

BYLAWS

Adopted Pursuant to the Constitution of the Alberta Green Party

SECTION 1 NAME AND PRINCIPLES

(1) The Alberta Green Party shall be an open party at all levels. Discrimination in the conduct of Alberta Green Party affairs on the basis of gender, race, age (if of voting age), color, creed, ethnicity, religion, economic status, sexual orientation, ethnic identity or physical disability is prohibited.

(2) The Party's goal is to make government work for the purpose of building a just and equitable society, to develop and conserve our human and natural resources, to preserve and enhance our renewable and non-renewable resources, to protect the environment for future generations, to encourage commerce, to advance science and industry, to educate our children, to support the arts and humanities, and to promote equal opportunity for all Albertans.

(3) We recognize that the capacity of government is limited only by the public's commitment and involvement, but we regard democratic government as a positive societal force. We recognize the importance of the participation of all citizens in the democratic process and strive for political inclusiveness in an open, accountable government.

(4) At the heart of our party lies a fundamental conviction that Albertans must not only live in a free society, but they must also live in a just and fair society.

(5) We believe it is the responsibility of government to help us endeavour to attain a just and fair society; a society where the equal rights of all citizens are guaranteed

- (i) a society where discrimination based upon race, gender, age, color, creed, ethnicity, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, economic status, philosophical persuasion or physical disability are condemned and where our government moves aggressively to end such discrimination through lawful means;
- (ii) a society where all people have an opportunity to be gainfully engaged in a sustainable and stable full-employment economy;
- (iii) a society where all workers are guaranteed the legal right to join unions and/or associations of their choosing and to bargain collectively for wages and conditions of employment;

- (iv) a society where we recognize that strengthening our families and communities and the protection of our children are essential to the health of our province;
- (v) a society where the livelihood of our family farmers is as stable as the values they instil in the Albertan character and; which acknowledges the importance of localized food security and the economic and cultural value of the family farm.
- (vi) a society where a sound education, proper nutrition, quality medical care, affordable housing, safe streets and a healthy environment are possible for every citizen;
- (vii) a society where the elderly can live in dignity, with respect for their contributions to our communities and for their wisdom.

SECTION 2 MEMBERSHIPS

- (1) The Provincial Executive Council may set the fees for membership.
- (2) Each member of the Party or a person in the member's immediate family must personally pay the membership fee.
- (3) All membership fees will be shared between the Provincial Party and the Constituency Associations (CAs) as determined by the Provincial Executive Council in consultation with the Constituency Executive Councils on the condition -- but not limited to the condition -- that the Party will be entitled to reimbursement from such fee revenue for its reasonable direct costs for selling memberships and for maintaining a register of the members of the Party.
- (4) Membership in the Party takes effect on the date prescribed by the Provincial Executive Council, no later than the next business day after the application for membership is delivered or submitted in the constituency in which the applicant for membership lives and remains current for a period established by the Provincial Executive Council.
- (5) At any time before the expiry of their membership, a member of the Party who continues to meet the requirements of Article 2 of the Alberta Green Party Constitution, may renew that membership by updating their application for membership, if required, and by submitting the applicable membership fee to an office designated by the Provincial Executive Council or submitting it electronically with the current membership fee in a manner prescribed by the Provincial Executive Council.
- (6) New one-year memberships taking effect on or after September 1st shall expire on December 31st in the following year. Memberships sold before September 1st can be post dated to take effect on September 1st, and in these cases the post dated membership comes into force on the post date.

(7) Notwithstanding section 2(6) above, memberships shall run from January 1st to December 31st.

(8) Subject to Article 2(e), if a membership of any member of Provincial Executive Council or a Constituency Association Executive Council lapses, that individual is no longer a member thereof and that position is therefore deemed vacant. If the membership is later renewed, the Provincial Executive Council or the Constituency Association Executive Council, whichever is relevant, may appoint this individual to the vacant position, but is not bound to do so.

(9) A member of the Party who does not renew their membership in accordance with Section 2(5) may apply to join the Party again in accordance with Article 2.

(10) A membership in the Party expires:

- (a) when the member's current membership term expires;
- (b) when the member no longer meets all the requirements of Article 2;
- (c) when the membership is terminated by the Provincial Executive Council;
- (d) when the member resigns; or
- (e) when the member dies.

(11) A member of the Party has the right to receive newsletters, information, membership services, and notices of general meetings and other activities from the Party, from their Constituency Association

(12) Subject to the relevant provisions of the Alberta Green Party Constitution and by-laws, a member of the Alberta Green Party has the right to:

- (a) attend, speak, and vote at a general meeting of their Constituency Association; and
- (b) be selected as a delegate or an alternate delegate to any convention or general meeting of the Party;
- (c) subject to the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the rules of their Constituency Association, be selected as a delegate or an alternate delegate to any convention or general meeting of that Constituency's Regional Zone or ;
- (d) be elected to any office in the Party;
- (e) be elected to any office in that Constituency or Regional Zone;

(f) vote to elect a Leader in a duly authorized Leadership election process;

(13) Every member of the Party has the right to attend a candidate-selection meeting of their Constituency Association and has the right to vote at that meeting if that member:

(a) is present at the meeting;

(b) has been a member of the Party for the period established by the Article 2

(c) has not voted at another candidate-selection meeting held for the same election (except when the results of a candidate-selection meeting are declared invalid).

SECTION 3 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION

(1) The Constituency Associations shall be placed into two Regional Zones, each consisting of an approximately equal number of constituencies representing approximate east/west geographic areas of the province.

SECTION 4 CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT, NOMINATION AND DEVELOPMENT

(1) The Provincial Executive Council of the Party shall arrange to conduct candidate training and development programs for all potential candidates.

SECTION 5 PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(1) Subject to direction from a general meeting of the Party, the Provincial Executive Council is responsible to:

(a) manage or supervise the management of the activities and affairs of the Party;

(b) manage or supervise the management of the finances of the Party;

(c) take all actions necessary or appropriate in order to carry out the provisions of this Constitution and the purposes of the Party;

(d) with the consent of the President and the Leader, may appoint, subject to Article 5(h)(ii):

(i) the Co-Chairs of the Permanent Appeal Committee;

(ii) the chief financial officer of the Party (to be known as the “Chief Financial Officer”);

(iii) the chief operating officer of the Party (to be known as the “Provincial Director”);

(iv) the chief agent of the Party;

(v) the chairs of any convention, or ad hoc, committee;

(vi) the chief electoral officer for the conventions and general meetings of the Party; and

(vii) retain legal counsel for advice, services and representation as necessary and appropriate to carry out provisions of this constitution.

(e) approve a budget for the Annual General Meeting;

(f) submit a written report to each meeting of the General Assembly

(g) designate a location as the *Provincial Office* and publish that location to the members of the Party;

(h) communicate regularly with its members and with the public throughout the Province in connection with the affairs of the Party.

(i) conduct itself in accordance to the following four ethical principles

I will:

i) Be Impeccable With My Word

Speak with integrity. Say only what I mean. Avoid gossip about others; Use the power of my word in the direction of truth and positive progress toward our shared vision.

ii) Not Take Anything Personally

What others say and do is a projection of their own reality, their own dreams. The exchange of honest opinions and differences will not offend me. I will respect the views of others without feeling personal offense.

iii) Not Make Assumptions

Find the courage to ask the questions I need to fully understand and to express what I really want. Communicate with others as clearly as I can to avoid misunderstandings, sadness and drama.

iv) Always Do My Best

My best is going to change from moment to moment; it will be different when I am healthy as opposed to sick. Under any circumstance, I will simply do my best, and I will avoid self-judgment, self-abuse and regret.

(2) The Provincial Executive Council may:

(a) reduce any time qualification established in this Constitution during which a person must have been a member of the Party;

(b) reduce the amount of notice required under this Constitution for any candidate selection meeting, delegate selection meeting.

(c) to ensure that the affairs of the Party are conducted in a manner consistent with the principles of the Party, the Constitution of the Party, the Constitution of the Constituency Association, and not be prejudicial to the interests or well-being of any member, Constituency Association, or of the Party make adjustments to these bylaws and this constitution subject to Section 5(2)(d),(13),(14).

(d) may propose amendments to this Constitution in accordance with Article 8.

(3) The President/Chairman is the chief executive officer of the Party, and is a non-voting member of the Provincial Executive Council, except in matters to break a tie vote, and is a non-voting executive of each Constituency Association and of all committees of the Party and is responsible to:

(a) preside at meetings of the Provincial Executive Council and the general meeting of the Party and;

(b) supervise the affairs of the Party and be responsible for the administration of the Party;

(c) after consultation with the Provincial Executive Council, establish the date and place of the next general meeting of the Party and publish notice of that date and place on the public website of the Party.

(4) The Vice-Presidents/Chairmen are responsible to:

(a) assist the President/Chairman as required;

(b) assume the duties of the President/Chairman in the President/Chairman's absence, or if the President/Chairman resigns, dies, or is expelled from office; and

(c) perform any other duties assigned by the Provincial Executive Council.

(3) The Chief Financial Officer is responsible to:

- (a) ensure the prudent financial administration of the Party and the proper keeping of the books of record of all bank accounts of the Alberta Green Party's provincial office operations;
- (b) ensure that no disbursement is made without authorization of the Provincial Executive Council, or as provided in the Party Bylaws;
- (c) present audited financial statements to the annual general meeting of the Party;
- (d) present a budget to the Provincial Executive Council each year; and
- (e) ensure that the Party and all Constituent Bodies comply with the financial reporting requirements of the *Alberta Elections Act*.

(4) The Secretary is responsible to:

- (a) supervise the maintenance of the register of members of the Party; and
- (b) ensure that the Party complies with all its obligations with respect to membership records, including, but not limited to, the provision of timely access to membership information as required by these bylaws and constitution.

(5) Subject to Article 5(h)(ii), the Permanent Appeal Committee is established as the final appeal tribunal of the Party. The Permanent Appeal Committee shall consist of:

- (a) two Co-Chairs, one of whom must be a man and one of whom must be a woman, appointed by the Provincial Executive Council with the consent of the Leader and the President/Chairman;
- (b) one representative, for a total maximum of three, appointed by resolution of the executive of each constituency affected, or by the Provincial Executive Council, having regard for objectivity and transparency.

(6) The Permanent Appeal Committee may, in consultation with and approval from the Provincial Executive Council, appoint additional non-member persons to adjudicate appeals in relation to candidate nominations, leadership selection, and delegate selection to any convention of the Party. In the appointment of such adjudicators, the principle of equal participation of men and women must be respected.

(7) Each member of the Permanent Appeal Committee and each adjudicator appointed under Subsections 5 and 6 must agree in writing to remain neutral in candidate nominations, the election of the Leader or the selection of delegates to any convention of the Party.

(8) The Permanent Appeal Committee is responsible for:

(a) adjudicating appeals arising in relation to candidate nominations, leadership selection and delegate selection to any convention of the Party;

(b) upon a reference by the Provincial Executive Council, interpreting this Constitution, any Party Bylaws and any rules adopted under this Constitution;

(c) upon a reference by the executive of any Constituency Association established under this Constitution, interpreting the Constitution of the Constituency, this Constitution and any rules adopted under this Constitution;

(d) upon a reference from the executive of any Constituency, interpreting any Constitution of the Constituency or any of its constituent bodies as it concerns the provincial affairs of the Party.

(9) Decisions of the Permanent Appeal Committee must be based on rules and regulations adopted in accordance with this Constitution and must be issued in writing in not more than 30 days after the start of deliberation. Within the jurisdiction of the Alberta Green Party Constitution all decisions of the Permanent Appeal Committee are final and not subject to appeal.

(10) The Permanent Appeal Committee may make any rules to regulate the procedure of the Permanent Appeal Committee, but any rules it makes must be approved by the Provincial Executive Council and be consistent with this Constitution and the Party Bylaws.

(11) A Permanent Appeal Committee rule, or an amendment or repeal of a rule, is not effective until a copy, certified by one of the Co-Chairs of the Permanent Appeal Committee, is published on the web site.

(12) The Provincial Executive Council may make any bylaw, between general assemblies, to regulate the provincial affairs of the Party, including, but not limited to, the bylaws referred to Article 16, and providing that any bylaw that the Provincial Executive Council makes must be consistent with this Constitution; and

(13) A bylaw, or an amendment, or repeal of a bylaw adopted between general meetings, is effective in its original form from the date the resolution is passed at a meeting of the Provincial Executive Council. The President/Chairman shall give notice of any new bylaw, or an amendment or repeal of a bylaw, coming into force between general assemblies, by publishing a copy of the same on the party website; and

(14) The President/Chairman shall submit any new bylaw, or an amendment or repeal of a bylaw, coming into force between general assemblies, to the next regularly scheduled general meeting of the Party; and the Party, by ordinary resolution subject to Article 16, must confirm, amend, or reject it; and

(15) If a bylaw, an amendment or repeal is rejected by the membership of the Party, no subsequent resolution of the Provincial Executive Council to make, amend or repeal a bylaw having substantially the same purpose or effect is effective until it is confirmed or amended by the Party membership at a general meeting

(16) The Party accepts responsibility for any liability incurred in the course of service to the Party by any officer or office holder of the Party, unless the liability arose from conduct of the officer or office holder that involved:

(a) gross or criminal negligence;

(b) fraud or deliberate deception; or

(c) a misrepresentation of the authority of that officer or office holder.

(17) The Provincial Executive Council may indemnify any officer or office holder of the Party for any loss or claim arising out of conduct for which the Party accepts responsibility as set out in Section 6(1)

(18) The Provincial Executive Council may establish policies setting out the circumstances in which, and the extent to which, the Party will assume responsibility within the scope of Section 6(1) and provide indemnification within the scope of Section 6(1).

(19) The Provincial Executive Council may purchase liability insurance to protect the Party from losses or claims that fall within the scope of the Party's assumed responsibility.

(20) Any member of the Provincial Executive Council or person appointed under this Constitution, in exercising a function of that office, must:

(a) act honestly and in good faith and in the best interests of the Party; and

(b) exercise the care, diligence and skill of a reasonably prudent person.

(21) The Provincial Executive Council may establish policies concerning the standards of conduct for members of the Provincial Executive Council and persons appointed under this Constitution.

(22) Any member of the Provincial Executive Council and any person appointed under this Constitution must comply with the following rules relating to conflicts of interest:

(a) A person who is, directly or indirectly, interested in a proposed contract or transaction with the society must disclose fully and promptly the nature and extent of the interest to the Provincial Executive Council;

(b) A person referred to in Section 6(22)(a) must not be counted in the quorum at any meeting at which the proposed contract or transaction is approved.

(23) the Provincial Executive Council shall conduct a continuing study of the Constitution, Bylaws, and Rules and make periodic recommendations for amendment, extension or other action as required

(24) The Provincial Executive Council shall maintain for viewing by all members:

(a) The Constitution and Bylaws of The Party.

(b) The Rules of Order of The Party

(c) The Adopted Policy of The Party

(d) The Election Platform of The Party from the previous election

(e) All minutes of the previous general meeting and Provincial Executive Council meetings

(f) Items shall be forwarded by mail to members at cost on request.

(25) The Provincial Executive Councillors, to be nominated and elected in accordance with Articles 5(a) and 5(b) shall be elected in staggered three-year terms. The Provincial Executive Council shall set the terms of office for the Provincial Executive Councillors so that a proportional number of councillor positions expire and are subject to an election process at each Annual General Meeting of the Assembly.

(26) Provincial Executive Council may adjust the duration of any one or more councillors' terms of office for the purpose of facilitating its mandate under Section 5(26).

(27) Before the commencement of a meeting of the Provincial Executive Council or any Committee of or established by the Provincial Executive Council, there shall be an opening quorum of a majority of the members thereof.

(28) Appointments made the Provincial Executive Council pursuant to Article V(k) of the constitution are subject to nullification upon seventy-five (75%) percent vote for nullification by the Constituency Associations in that region.

SECTION 6 PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL PARTY CAUCUS LIAISONS

SECTION 7 THE LEADER

(1) The Leader is responsible to:

- (a) speak for the Party concerning any political issue;
- (b) be guided by the Party policies and the Party platform;
- (c) report to every meeting of the Provincial Executive Council;
- (d) report to the Party at every convention;
- (e) in consultation with the President/Chairman, appoint the Campaign Co-Chairs;
- (f) appoint the Policy Vice-Chair;
- (g) appoint members to the Policy and Platform Committee;
- (h) take part in the development of the Party policies and Party platform
- (i) designate the Caucus Accountability Officer to report to the Provincial Executive Council and each annual convention of the Party on the implementation of the Party policies by the Caucus.

(2) The Leader ceases immediately to be the Leader when:

- (a) due to incapacity, the Leader ceases to be recognized by the Speaker of Alberta's Legislative Assembly as the leader of the Party in the Legislature
- (b) the Leader dies;
- (c) there are published in accordance with this Constitution the results of a Leadership Ballot in which the Leader is not endorsed;
- (d) the Provincial Executive Council declares in accordance with Article 7 that the result of a Leadership Vote is valid.

(3) If the Leader publicly announces an intention to resign or if the Leader delivers to the President/Chairman a written resignation or a written request to call a Leadership Vote, then the Leader ceases to be the Leader on the earlier of the appointment of an Interim Leader or when a new Leader is elected by the members of the Party.

(4) In the circumstances set out in Section 7(3), if the Leader publicly announces an intention to resign or if the Leader delivers to the President/Chairman a written resignation or a written request to call a Leadership Vote, the President/chairman must call a meeting of the Provincial Executive Council to be held within 15 days, and at that meeting the Provincial Executive Council:

(a) must in the circumstances set out in Article 7(e) or if the Leader so requests, in consultation with the Caucus, appoint an “Interim Leader”;

(b) must set a date for a Leadership Vote to be held within nine months;

(c) may fix a deposit, refundable or otherwise, to be paid by each leadership contestant in accordance with the requirements of the Provincial Executive Council before the Leadership Vote is completed;

(d) must set a maximum limit for the leadership campaign contestant expenses that may be incurred by any leadership contestant;

(e) may establish a Leadership Vote Committee to oversee the election which shall consist of any number of representatives of the Caucus and other members of the Party appointed by the co-chairs in consultation with the Provincial Executive Council and respecting the principle of equal participation of men and women.

(5) The Leadership Vote Committee shall be responsible to:

(a) adopt rules (to be known as the “Leadership Expense Rules”) that provide for procedures to supervise compliance with the maximum limit for the leadership contestant expenses that may be incurred by any leadership contestant and to ensure full and frank disclosure of all contributions in leadership campaigns;

(b) on an ongoing basis ensure compliance with the Leadership Expense Rules.

(6) The Leadership Vote Committee is responsible to plan, organize and carry out the Leadership Vote.

(7) Each member of the Leadership Vote Committee must agree in writing to remain neutral in the election of the Leader.

(8) The person appointed as the Interim Leader may exercise all the powers of the Leader under this Constitution until a new Leader is elected by the members of the Party.

(9) The Provincial Executive Council may make any bylaw in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 7 to regulate the procedures of the Leadership Vote, but any bylaw that the Provincial Executive Council makes must be consistent with this Constitution.

(a) Bylaws anticipated by Section 7(9) may include, but are not limited to:

(i) voting procedures (including Internet balloting and electronic balloting);

(ii) nomination criteria;

(iii) registration fees and procedures; and

(iv) leadership contestant deposit requirements.

(10) The Leader, having regard for party diversification and gender parity, in consultation with the Provincial Executive Council shall nominate members, to be confirmed at a general meeting of the membership, subject to Article 8, to serve as members of the shadow cabinet.

(11) The Leader in consultation with the Provincial Executive Council may appoint and fill shadow cabinet vacancies between general meetings of members

(12) The shadow cabinet shall be chaired by the Leader or his/her designate

(13) The Leader may appoint two (2) Deputy Leaders

(14) The shadow cabinet may create the election platform insofar as it does not conflict with Party policy

(15) Each member of the shadow cabinet shall:

(i) act as critic for one or more ministries of the provincial government

(ii) liaise with non-governmental organizations dealing with the same policy areas as the ministry(s).

SECTION 8 ASSEMBLIES (MEETING OF THE PARTY)

(1) A resolution amending these Bylaws and/or the Constitution, including the principles of the Party, to be carried must receive a two thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast of the general assembly, and two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Provincial Executive Council, and a simple majority of the votes of the delegates from the recognized Constituency Associations, (herein called a "Constitution Amending Majority Vote").

(2) Resolutions at a Party Assembly, unless otherwise provided for in the Constitution, shall require a majority of the votes cast to be carried (50% + 1 herein called a "Majority Vote"). A resolution establishing or amending Party policy or objectives to be carried must receive a majority of the votes cast and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Provincial Executive Council and a majority of the votes of the delegates from the recognized Constituency Associations.

SECTION 9 POLLS AND REFERENDA

SECTION 10 FINANCIAL ORGANIZATION

SECTION 11 PARTY OFFICES

SECTION 12 CONSTITUTIONAL ADMENDMENTS

(1)The President/Chairman must publish a copy of each proposed amendment to this Constitution that will be submitted to a convention of the Party on the public website of the Party at least 7 days before the general meeting at which the proposed amendments are to be considered

(2) The Provincial Executive Council shall establish, subject to Articles 5 and 12, a Constitutional Committee to oversee and receive the submissions for constitutional amendments for consideration, which shall consist of any number of representatives of the Caucus and other members of the Party appointed the Provincial Executive Council and respecting the principle of equal participation of men and women from various geographical locations in the province.

(3) The Constitutional Committee shall be responsible to:

(a) adopt rules (to be known as the “Constitutional Committee Rules”) that provide for procedures, and time tables consistent with this constitution, to submit, debate, and amend submissions to the Constitutional Committee.

(b) ensure efficiency on an ongoing basis, by establishing rules to combine similar resolutions for the purpose of amending the constitution

(c) bring forth all constitutional resolutions and amendments to the general assembly with a Committee recommendation to accept or reject the amendment or resolution.

(d) review the Constitution and Bylaws at least once every year and make recommendations as it may see fit to amend, repeal or add to the Constitution and/or Bylaws, at a properly constituted general meeting of the assembly.

(4) The Constitutional Committee shall plan, organize, give notice and carry out its responsibility by scheduling Committee meetings, open to the general membership, and prior to the general assembly, for the purpose of adopting resolutions to be submitted to the general assembly.

(5) The Constitutional Committee shall appoint one member of the Constitutional Committee as the sole authority to be responsible for submitting (moving) each resolution to the general assembly, with a recommendation to the assembly that the resolution be accepted or rejected, and to answer questions subject to the motion being duly moved on the floor of the assembly.

(6) If a constitutional amendment or resolution is rejected by the membership of the Party or rejected by unanimous consent of the Constitutional Committee, no subsequent amendment or resolution or repeal of a provision of the constitution, having substantially the same purpose or

effect, can be moved or adopted before a new general meeting of the Party membership is convened subject to this constitution.

SECTION 13 DUTY TO ENFORCE

SECTION 14 SCRUTINEERS

SECTION 15 NOTICE AND TIME

(1) Unless this Constitution otherwise provides, any notice to members may be given by mail to each household or in any other manner established by the Provincial Executive Council.

(2) A notice need not be given to any member designated as “inactive” in accordance with procedures established by the Provincial Executive Council in a Party Bylaw.

(3) The inadvertent failure to give notice to any member of the Party of a meeting of a Constituent Body including a candidate selection meeting or a delegate selection meeting does not invalidate the notice, the meeting or any business of the meeting.

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