cases, the Constituency Association may be invited to propose an alternate candidate to the Party Leader and Regional Caucus. Alternatively, the Executive Council may also select and approve somebody of their choice directly if neither the Party Leader or Regional Caucus are able to find a suitable candidate. (see section 4.4).

RECRUITING OF CANDIDATES BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 4.4. In the event that the Party Leader and Regional Caucus are unable to find a candidate for a given electoral district within sixty days of the provincial general election day, the Executive Council may select a candidate.
- 4.5. The Executive Council or a delegated representative is to interview potential candidates before voting to approve such a member as a candidate. A prospective candidate selected in this way is approved by a majority vote of the Party Executive Council.
- 4.6. The Party Leader may veto any nominees from being considered prior to a vote of the Executive Council.
- 4.7. Previous candidates from any past year are eligible for consideration as candidates, if otherwise qualified to serve in this role for the given electoral district.

TRAINING OF CANDIDATES

- 4.8. All approved candidates are to be offered training by the Party. This duty is the responsibility of the Executive Council in consultation with the Party Leader and Deputy Leader and any appointed coordinators of the Party dedicated towards this task.

EXTRAORDINARY REMOVAL OF CANDIDATES AS PARTY NOMINEES BEFORE ELECTION DAY

- 4.9. A previously approved candidate may be removed before election day as an official candidate of the Party by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Council. The candidate shall be notified in writing or digitally of potential removal by the Executive Council seven days before the Executive Council meeting occurring and this notification is to include a reason for removal. The candidate to be removed may be present during the deliberation to remove their candidacy by the Executive Council and may address the Executive Council during this meeting.
- 4.10. A candidate who is removed by the Executive Council may appeal to the Regional Caucus for a final decision regarding removal within seven days of their removal being ratified.
- 4.11. The decision of the Regional Caucus is binding and final.
- 4.12. The candidate to be removed may be present and address the Regional Caucus directly during the appeals process.

RENEWAL OF CANDIDATES AFTER A GENERAL ELECTION OR BY-ELECTION

- 4.13. After a provincial general or by-election, the Executive Council and Candidate are to debrief post-election and decide what role they will have between elections. The Constituency Association affiliated with the electoral district represented by the candidate also participates in this process.

- 4.14. If the post-election candidate and Executive Council agree, the member shall remain an official candidate as they were before the election. If the Executive Council or post-election candidate do not wish to continue the member's candidacy, the candidacy for the electoral region will be considered vacant.

FILLING VACANT CANDIDACIES

- 4.15. If a Party candidate position becomes vacant in an electoral district, a candidate should be identified, nominated, and approved at the earliest possible convenience according to the process outlined in 4.1, 4.2, and 4.3.

5. PARTY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 5.1. The Executive Council will consist of the following members (unless otherwise stated one of each position exists):
- 5.1.1. Party Leader
 - 5.1.2. Party Deputy Leader
 - 5.1.3. Party President
 - 5.1.4. Party Vice President
 - 5.1.5. Party Secretary
 - 5.1.6. Party Treasurer
 - 5.1.7. Party Regional Caucus Chair
 - 5.1.8. Executive Directors (between two and six in number)
 - 5.1.9. Former Party President
 - 5.1.10. Ethics Committee Chair

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 5.2. The Executive Council is to abide by and ensure that the Party is run in accordance with the Party Constitution and Bylaws. Between General Meetings, the Executive Council is responsible for day to day management of all affairs of the Party. The Executive Council is always subject to resolutions passed by members at General Meetings.

SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 5.3. Members of the Executive Council are elected at Party General Meetings designated for this purpose at least three months in advance and communicated as such to all Party Members. The following members are exempt from this provision:
- 5.3.1. The Former-President is not elected but selected from the most recent member who served as President and who finished a full term in this role. They must consent to hold the position. If the last president is unable to hold this position then the next most recent Party President who meets eligibility criteria is to be asked to fill the role. The past-president may not hold any other position on the Executive Council. If no former Party President is available, it will remain vacant.
 - 5.3.2. The Party Regional Caucus Chair is elected by the Party Regional Caucus or in certain circumstances by members at a General Meeting.

5.3.3. The number of Executive Directors to be elected to the Executive Council is at the discretion of the Meeting Chair.

TERM DURATION AND TERM LIMITS OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

5.4. The terms of members of the Executive Council are:

5.4.1. Party Leader

- (i) Four year term. The Party Leader remains in their position for four years from the date of their election until they step down or are removed by members in a vote of no-confidence.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit

5.4.2. Deputy Leader

- (i) Four year term. The Party Deputy Leader remains in their position for four years from the date of their election until they step down or are removed by members in a vote of no-confidence.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.4.3. President

- (i) Term duration is from the date elected counted two years from December 31st of the year elected, or until the next Annual General Meeting, whichever occurs first.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.4.4. Vice President

- (i) Term duration is from the date elected counted two years from December 31st of the year elected, or until the next Annual General Meeting, whichever occurs first.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.4.5. Treasurer

- (i) Term duration is from the date elected counted two years from December 31st of the year elected, or until the next Annual General Meeting, whichever occurs first.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.4.6. Secretary

- (i) Term duration is from the date elected counted two years from December 31st of the year elected, or until the next Annual General Meeting, whichever occurs first.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.4.7. Past President

- (i) Term duration ends when a sitting Party President completes their term.
- (ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.4.8. Party Regional Caucus Chair

- (i) Term duration is from the time elected and then one year, counted from December 31st of the year elected by the Party Regional Caucus or Annual General Meeting, or until the next scheduled Party election to find a replacement chair, whichever occurs first.

(ii) To be elected by the Party Regional Caucus.

(iii) May only serve two consecutive terms.

5.4.9. Executive Director

(i) Term duration is from the date elected counted one year from December 31st of the year elected until the next Annual General Meeting.

(ii) No consecutive term limit.

5.5. A member may only hold one position on the Executive Council at any given time.

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

5.6. Meetings of the Executive Council are to occur once every three months at a minimum.

5.7. Meetings of the Executive Council are open to any member of the Party who wishes to observe the meeting, as physical space and/or internet bandwidth allows.

5.8. The 11th Edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be observed for all matters regarding meeting conduct and procedure.

5.9. Upon a majority vote of the Executive Council, items or meetings may be designated as "closed sessions" and only members who sit on the Executive Council, Ethics Committee, Party Regional Caucus or an approved Party Officer may view the proceedings. Items discussed in such closed sessions are to be excluded from the public minutes. Within the minutes a closed session is only to be recorded as: "closed session discussion" with the title of the item(s) discussed during the closed session listed.

5.10. The President is to chair meetings of the Executive Council. If the President is not available to chair the meeting, the Vice President shall act as chair. If both the President and Vice President are not available, the Executive Council shall elect one voting council member present to chair the meeting. The Chair of the meeting may decide the final outcome on any items which receive a tie in votes cast by the Executive Council.

5.11. The Secretary shall do the following on behalf of the Executive Council during and between meetings:

5.4.1. Keep minutes of all Executive Council meetings.

5.4.2. To appoint one member of the Executive Council to take meeting minutes if they are unable to attend. Alternatively, the chair of the meeting may appoint one member of the Executive Council to take minutes.

5.12. Meetings of the Executive Council may occur by telephone or digitally.

5.13. A Quorum of the Executive Council is a majority of voting members in attendance in person, by phone, or digitally.

5.14. Only members of the Executive Council have speaking privileges during meetings. Any member who has speaking privileges may grant temporary speaking privileges to another non-Executive Council member attending the meeting.

5.15. No proxy voting is permitted on the Executive Council. Members must be present and counted as part of Quorum at a meeting in order to cast a vote.

CALLING MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

5.16. Meetings of the Executive Council shall occur upon request of the Party Leader, Deputy Leader, President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Party Regional Caucus Chair or upon the written request of at least two Directors of the Executive Council. Requests are to be made collectively to all members of the Executive Council.

All members of the Executive Council must be notified directly by the following means: electronically, by telephone, by writing, or in person.

- 5.17. The date, time, and location of an Executive Council meeting must be made known at least forty-eight hours in advance of a meeting. The agenda shall be circulated no less than twenty-four hours in advance.

COMMITTEES OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 5.18. The Executive Council may create and dissolve committees ad hoc by majority vote. All committees created are to be chaired by a member of the Executive Council or a Party Member designated by the Executive Council. Each committee created is accountable directly to the Executive Council.
- 5.19. The Party Regional Caucus is composed of representatives from the Constituency Associations and is exempt from this provision. The Party Regional Caucus Chair runs the meetings of the Party Regional Caucus. The Party Regional Caucus cannot be dissolved by the Executive Council and it is accountable to the Constituency Associations and members at the Annual General Meeting.

VACANCIES OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS

- 5.20. Vacancies of Directors or the Treasurer or the Secretary may be filled by interim positions. Any Full Party member is eligible for the vacant position if nominated by one member of the Executive Council. Of the Party members nominated to fill a vacancy, the nominee receiving the most support by a vote of the Executive Council will fill the interim role.
- 5.21. Those selected as interim-Executive Directors, interim-Treasurer, or interim-Secretary will hold the vacant position until the next General Meeting when regular elections for the vacant position can be filled by standard means, as stated in the bylaws.
- 5.22. A vacancy of the Party Regional Caucus Chair can only be replaced by a vote of the Party Regional Caucus or a vote by the General Meeting if less than five Constituency Associations exist.
- 5.23. Vacancies of the Party Leader or Deputy Party Leader:
- 5.23.1. If the Party Leader position becomes vacant the Deputy Leader shall assume the role of Interim-Party Leader until the next General Meeting. At this meeting both a new Leader and new Deputy Leader are to be elected and a new term for both positions will begin.
 - 5.23.2. If the Deputy Leader position becomes vacant then it will remain unfilled until the next scheduled General Meeting when a new Deputy Leader can be elected. The new Deputy Leader will then serve any remaining time in the term for which the original Deputy Leader vacated. If no time is left in the vacated term after the election of a new Deputy Leader, a new term will begin.
 - 5.23.3. A Deputy Leader who serves as Interim-Leader can run for Party Leader at the following General Meeting.
 - 5.23.4. If both the Party Leader and Deputy Leader positions become vacant simultaneously, the Executive Council must appoint a member from the Executive Council or Regional Caucus to assume the role of Interim-Leader. The member selected must resign their position on the Party Executive Council once selected. A General Meeting must be held within six months of the Interim-Leader being appointed.
 - (i) This appointed Interim-Leader may run for the Party Leadership at the General Meeting.
 - (ii) All duties, responsibilities, and privileges that apply to the Party Leader as outlined in the bylaws are afforded to the Interim-Leader.
- 5.24. Vacancies of the Party President or Vice President

- 5.24.1. If the President position becomes vacant the Vice President shall assume the role of Interim-President until the next General Meeting. At this meeting both a new President and new Vice President are to be elected and a new term for both positions will begin.
- 5.24.2. An Interim Vice President may not advance to become Interim President. If such an occurrence arises, an Annual General Meeting must be called and both positions are to be put to election.
- 5.24.3. If the Vice President position becomes vacant then the Executive Council may elect another Party Director or Officer to serve as interim Vice President until the next scheduled Annual General Meeting when a new Vice President can be elected.
- 5.24.4. An Interim-President may run for President at the next Annual General Meeting.
- 5.24.5. If both the President and Vice President positions become vacant simultaneously the Executive Council will vote to appoint a Full Member to fill the role of interim-President. A General Meeting to elect a new President and Vice President is to occur within six months. This election marks the start of a new term for both positions.

REMOVAL OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 5.25. A General Meeting may pass a motion to remove any member of the Executive Council or to dissolve the Executive Council with a 2/3 majority vote. If passed, the member(s) is immediately removed from the Executive Council.
- 5.26. Elections to replace vacancies are to immediately occur as per sections 5.20 - 5.24 of the bylaws.
- 5.27. The Party Regional Caucus Chair is to be removed by the Party Regional Caucus as outlined in bylaws 7.16 and 7.17.

REPEAT ABSENCES OF MEMBERS OR FAILURES TO MEET QUORUM

- 5.26. If a member of the Executive Council is absent for three or more consecutive meetings of the Executive Council then a motion must be tabled to review the performance of the member in question. If a 2/3 majority of the Executive Council supports the removal of such a member, they will be immediately removed from the Executive Council. A replacement is then to be found in accordance with bylaw 5.20 and 5.21.
- 5.27. If quorum of the Executive Council fails to be reached for two consecutive meetings, the Party President must call a General Meeting within three months. At this meeting, the question of replacement of members of the Executive Council must be the first order of business. New elections may be held to replace such members as needed at such a meeting in accordance with the bylaws on removing and electing members of the Executive Council.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- 6.1. The responsibilities of the members of the Executive Council are, but not limited to:
 - 6.1.1. **PARTY LEADER** - To play a leading role in determining the policy, unity, and strategic vision of the Party. These decisions are to be supervised by and developed with the Executive Council. The Party Leader is also the primary representative of Party Candidates running for MLA between and during elections. In this capacity they are to lead the search for Party candidates at the level of the Executive Council. The Party Leader is also the Chair of the BC Libertarian Party caucus within the British Columbia Legislative Assembly.
 - 6.1.2. **PARTY DEPUTY LEADER** - To play the primary supporting role in determining the policy, unity and strategic vision of the Party. The Deputy Leader is also the deputy representative of Party Candidates running for office and of the Party as a whole between and during elections. The Deputy Leader is also the Deputy Chair of the BC Libertarian Party caucus within the British Columbia Legislative Assembly. When the Party Leader is unable to perform a certain duty within the Party, the Deputy Leader is to be delegated

to perform such particulars by the Party Leader, or by the Executive Council should the Party Leader be indisposed.

- 6.1.3. **PARTY PRESIDENT** - Is the chief executive officer and chief operating officer of the Party. In this role the president chairs the Executive Council and Annual General Meetings. The Party President is to oversee the daily operations of the party, including management structures, workflows, fundraising, job delegation, logistical matters pertaining to the Party, and to otherwise manage the internal daily affairs of the Party. The President is to work with the Party Leader and Deputy Leader in the implementation of the strategic political vision of the Party. The President is also to serve as a mediator for any disputes which arise within the Party, and to help ensure Party unity.
- 6.1.4. **PARTY VICE PRESIDENT** - Assists the president in overseeing fundraising, and logistical matters pertaining to the Party, and the management of the internal daily affairs of the Party. The Vice President is also to serve as a mediator for any disputes which arise within the Party, and to help ensure Party unity. If the President is unable to carry out one of their responsibilities, the President or the Executive Council may delegate such responsibilities to the Vice President.
- 6.1.5. **PARTY TREASURER** - Is the Chief Financial Officer of the Party. Is to oversee all financial activities of the Party. This includes monitoring cash flow, and financial planning. The Treasurer is also to assist in the logistical matters pertaining to Party record keeping in general and in the administration of the Executive Council and Annual General Meeting. They are to render financial statements to Party members and others when required, and assist in developing and carrying out Party fundraising activities.
- 6.1.6. **PARTY SECRETARY** - Is the custodian of records and documents of the Party, including but not limited to financial records, including books of account, meeting minutes, and other records necessary to comply with the BC Societies Act. They are to maintain the Party's Register of Directors, as per the BC Societies Act. They are to be the primary keeper of signed consent and disclaimers on behalf of the Party. They are to have custody of the Common Seal of the Party. They are also to be the primary member responsible for maintaining and protecting the register of Party members and their personal information. The Party Secretary is to record meeting minutes for the Executive Council. The Party Secretary is to be the primary member organizing all Party elections within the Annual General Meeting.
- 6.1.7. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** - Is to provide advice and council to the Party Leader and President of the Party. They are to assist in implementing the strategic vision of the Party and to help develop policy. They are to serve as managers, team leaders, or coordinators, chair committees, and serve in any role deemed needed for Party success on an ad hoc basis. They are to also serve as representatives of the Executive Council at Annual General Meetings.
- 6.1.8. **PAST PARTY PRESIDENT** - Is to act as a source of institutional memory for the Party and provide advice and council to the President and Vice President of the Party. They may serve as managers, team leaders, or coordinators, chair committees, and serve in any role deemed needed for Party success on an ad hoc basis.
- 6.1.9. **REGIONAL CAUCUS CHAIR** - This member is the elected representative of the Constituency Associations recognised by the Party. They also represent regional concerns where no Constituency Associations of the Party may exist. Where no Constituency Associations exist, they are to develop regional outreach plans to develop Constituency Associations in these areas. In this capacity they are to provide advice and counsel to the Party Leader and Party President. They are also to help coordinate the search for Party candidates together with the Party Leader and Constituency Associations. They are to assist in helping implement the strategic vision of the Party, particularly at the level of the Constituency Associations and grassroots membership, and are to help implement fundraising projects through the Constituency Associations alongside the Party President, Vice President, and Treasurer.
- 6.1.10. **ETHICS COMMITTEE CHAIR** - Is a voting member of the Executive Council, however, if the Executive Council is voting on matters that in any way relates to the business of the Ethics Committee or could be construed as a matter of ethics, the Ethics Committee Chair must recuse themselves from said vote.

6.2. These responsibilities in 6.1 can be assigned to another member of the Executive Council with $\frac{2}{3}$ approval of the Executive Council and the agreement of the affected council member.

7. PARTY REGIONAL CAUCUS

FUNCTION AND PURPOSE OF THE PARTY REGIONAL CAUCUS

7.1. The Party Regional Caucus is to ensure a coordinated and close working relationship between the Constituency Associations, Executive Council, Party Members, Libertarian Candidates, and the Libertarian Caucus elected to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia. It is the body which Constituency Associations form to develop and adopt regional policies, and to coordinate Party activities across the province.. It is also to serve as a potential mediating body when regional issues affect internal Party matters.

MEMBERSHIP ON THE PARTY REGIONAL CAUCUS

7.2. Members of the Party Regional Caucus of the Party are:

- 7.2.1. Constituency Association Presidents (one per Constituency Association, up to 87.)
- 7.2.2. Constituency Association Vice Presidents (one per Constituency Association, up to 87.)
- 7.2.3. Approved Party Electoral Candidates
- 7.2.4. BC Libertarian Party Members of the BC Legislative Assembly
- 7.2.5. Party Leader (non-voting / except to break ties)
- 7.2.6. Party Deputy Leader (non-voting)
- 7.2.7. Party Regional Caucus Chair
- 7.2.8. Party President (non-voting)
- 7.2.9. Party Vice President (non-voting)
- 7.2.10. Party Secretary (non-voting)

MEETINGS OF THE PARTY REGIONAL CAUCUS

7.3. Meetings of the Party Regional Caucus are open to any member of the Party who can observe the meeting as physical space allows. However, speaking privileges during the meetings are only open to members of the Party Regional Caucus, unless otherwise granted by a member of the committee.

7.4. The Party Regional Caucus is to convene at a minimum twice annually and to elect a Party Regional Caucus Chair.

7.5. The Party Regional Caucus Chair is the chairman of all meetings of the Party Regional Caucus. They are a voting member of the Party Regional Caucus.

7.6. If the Party Regional Caucus Chair is unavailable the Party Deputy Leader may assume the role. If neither is available then the Party Leader shall select a meeting chair from amongst the membership of the Party Regional Caucus in attendance. Approval of this Chair shall be the first order of business of the meeting.

7.7. The chair of the meeting is responsible for deciding on all items that are tied after a vote.

7.8. The Party Secretary is to take the minutes of meetings of the Party Regional Caucus. If the Party Secretary is not available, the Chair shall select a volunteer from among the meeting attendees. These minutes are to be approved by electronic poll or by email or in other written format by members of the Party Regional Caucus within fourteen days of a meeting ending.

- 7.9. Members may attend and vote at a Party Regional Caucus meeting by electronic means if available. But proxy votes are not allowed; members must attend the meeting in person, by telephone, or digitally to cast a ballot.
- 7.10. Each voting member is afforded one vote on each item put before the committee.
- 7.11. If a member of the Party Regional Caucus holds multiple positions on the committee but one of those positions is designated as non-voting, the member is not to vote.

CALLING A MEETING OF THE PARTY REGIONAL CAUCUS

- 7.12. All Party members must be notified in writing of the dates of a Party Regional Caucus meeting at least twenty eight days in advance.
- 7.13. The Party Leader, Party President or Party Regional Caucus Chair can call a meeting of the Party Regional Caucus. If 20% or greater of voting members of the Party Regional Caucus sign a petition requesting a meeting of the Party Regional Caucus, the meeting must be held within ninety days.

ELECTION OF THE REGIONAL CAUCUS CHAIR

- 7.14. The Party Regional Caucus Chair is elected by the Party Regional Caucus if there are five or more Party Constituency Associations in existence. If less than five Constituency Associations are in existence, the Party Regional Caucus Chair is elected at a General Meeting.
- 7.14.1. Only Presidents or Vice Presidents of a Constituency Association, or Party Members who are approved candidates at the time of election are eligible to serve a term in this role if elected by the Party Regional Caucus. If elected by the General Meeting, being a full Party member in good standing is the only eligibility criteria.
- 7.14.2. Members elected to the BC Legislative Assembly are not eligible to serve as Party Regional Caucus Chair.
- 7.15. In cases where there are greater than two candidates running for Regional Caucus Chair, the candidates are to be ranked on a secret ballot in order of preference. If no candidate secures a majority of the ballots cast, the one with the lowest number of votes is dropped from the ballot. From the dropped ballots the next top-ranked candidate is to be considered. This process is to continue until one candidate secures a majority of the ballots cast to become the Party Regional Caucus Chair.
- 7.15.1. Ties are to be broken by a coin toss by a non-voting member of the Party Regional Caucus.

REMOVAL AND REPLACING A REGIONAL CAUCUS CHAIR

- 7.16. If the Party Regional Caucus Chair becomes vacant, the Executive Council shall appoint a Party Member to assume the role of interim Regional Caucus Chair until the next scheduled meeting of the Party Regional Caucus is called. The newly elected Party Regional Caucus Chair shall serve out the remainder of the vacated term and then start their own term starting 1 January.
- 7.17. A Party Regional Caucus Chair may be removed by $\frac{2}{3}$ vote in favour by the Party Regional Caucus or a General Meeting. The vacated position is then to be filled through the means outlined in the bylaws. If vacated by a Party body that has the power to replace the chair, the elections to replace the chair are to occur at that meeting.

8. GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE PARTY

- 8.1. The General Meeting of the Party shall be a meeting open to all members of the Party. Non-Member observers may be allowed upon the discretion of the Executive Council. Full Members in good standing may attend and vote during this meeting. The General Meeting of the Party is the highest authority and supreme governing body of the Party.

CHAIR OF THE GENERAL MEETING

- 8.2. The Party President shall chair the General Meeting. If the President is not present, then the Vice President shall chair the meeting. If neither is available, the Treasurer is to chair the meeting. If none of the aforementioned members are available, then the Party Leader is to appoint a chair which is approved as the first order of business at the meeting.
- 8.3. The chair of the meeting shall appoint one Party member (typically the current Party Secretary) to keep minutes of the meeting. These minutes are to be approved at the next meeting of the Executive Council.

SCHEDULING GENERAL MEETINGS

- 8.4. A General Meeting is to occur once every calendar year at a place and time determined by the Party Executive Council. If a majority of Constituency Association Executive Boards pass motions calling on the Party Executive Council to hold an Extraordinary General Meeting, the Party Executive Council must call such a meeting within three months of receiving the request.
- 8.5. A leadership convention is to occur every four years from the election of a new Party Leader. This leadership convention may occur during a regularly scheduled Annual General Meeting. The Party Leader and Deputy Leader are to be elected at this leadership convention.

CALLING A GENERAL MEETING

- 8.6. Within sixty days of the meeting being called, all Party Members and Constituency Associations must be sent a written notification of the meeting.
- 8.7. Before a General Meeting, the Executive Council is to form a General Meeting Planning Committee. The duty of this committee is to organise the logistics of the meeting and review all candidates and ensure that at least one candidate stands for each elected office.
- 8.8. The Executive Council is to review the proposed agenda of the General Meeting within twenty-eight days of the meeting.

CONDUCT OF GENERAL MEETINGS

- 8.9. Each Member attending the meeting will have one vote for elections of members to Party positions on the Executive Council, Party Regional Caucus, and Ethics Committee. For other questions put before the members, the Meeting Chair may choose the voting method, including voice, rising, show of hands, electronically, or physical ballot.
- 8.10. All Party members or observers, upon the consent of one of the following Party Executives, have speaking privileges at a General Meeting: General Meeting chair, Party Leader, Party President, or Party Regional Caucus Chair. All Party Candidates, Party Regional Caucus members, Ethics Committee members, and members of the Executive Council have speaking privileges at the General Meeting granted to them by default.
- 8.11. The 11th Edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be observed for all matters regarding meeting conduct and procedure.

VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS AND THROUGH CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

- 8.12. Proxy votes are not accepted at a General Meeting or through Constituency Associations. All votes must be cast in person by voice, rising, show of hand, electronically, or physical ballot.

8.12.1. On resolutions that are not electing or removing a member from a Party position or involving an amendment to the Party Constitution and/or Bylaws, the meeting chair may choose the voting method, including voice, rising, show of hands, electronically, or physical ballot.

8.13. Physical and electronic ballots for a General Meeting may be accepted through Constituency Associations for the election of Executive Council, Party Regional Caucus, and Ethics Committee positions if they are eligible for election through an Annual General Meeting. Other motions brought before a General Meeting may also be included on physical or electronic ballots provided to Constituency Associations on an as needed basis as determined by the Executive Council.

ELECTING PARTY LEADER, PARTY DEPUTY LEADER, PARTY PRESIDENT, AND PARTY VICE PRESIDENT, AND PARTY REGIONAL CAUCUS CHAIR AT GENERAL MEETINGS

8.13. The positions of Leader, Deputy Leader, President, Vice President, Party Regional Caucus Chair (if elected by the General Meeting) are elected by ranked ballot by the Full Members of the Party. Each ballot will ask the Party Member to rank their preferred candidate from most favored to least.

8.13.1. The first choice on each ballot is to be counted first as the desired preference of the member. If no candidate receives more than 50% of the ballots cast then the candidate receiving the least support is to be dropped from the ballot. All ballots are to be then recounted with the least supported candidate removed and the member's next highest ranked choice considered until one candidate receives more than 50% support. The first candidate which receives majority support in this manner is elected.

8.13.2. If there is a tie between two candidates with the most support, a coin-flip by the chair of the General Meeting is to decide the outcome.

8.13.3. There is to be two separate ballots, one for Party Leader, another for Deputy Leader.

ELECTING PARTY SECRETARY, PARTY TREASURER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, AND PARTY ETHICS COMMITTEE CHAIR AT GENERAL MEETINGS

8.14. The positions of Ethics Committee Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Executive Director are elected by direct vote. Each ballot will ask the Party Member to vote for their preferred candidates for Executive Directors, one vote for Party Secretary, one vote for Party Treasurer, and one vote for Party Ethics Committee Chair.

8.14.1. The candidates receiving the most votes in favor are elected.

8.14.2. If there is a tie between candidates with the most support a coin flip by the Chair of the General Meeting is to decide the outcome.

VOTING ON CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW AMENDMENTS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

8.15. Rules regarding amendments to the Party Constitution and Bylaws are stipulated in Section 1 of the Party bylaws.

8.15.1. All proposed amendments should be circulated to all members within forty-two days of the General Meeting.

MANDATORY LEADERSHIP CONFIDENCE MOTION AT GENERAL MEETINGS

8.16. At every regularly scheduled General Meeting, a confidence motion must be introduced by the Meeting Chair, "As required by the Party bylaws, the Chair moves that a motion of confidence be held for the positions of Party Leader and Party Deputy Leader. Be it resolved that the Party Leader and Deputy Leader have the confidence of this Party."

8.17. If the motion fails to pass with greater than ⅔ of voting members in favour, the currently sitting Party Leader and Party Deputy Leader are removed from their positions and a second motion must be introduced by the

Meeting Chair, "Whereas the Members have voted no-confidence in their Leadership, the Chair moves that the members elect a new Party Leader and Deputy Leader before the close of this meeting."

- 8.18. If the motion to elect a new Party Leader and Deputy Leader does not pass, a Leadership Convention must be held within ninety days.

9. FINANCIAL ORGANISATION OF THE PARTY

- 9.1. The financial affairs of the Party will be managed by a designated registered Society established for this purpose.
- 9.2. This non-profit shall have all voting members of the Executive Council as voting members of the non-profit.
- 9.3. The President and Vice President shall jointly be responsible for the daily operation of this non-profit.
- 9.4. Each member of the Executive Council and officers of the Party shall be free from all personal liability for any debts, actions, claims, demands, liabilities, or commitments of any kind made by the Party and its non-profit.
- 9.5. The members of the Executive Council in their capacity as shareholders in the Party non-profit shall ensure that the annual audited financial statements are made available to any member of the Party upon written request.
- 9.6. In order to carry out the purposes of the Executive Council, on behalf of and in the name of the Party, the Executive Council may raise or secure the payment or repayment of money in the manner they decide, and, in particular, but without limiting the foregoing, by the issue of debentures.
- 9.7. No debenture shall be issued without the sanction of a special resolution by the Executive Council.
- 9.8. Debenture may only be issued in the Party name under extraordinary circumstances, not to pay for standard operational expenses or to finance election campaigns.
- 9.9. The members may by special resolution at a Members Meeting restrict the borrowing powers of the Executive Council, but a restriction imposed expires in 12 months.

10. PARTY OFFICES

- 10.1. The Party shall maintain a primary registered office and other secondary office locations may be determined by the Executive Council ad hoc.

11. PARTY MANAGEMENT ROLES

- 11.1. The Executive Council may create titled positions within the Party as required to manage defined daily functions deemed of value to the Party.
- 11.2. Members of the Executive council and members holding other Party positions may also serve in these management roles.
- 11.3. Every management position in the Party is to be supervised by the Party Leader and Party President jointly. The Party Leader or Party President may delegate another member of the Executive Council to a supervisory role if stated as such to the Executive Council and in writing.
- 11.4. Management positions must have defined roles stated in writing and approved by the Executive Council. Such roles may be amended with majority support of the Executive Council.
- 11.5. A Party Member being appointed to a management position is to be approved by the Party Leader and Party President, and the approval submitted to all members of the Executive Council in writing.

- 11.6. A Party Member is removed as an officer upon the discretion of the Party Leader or President, or by $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Executive Council. If a Party Leader or President removes an officer, this act must be submitted to all members of the Executive Council in writing.

12. INTERNAL PARTY CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS

MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZING ELECTIONS

- 12.1. All elections held during an Annual General Meeting are to be organised by the Executive Council. The Secretary shall be designated as the primary Party member overseeing the logistics and bylaw rules pertaining to an election. If the Secretary is running as a candidate in an election they are to delegate responsibility of the election to the following members in the following order of availability: Treasurer, President, Vice President, any Executive Director, any member of the Ethics Committee, any Party Member. No member may oversee elections if standing as a candidate in the elections.

- 12.1.1. Elections outside Annual General Meetings are to be organised by delegates appointed by the body holding the election.

DECLARING AND APPROVING CANDIDACY

- 12.2. Party members who intend to run for elected positions within the Party must declare themselves as running for election four weeks in advance of the Annual General Meeting date.

- 12.2.1. This condition may be temporarily suspended for the duration of an election by the Executive Council twenty-eight days before an Annual General Meeting date. If suspended, candidates may declare at anytime leading up to the casting of ballots.

- 12.3. Bylaw 12.2 is automatically suspended if: (1) There are less than three candidates declared for a given position and (2) there is less than four weeks before an Annual General Meeting where the election is to occur. In this case, members are to be allowed to declare candidacy from the floor of the Annual General Meeting.

- 12.3.1. This may not delay the printing of ballots sent to Constituency Associations. In this situation ballots should allow additional candidates to be written in ad hoc.

- 12.4. The Secretary or their delegate overseeing an election is to review a member's eligibility as per the constitution and bylaws for Party office and approve their candidature.

- 12.5. Appeals of the Secretary or their delegate's decision on the eligibility of a candidate may be made to the Executive Council and an answer is to be delivered to the candidate within ten days. If such an appeal regarding the eligibility of candidacy is made within twelve days of the Annual General Meeting the final decision on the matter is to be determined by the Party President rather than the Executive Council. The answer of the Executive Committee on this matter may be appealed through the Ethics Committee if such an appeal is made at least fourteen days before an Annual General Meeting. If these conditions are not met, appeals cannot be made regardless of stipulations stated elsewhere in the bylaws.

DISSEMINATION OF CAMPAIGN MATERIALS BY CANDIDATES

- 12.6. All approved candidates for elected positions selected by the Annual General Meeting are entitled to have campaign materials disseminated free of cost electronically to all Party members by email once every four weeks in the three months leading up to the Meeting. All campaign material must be reviewed and approved by the Executive Council prior to dissemination. In addition:

- 12.6.1. Each approved candidate may submit one approved post to be disseminated free of cost on all official Party social media channels once every four weeks in the three months leading up to the Meeting.

- 12.6.2. Each approved candidate may have one approved link to their campaign materials placed on the official Party Website free of cost for the duration of the three months leading up to the Meeting.

12.6.3. Each approved candidate may have approved campaign materials sent by post to all Members once during a three month period leading up to a Meeting, the cost of postage is to be borne by the candidate.

12.6.4. No candidate or campaign in an internal Party election may use the Party Logo or any modified version of the Party Logo on any election ad materials.

PARTY EVENTS PERTAINING TO INTERNAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

12.7. Any debate or event arranged by the Party as part of an internal Party election campaign is to be open to all approved candidates running for the position being elected. Approved candidates are to be given the opportunity to address members and take questions equally.

12.8. All candidates running in an election within the Annual General Meeting shall be given time to speak and address the members at the meeting and take questions.

APPEALING ELECTION RESULTS

12.8. Any concerns regarding an election may be forwarded to the Executive Council during the period leading up to an Annual General Meeting and three weeks after election results are publicly announced. The decisions made by the Executive Council may be appealed within 7 days to the Party Ethics Committee. The ruling of the Party Ethics Committee is final and binding.

BREACH OF CONDUCT

12.9. Any breach of internal Party Election rules may disqualify a candidate or campaign from the election upon the discretion of the Executive Council. Such disqualifications are eligible for appeal by the Ethics Committee.

COUNTING BALLOTS

12.10. All ballots are to be counted under the supervision of the Secretary or their elections delegate, along with a Party member appointed by the chair of the Annual General Meeting. Additional individuals may be appointed by the Secretary or their delegate to assist in counting ballots.

12.10.1. All candidates or issue campaigns may have a scrutineer present during the counting of the candidate's ballots. The scrutineer is to only represent the interests of the candidate they represent.

12.10.2. No candidate or campaign representative beyond scrutineers may be present or involved in the counting of ballots.

STORAGE OF BALLOTS

12.11. All physical ballots cast are to be kept in secure storage by the Secretary for one year. Ballots, when discarded, are to be destroyed. Access to stored ballots is only to be granted upon request to the Secretary. The act of reviewing stored ballots must be supervised by the Secretary and another member of the Executive Council at all times. Such review of ballots shall require an administration fee of \$100. This fee is waived if review is requested by the Executive Council, Party Regional Caucus Chair, Ethics Committee, Party Leader, Deputy Leader, or Annual General Meeting.

ACCLAIMED CANDIDATES

12.12. A candidate may be acclaimed by a show of hands if there is no other member running against them for a given position.

13. AUDITOR

13.1. Section 13 applies only where the Party is required or has resolved to have an auditor.

13.2. The Executive Council shall appoint or remove an auditor.

- 13.3. An auditor may be removed by resolution of the Annual General Meeting.
- 13.4. An auditor shall be promptly informed in writing of appointment or removal.
- 13.5. No member of the Executive Council and no Officer or employee of the Party shall be an auditor.
- 13.6. The auditor may attend Annual General Meetings.

14. PARTY ETHICS COMMITTEE

ROLE OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.1. A Party Ethics Committee, separate from the oversight of the Executive Council, and accountable to the Annual General Meeting is to be established to:
 - 14.1.1. Ensure the core principles of the Party are maintained.
 - 14.1.2. Arbitrate / mediate questions and appeals pertaining to the Constitution, bylaws and other rules, policies or decisions made by the Party and its affiliates.

COMPOSITION OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.2. The Party Ethics Committee is to be composed of:
 - 14.2.1. Two Party Members appointed by the Party Leader, presumably with Executive Council consultation
 - 14.2.2. Two Party Members appointed by the Regional Caucus Chair, presumably elected by the Regional Caucus
 - 14.2.3. Two Party MLAs or Candidates selected by the Party Executive Council
 - 14.2.4. One Ethics Committee Chair elected by an Annual General Meeting of Members
- 14.3. Only the Ethics Committee Chair can sit on both the Executive Council and Ethics Committee. All other Executive Council Members are disqualified from sitting on the Ethics Committee.
- 14.4. All members of the Ethics Committee serve a term lasting one year from 1 January. There are no consecutive term limits.

VOTING ON THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.5. Each member of the Ethics Committee shall have one vote. There will be no proxy votes. If a case is being heard by the committee that directly involves a member of the ethics committee that member may not vote on the matter.
- 14.6. The Ethics Committee chair may break any ties in any votes conducted by the Party Ethics Committee.

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.7. If the Ethics Committee chair is not present during a meeting the Ethics Committee, those members present are to elect a temporary chair to take over the duties of the absent chair for the duration of the meeting.
- 14.8. Quorum for the Ethics Committee is a majority of voting members.
- 14.9. Meetings of the Ethics Committee may occur in person, through video conference, or by phone, providing all in attendance can hear each other.
- 14.10. The chair of the ethics committee is to appoint one member to keep the minutes of a meeting at the start of all meetings of the Ethics Committee. The minutes are to be circulated to all members of the Executive Council

within fourteen days of a meeting ending. Such minutes may only be released publicly upon the approval of the Executive Council.

- 14.11. The Party Leader, Deputy Leader, and any other Party member invited by the Ethics Committee Chair may observe a meeting of the Ethics Committee. Such observers may only speak at such meeting if granted the privilege by one of the committee members in attendance.

APPEALING TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEE - REQUESTING A MEETING OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.12. All committee members must be given notification of a meeting of the Ethics Committee at least three days in advance of the meeting occurring with the meeting agenda circulated at this time.

14.12.1. The Ethics Committee may only meet upon the request of an appeal of a decision already made or policy which has been ratified. The following bodies and people can request an appeal: Executive Council, Party Regional Caucus, Constituency Association, or an individual party member.

14.12.2. An individual party member or Constituency Association may only request one appeal to the Ethics Committee over a four month period counted since the last request to the Ethics Committee was made.

- 14.13. In requesting an appeal from the Ethics Committee the member making the request agrees to honor the final decision made by the committee.

RESPONSES FROM THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.14. All appeals must be written as queries submitted to the Ethics Committee. These matters must be discussed and an answer delivered in writing by the Ethics Committee to both the member or body making the original inquiry and the members of the Executive Council within 28 days.

VACANCIES ON THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.15. Any vacancies on the Ethics Committee including that of Ethics Committee Chair, may be filled by direct appointment of eligible Party Members by the Party Leader. These interim appointments last for the duration of the original term which was vacated.

LIMITATIONS OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

- 14.16. No decision made by the Ethics Committee may alter the constitution or bylaws of the Party or governing document of any Constituency Association. The Ethics Committee cannot be denied the right to present amendments to the Constitution and bylaws to the Annual General Meeting, Party Regional Caucus, Executive Council or a Constituency Association. However, these bodies are to freely vote on such proposed amendments and are not bound to approve proposals made by the Ethics Committee.