Constitution

Liberal Party
of Canada



Libéral

Liberal

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CONSTITUTION OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA

As adopted at the Biennial Convention on May 28, 2016.

As amended at the Liberal National Convention on April 10, 2026.

Preamble:

The Liberal Party of Canada is an association of Registered Liberals who share certain principles, as set out below, and who strive to elect candidates to the House of Commons for the purpose of advancing those principles.

The Liberal Party of Canada is committed to the view that the dignity of each individual person is the cardinal principle of democratic society and the primary purpose of all political organization and activity in such a society.

The Liberal Party of Canada is dedicated to the principles that have historically sustained the Party: individual freedom, responsibility and human dignity in the framework of a just society, and political freedom in the framework of meaningful participation by all persons. The Liberal Party is bound by the constitution of Canada and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and is committed to the pursuit of equality of opportunity for all persons, to the enhancement of our unique and diverse cultural community, to the recognition that English and French are the official languages of Canada, and to the preservation of the Canadian identity in a global society.

The Liberal Party of Canada affirms its commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, grounded in the recognition of inherent rights, respect for treaties and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In accordance with this philosophy, the Liberal Party of Canada subscribes to the fundamental rights and freedoms of persons under the rule of law and commits itself to the protection of these essential values and their constant adaptation to the changing needs of modern Canadian society.

The Liberal Party of Canada recognizes that human dignity in a democratic system requires that all citizens have access to full information concerning the policies and leadership of the Party; the opportunity to participate in open and public assessment of such means, and such modifications of policies and leadership as they deem desirable to promote the political, economic, social, cultural and general well-being of Canadians.

To realize this objective, the Liberal Party of Canada strives to provide a flexible and democratic structure whereby all Canadians can obtain such information, participate in such assessment and militate for such reform through open communications, free dialogue and participatory action both electoral and non-electoral. This Constitution sets forth the institutions, systems and procedures by which the Liberal Party of Canada, in co-operation with its provincial and territorial boards, electoral district associations, and commissions, works to implement these ideas on behalf of all Registered Liberals.

01

A. Establishment

1. Name
There is an association named "The Liberal Party of Canada", which is referred to throughout this Constitution as the "Party".

2. Purpose
The purpose of the Party is to participate in the public affairs of Canada by endorsing and supporting Registered Liberals as candidates of the Party for election to the House of Commons, advocating and supporting Liberal values and philosophies, principles and policies, providing a forum for Registered Liberals to provide input into the policies of the Party, and raising money in support of these purposes.

3. Language
English and French are the official languages of the Party.

4. Gender and Diversity
The Party will promote diversity, inclusiveness and gender parity at all levels of the Party. This Constitution will operate without discrimination on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age or mental or physical disability.

5. One Constitution
This Constitution and the by-laws made by the National Board pursuant hereto govern the affairs of the Party and all of its boards, commissions, committees and associations. No board, commission, committee or association of the Party may establish a constitution other than this Constitution.

6. Property
Only the Party, an EDA, or a campaign, acting through its Chief Agent, may hold property and money, accept contributions, make expenditures, enter into contracts of employment, enter into leases, or otherwise make agreements or arrangements. No board, commission, committee or association of the Party may do any of the foregoing. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein limits the ability of an Electoral District Association or campaign to hold and administer property and funds or to enter into agreements for the provision of services, subject to the by-laws established by the National Board.

B. Registered Liberals

7. Eligibility
Any person who is a Canadian Citizen, has status under the *Indian Act* or is a Permanent Resident of Canada, and is at least fourteen (14) years of age, may register as a Registered Liberal, provided that they meet the requirements set out by the National Board. There shall be no fee for registration.

8. National Register
The Party will, under the direction of the National Board, maintain a national register of all Registered Liberals, indicating the Electoral District Association in which they are resident (hereinafter their "home Electoral District Association").

9. Period
Registration as a Registered Liberal will remain current for the period established by the National Board, and may be renewed and/or terminated in the manner and at the times set out by the National Board.

10. Rights
Each Registered Liberal has the right, subject to this Constitution, to do the following:

a. receive newsletters, information, and notices of general meetings and other activities from the Party (provided that the Party may elect to limit certain notices to electronic form);
b. attend, speak, and vote at a general meeting of their home Electoral District Association or any Commission or Commission Club with which they are registered;
c. attend and speak (but not vote) at a general meeting of any Electoral District Association other than their home Electoral District Association;
d. attend, speak, and vote at any convention or general meeting of the Party or their Provincial or Territorial Board;
e. be elected as a candidate, or to any office in the Party, their Provincial or Territorial Board, or any Electoral District Association, provided, in each case that they comply with the requirements of this Constitution and the National Board in respect of such office;
f. be elected to any Commission office in accordance with this Constitution and the applicable Commission Charter, which, in the case of the Young Liberals of Canada only, may permit a non-Registered Liberal to hold a campus club or EDA level club office, for that purpose only;

B. Registered Liberals (cont)

g. vote on the Leadership Vote and on the Leadership Endorsement Ballot conducted with respect to their home Electoral District Association; and
h. exercise any other right granted to them by the National Board or any other board, commission, committee or association of the Party.

C. Electoral District Associations

11. Recognition
Recognition may be granted by the National Board to one Electoral District Association in each federal electoral district, and such recognition may be revoked, pursuant to rules and procedures set out in the by-laws (each association so recognized, an "Electoral District Association" or "EDA") and in accordance with the *Canada Elections Act*.

12. Purpose
Each Electoral District Association shall:
a. endorse and support the candidate of the Party for election to the House of Commons for its electoral district;
b. engage in, and support, field organizing, outreach, and fundraising in its electoral district; and,
c. facilitate input into Party policy by Registered Liberals in its electoral district consistent with the Party policy process established by the National Board and in accordance with this Constitution.

13. Governance
The executive or governing board of an Electoral District Association shall be composed of Registered Liberals (whether or not living within the applicable electoral district) in such numbers and in such a manner to be determined by Party by-law. Electoral District Associations shall comply with such other requirements as to their governance, financial management and reporting, as may be implemented by National Board by by-law.

14. Requirements
Each officer of an Electoral District Association must be a Registered Liberal, and will be elected at a general meeting of the Registered Liberals who reside in such Electoral District in accordance with the rules of procedure determined by the National Board.

D. National Board

15. Composition
The affairs of the Party will be governed by a National Board of Directors (the "National Board"), which will consist of:
a. the Leader;
b. the President;
c. the Vice-President (English);
d. the Vice-President (French);
e. the Policy Secretary;
f. the Party Secretary;
g. the Organization Secretary;
h. the immediate past President;
i. one representative of those Members of Parliament who caucus with the Party (the "Caucus");
j. one representative from each Province or Territory (each, a "Director" or a "Director from a Province or Territory") from each province and territory of Canada;
k. one representative from each commission (each, a "Commission") established by the National Board;
l. the following non-voting members:
    i. the National Director of the Party (the "National Director");
    ii. a Treasurer (the "Treasurer");
    iii. one representative of the Chief Agent of the Party;
    iv. one representative of the Leader;
    v. a Revenue Chair (the "Revenue Chair");
    vi. up to two Chairs of the National Campaign Committee; and
    vii. two Constitutional and Legal Advisors.

16. Election and Appointment
Election or appointment of members of the National Board shall be on the following basis:
a. each member of the National Board must be a Registered Liberal and otherwise satisfy any requirements set out in the by-laws;
b. each of the President, the Vice-President (English), the Vice-President (French), the Policy Secretary and the Party Secretary shall be elected by secret ballot, in accordance with the by-laws established by the National Board, by all of the Registered Liberals registered at a National Convention of the Party (with the manner of registration and voting, including any remote registration and voting, to be determined by the National Board). No person elected to the positions set out in this Section 16(b) may serve in the same office for more than two consecutive terms (as such terms are provided for in Section 40);

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D. National Board (Cont.)

c. if there is a vacancy in the office of the President, one of the Vice-Presidents (as determined by the National Board) must assume the functions of the President;
d. a person who has resigned the office of President cannot subsequently serve as the immediate past President unless they are first re–elected to the office of President;
e. if there is a vacancy in any other office, then (i) in the case of offices typically elected at a National Convention or appointed, the National Board must promptly appoint a Registered Liberal to assume the functions of the vacant office for the remainder of their predecessor's term; and (ii) in the case of offices elected at a Provincial or Territorial Convention or by a Commission, the vacancy will be filled by the executive of the applicable Provincial or Territorial Board, or Commission;
f. the representative of Caucus shall be selected by caucus with the consent of the Leader;
g. each Director from a Province or Territory will be elected by secret ballot, in accordance with the by-laws established by the National Board, by Registered Liberals of the province or territory in which such Director lives at a Provincial or Territorial Convention;
h. each representative of a Commission will be selected by such Commission, in accordance with the by-laws established by the National Board;
i. each of the National Director, Treasurer, and Revenue Chair shall be appointed by the National Board with the consent of the Leader and the President;
j. the Constitutional and Legal Advisors shall be appointed by the National Board with the consent of the Leader and the President. One of the two Constitutional and Legal Advisors shall be English speaking, and the other French speaking, with one with experience in the common law tradition, and one with experience in the civil law tradition;
k. the representative of the Chief Agent will be selected by such Chief Agent, in accordance with the by-laws established by the National Board; and
l. the representative of the Leader, and the two chairs of the National Campaign Committee shall be designated by the Leader.

17. Powers

The National Board will have the power to:

a. make by-laws, by majority vote, to determine any matter delegated to it in this Constitution (provided that such by-laws must be consistent with this Constitution and published on the website of the Party in order to be effective, and shall only be effective until the next National Convention unless ratified or amended at such convention) including without limitation:
    i. the delegation of authority to the Management Committee;
    ii. the establishment and governance of standing and special committees, including without limitation committees dealing with matters of policy, election readiness, conventions, and Leadership Contests;
    iii. the establishment and governance of Commissions, and the recognition of sections, branches and clubs;
    iv. the governance and administration of Electoral District Associations;
    v. the process of policy consultation and development followed by the Party;
    vi. the rules governing registration as a Registered Liberal;
    vii. the rules governing registration and attendance (both remote and in-person) at any convention of the Party;
    viii. the rules governing the election of officers to the National Board,
    ix. the responsibilities, rules and procedures of the National Board and the Management Committee;
    x. the rules governing the election, responsibilities, removal and limitation of Provincial or Territorial Boards;
    xi. the procedures of the Permanent Appeals Committee; and
    xii. the Chief Agent;
b. oversee the financial administration of the Party, including the approval of budgets, fees, expenses and revenue targets and the administration of banking matters;
c. oversee, acting through the National Director, the hiring and supervision of personnel, employed, contract or otherwise, of the Party and any Provincial or Territorial Board, committee, or commission;
d. approve the incurrence of debt and granting of security on behalf of the Party and any Provincial or Territorial Board, committee, or commission; and

D. National Board (Cont.)

e. approve the entering into of any lease or agreement or the acquisition of any real, personal, moveable or immovable property on behalf of the Party and any Provincial or Territorial Board, committee, or commission.

18. Meetings and Process
The National Board shall meet not less than four times per calendar year, and shall establish a by-law to govern its procedures. The National Board may meet in person or by electronic means, but if they meet by electronic means, each member must be able to communicate with each other member.

19. Miscellaneous
Each officer of the National Board will have the powers and responsibilities set out for them in the by-laws of the National Board, and will serve until new officers are elected at the next National Convention of the Party.

E. National Management Committee

20. Composition
There shall be a national management committee (the "Management Committee"), which will be composed of:

a. the Leader (provided that a delegate of the Leader may attend Management Committee on his or her behalf in the absence thereof);
b. the President;
c. the Vice-President (English);
d. the Vice-President (French);
e. the Policy Secretary;
f. the Party Secretary;
g. the Organization Secretary;
h. two of the Directors from a Province or Territory elected among themselves for a term determined by them; one of whom must be capable of expressing themselves in English, and the other of expressing themselves in French;
i. one of the representatives of the Commissions who are members of the National Board of Directors elected among themselves for a term determined by them;
j. one representative of the National Campaign Committee;
k. the Treasurer (on a non-voting basis);
l. the Revenue Chair (on a non-voting basis);
m. the National Director (on a non-voting basis); and
n. one representative of the Chief Agent (on a non-voting basis).

21. Powers
Subject to direction from the National Board, the Management Committee may exercise all powers that the National Board may exercise except the power to appoint or remove officers or to modify any by-law relating to the establishment, governance or administration of Commissions, (and subject always to prior or subsequent decisions of the National Board).

22. Meetings and Process
The Management Committee shall meet not less than four times per calendar year, and the National Board shall establish a by-law to govern its procedures. The Management Committee may meet in person or by electronic means, but if they meet by electronic means, each member must be able to communicate with each other member.

F. Provincial or Territorial Boards

23. Provincial Board Composition
Each province will have a volunteer Provincial or Territorial Board, to be composed of:

a. the Director elected for such Province or Territory, who shall serve as chair of the Provincial or Territorial Board;
b. a vice-chair, elected by the Registered Liberals who reside in such Province;
c. a secretary, elected by the Registered Liberals who reside in such Province;
d. an organization chair, elected by the Registered Liberals who reside in such Province;
e. a policy chair, elected by the Registered Liberals who reside in such Province;
f. one director at large, plus up to one additional director at large for every ten electoral districts contained in such Province (rounded where applicable), with such directors to be elected by the Registered Liberals who reside in such Province (or in a region thereof) in accordance with procedures determined by the National Board, or applicable by-law;
g. one representative from each Commission established by the National Board, to be selected by the provincial or territorial section of such Commission or, if there is no such section, in a manner to be determined in the applicable by-law; and
h. such other positions established by the National Board.

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F. Provincial or Territorial Boards (Cont.)

24. Territorial Board Composition
Each Territory will have a Provincial or Territorial Board composed of the board of the Electoral District Association recognized for such Territory.

25. Election and Provincial or Territorial Conventions
Each member of a Provincial or Territorial Board must be a Registered Liberal, and will be elected by secret ballot at a convention (each, a "Provincial or Territorial Convention") at which all Registered Liberals living in the Province or Territory which such Provincial or Territorial Board represents are eligible to vote. Such election shall be conducted according to the procedures established by the National Board. A Provincial or Territorial Convention shall be held not less frequently than National Conventions, and otherwise in accordance with by-laws made by the National Board.

26. Responsibilities
Subject to this Constitution and any by-laws made by the National Board, each Provincial or Territorial Board will have the power, with respect only to its Province or Territory, to determine matters expressly delegated to it in this Constitution or by the National Board, including without limitation:

a. the establishment and governance of standing and special committees dealing with matters of election readiness, policy and Provincial or Territorial conventions;
b. the implementation of election readiness programs in its Province or Territory established by the National Campaign Committee; and
c. the organization of the policy consultation and development process in its Province or Territory.

27. Limits
For greater certainty, no Provincial or Territorial Board may hold property or money, enter into agreements or leases, or employ or engage personnel.

G. National Campaign Committee

28. Appointment by Leader
There shall be a national campaign committee (the "National Campaign Committee"), composed of such national campaign chairs and Registered Liberals as the Leader shall designate.

29. Rules
The National Campaign Committee shall have the power to establish national rules with respect to nominations (including any associated fees), the process of registering to vote at a nomination meeting, vetting of candidates for nomination, removals of nominated candidates, disputes, campaign matters and election readiness.

30. Ratification
Rules established by the National Campaign Committee shall be subject to ratification by the National Board.

H. Commissions

31. Establishment
The National Board may establish a Commission to provide a forum for engagement and representation of a demographic group of Registered Liberals.

32. Governance
Commissions shall be governed by the by-laws established by the National Board, and shall have such sections, branches and clubs as are recognized in accordance with the by-laws. Any amendments to Commission by-laws will only occur after thorough and effective communication and consultation with the affected Commission.

I. Permanent Appeals Committee

33. Establishment
There shall be a Permanent Appeals Committee composed of persons appointed by the National Board, to hear disputes arising out of this Constitution, the by-laws made by the National Board, and any rules made by the National Campaign Committee.

34. Governance
The procedures governing the Permanent Appeals Committee shall be established by the National Board. Decisions of the Permanent Appeals Committee shall be final and binding on the Party and not subject to appeal to any other body.

35. Referrals
The National Board and/or the National Campaign Committee may refer a question of interpretation of this Constitution, Party by-laws, or rules that is not resolved by the Constitutional & Legal Advisors to the Permanent Appeals Committee.

J. Chief Agent

36. Appointment
The National Board may, with the consent of the President and the Leader, appoint a corporation incorporated under the laws of Canada as the chief agent for the Party contemplated under the *Canada Elections Act*.

37. Governance
The constating documents of the Chief Agent shall provide that its board shall be elected annually from amongst a list of candidates nominated jointly by the Leader and President, which list shall include at least one member of the Management Committee.

K. Policy

38. The National Board
The National Board shall establish and maintain a national policy process, to be coordinated by the Policy Secretary, which must provide for the following:

a. communication and discussion between Registered Liberals;
b. engagement of Registered Liberals;
c. reporting and accountability to Registered Liberals;
d. flexibility to accommodate changing technology, conditions and electoral cycles; and
e. input into platform development process.

L. Conventions

39. Call
The National Board shall hold such national conventions (each, a "National Convention") and Provincial or Territorial conventions as may be required to give effect to the provisions hereof, including the election of those elected officers of the National Board who are not elected at a Provincial or Territorial Convention or by Commissions, and to deal with policy, by-law ratification, training, election readiness and such other matters as it may determine.

40. Frequency
National Conventions shall be held approximately every two years and in any event not later than three years following the previous National Convention.

41. Registration and Attendance
Any Registered Liberals who pay the fees established by the National Board may register and attend such Convention (remotely, or in person, to the extent and in the manner provided for by the National Board).

M. Leader

42. Office
The Leader is entitled to exercise all authority of a leader under the *Canada Elections Act* and is elected by the Registered Liberals of the Party.

43. Role
The Leader is responsible to:

a. speak for the Party concerning any political issue;
b. take part in the development of the Party policies and Party platform;
c. be guided by the Party policies and the Party platform;
d. report to the Party at every National Convention; and,
e. appoint the Campaign Chairs.

44. Election

a. Whenever a Leader is to be chosen for the Party, the Party must elect a new Leader according to the procedures set out in this Chapter (which is referred to in this Constitution as a "Leadership Vote").
b. The Leader ceases immediately to be the Leader (a "Leadership Trigger Event") when:

M. Leader (Cont.)

i. due to incapacity, the Leader ceases to be recognized by the Governor-General as the leader of the Party in the House of Commons;
ii. the Leader dies;
iii. there are published in accordance with this Constitution the results of a Leadership Endorsement Ballot in which the Leader is not endorsed; or
iv. the National Board of Directors declares that the result of a Leadership Vote is invalid.

c. If the Leader publicly announces an intention to resign or if the Leader delivers to the National President 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 and when a new Leader is elected by Registered Liberals.

d. Upon the occurrence of a Leadership Trigger Event, or if the Leader publicly announces an intention to resign or if the Leader delivers to the National President a written resignation or a written request to call a Leadership Vote, the National President must call a meeting of the National Board of Directors to be held within 27 days, and at that meeting the National Board of Directors must:
   i. upon the occurrence of a Leadership Trigger Event, or if the Leader so requests, in consultation with the Caucus, appoint an "Interim Leader";
   ii. set a date for a Leadership Vote, which must be no sooner than seventy (70) days after the meeting of the National Board of Directors at which the date is set;
   iii. establish the Leadership Expenses committee consisting of:
      1. two co-chairs, one of whom must be a man and one of whom must a woman and one of whom must be English-speaking and one of whom must be French-speaking;
      2. the Treasurer;
      3. two persons elected by the National Board from among the members of the National Board, one of whom must be English-speaking and one of whom must be French-speaking;
      4. two representatives appointed by the Caucus;
      5. any number of other Registered Liberals of the Party appointed by the co-chairs in consultation with the National Board and respecting the principle of equal participation of men and women and the recognition of English and French as the official languages of Canada;
   iv. establish the Leadership Vote Committee consisting of:
      1. two co-chairs, one of whom must be a man and one of whom must a woman and one of whom must be English-speaking and one of whom must be French-speaking;
      2. the National President;
      3. two persons elected by the National Board from among the members of the National Board, one of whom must be English-speaking and one of whom must be French-speaking;
      4. two representatives appointed by the Caucus;
      5. any number of other Registered Liberals appointed by the co-chairs in consultation with the National Board and respecting the principle of equal participation of men and women and the recognition of English and French as the official languages of Canada.

e. The Leadership Expenses Committee is responsible to:
   i. fix a deposit, refundable or otherwise, to be paid by each leadership contestant in accordance with the requirements of the National Board before the Leadership Vote is completed;
   ii. set a maximum limit for the leadership contestant expenses that may be incurred by any leadership contestant;
   iii. 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 to leadership campaigns;
   iiv. on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance with the Leadership Expense Rules.

f. The Leadership Vote Committee is responsible to plan, organize and carry out the Leadership Vote.

g. Each member of the Leadership Expenses Committee and the Leadership Vote Committee must agree in writing to remain neutral in the election of the Leader.

M. Leader (Cont.)

h. 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 Registered Liberals of the Party.

i. Where three-quarters (3/4) of the voting members of the National Board determine that political circumstances require a Leadership Vote to be conducted within a period shorter than the period set out in section 44(d)(ii), or require a change to the date of a Leadership Vote that has already been set, the Board may authorize a shorter leadership contest period and/or change the date of the Leadership Vote.

j. Where the date of the Leadership Vote is changed pursuant to section 44(i), the Leadership Vote Committee and the Leadership Expenses Committee shall review and alter any arrangements already made for the Leadership Vote within their respective mandates, provided that no such adjustment shall derogate from, waive, or be inconsistent with any requirement of this Constitution.

45. Leadership Contestants

To be eligible for election as Leader, a person must:

a. be a Registered Liberal;

b. be eligible to be a candidate in an election of a member to serve in the House of Commons under the *Canada Elections Act;*

c. deliver to the National President, within the time limits established by the Leadership Vote Committee, a written nomination (which may be in one or more counterparts) signed by at least 300 Registered Liberals including at least 100 Registered Liberals of the Party from each of three different provinces or territories; and

d. within the time limits established by the Leadership Vote Committee, provide to the President or their designate, an undertaking in writing that:

   i. they agree to be bound by this Constitution, any by-laws made by the National Board, and the Leadership Expense Rules;

   ii. they will submit all disputes concerning any matter relating to the selection of the Leader and the Leadership Vote and the construction or application of this Constitution, any by-laws made by the National Board and the Leadership Expense Rules to, and abide by the decision of, the Permanent Appeal Committee; and

   iii. have otherwise complied with the bylaws made by the National Board and the Leadership Expense Rules and with the *Canada Elections Act.*

46. Leadership Vote Procedure

a. The Leadership Vote is a direct vote of all Registered Liberals who have a right to vote on the Leadership Vote weighted equally for each electoral district in Canada and counted in accordance with this Section.

b. Every Registered Liberal who ordinarily resides in Canada has the right to vote on the Leadership Vote, if that Registered Liberal has:

   i. been a Registered Liberal for the 41 days immediately preceding the day of the Leadership Vote; and,

   ii. complied with the registration procedures established by the National Board or by the Leadership Vote Committee.

c. At least 27 days before the day of the Leadership Vote, the National Board must publish on the public website of the Party the registration procedures for the Leadership Vote.

d. Each Registered Liberal who has a right to vote in a Leadership Vote may vote by a preferential ballot on which the voter indicates their preference for leadership contestants. A ballot is not spoiled because the voter has not indicated a preference for all leadership contestants.

e. The ballots must be counted, under the direction of the Chief Electoral Officer, in accordance with the following procedure:

   i. each electoral district is allocated 100 points;

   ii. on the first count:

      1. for each electoral district, the first preference votes recorded in favour of leadership contestants on the ballots cast by those Registered Liberals who live in that electoral district are counted and then the 100 points allocated to the electoral district are allocated to each leadership contestant on the basis of the ratio the number of the first preference votes received by that leadership contestant bears to the total number of votes counted;

      2. the total number of points allocated to each leadership contestant from all electoral districts in Canada are added to produce a total for the “national count”;

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M. Leader (Cont.)

iii. on the second count, the leadership contestant who received the least points on the first national count is eliminated and that leadership contestant's first count ballots are distributed in each electoral district among the remaining leadership contestants according to the second preferences indicated and counted according to the procedure set out above as if they were first preference votes;

iv. on each subsequent count, the leadership contestant who received the least votes in the preceding count is eliminated, and that leadership contestant's ballots are distributed among the remaining leadership contestants according to the next preferences indicated;

v. the first leadership contestant to receive more than 50% of the points allocated on any national count is selected as the Leader.

f. The Leadership Vote Committee and the National Board must jointly appoint a chief electoral officer (the "Chief Electoral Officer") who will be responsible to make all arrangements necessary for the conduct of the balloting on the Leadership Vote and adjudicate all disputes over accreditation and the right to vote on the Leadership Vote.

g. The Chief Electoral Officer must act independently of the National Board and each of the leadership contestants.

h. The National Board may make any by-law in accordance with the procedure set out above to regulate the procedures of the Leadership Vote, that is consistent with this Constitution, including but 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.

47. Leadership Endorsement Ballot

a. The National Board is responsible to ensure that a ballot (referred to throughout this Constitution as the "Leadership Endorsement Ballot"), in a form approved by the National Board of Directors which permits the voter to indicate whether or not they are in favour of endorsing the Leader, is voted on at or prior to the first National Convention of the Party held after each general election in which the Leader does not become or continue to be the Prime Minister, with sufficient time that the results may be announced at such National Convention.

b. The Leadership Endorsement Ballot is a direct vote of all Registered Liberals in attendance at the Convention, voting in their home Electoral District Association, weighted equally for each electoral district in Canada and counted in accordance with this Section.

c. The vote on the Leadership Endorsement Ballot must be conducted by secret ballot, and the ballots must be delivered promptly and directly to the auditors of the Party or another independent accounting firm appointed by the National Board (the "Leadership Endorsement Ballot Auditor").

d. The President and the National Director are jointly responsible to ensure that the ballots are counted in secrecy by the Leadership Endorsement Ballot Auditor and that the national count for the Leadership Endorsement Ballot is published at the National Convention of the Party before any results are otherwise announced or published.

e. The ballots must be counted in accordance with the following procedure:

i. each electoral district is allocated 100 points.

ii. for each electoral district, the votes recorded in favour of endorsing the Leader on the ballots cast by Registered Liberals who live in that electoral district are counted and then the 100 points allocated to the electoral district are allocated in favour of endorsing the Leader on the basis of the ratio the number of votes recorded in favour of endorsing the Leader bears to the total number of valid ballots cast.

iii. the total number of points allocated in favour of endorsing the Leader from all electoral districts in Canada are added to produce a total for the "national count"; and

iv. the Leader is not endorsed if the "national count" is less than the product of 50 multiplied by the number of all electoral districts in Canada.

N. General Provisions

48. Amendment

a. This Constitution may be amended in accordance with this Section by a resolution of two-thirds of Registered Liberals registered at a National Convention (with the manner of registration and voting, including any remote registration and voting, to be determined by the National Board).
b. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by:
    i. the Leader;
    ii. the Management Committee;
    iii. the National Board;
    iv. any Provincial or Territorial Board; or
    v. any Commission.
c. Proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the President at least 48 days before the National Convention at which they are to be considered.
d. The President must publish a copy of each proposed amendment to this Constitution that must be submitted to a National Convention on the public website of the Party at least 27 days before such National Convention.
e. A constitutional amendment takes effect on the later of the time it is adopted and the date (if any) specified in the amendment.
f. After each convention at which this Constitution is amended, the Constitutional and Legal Advisors shall oversee the publication of this Constitution as amended and may, in so doing, and subject to the ratification of the National Board:
    i. renumber the provisions of this Constitution to accommodate the changes that have been made;
    ii. correct typographical errors, spelling errors, and cross-references between provisions which are no longer accurate;
    iii. correct errors which are purely typographical;
    iv. replace gender biased language with gender neutral language; and
    v. correct inconsistencies between the English and French versions of this Constitution only insofar as such changes will not change the substantive meaning of any provision.

49. Interpretation

This Constitution will be governed by the interpretation provisions of this paragraph, and the National Board will have authority to interpret this Constitution, subject to appeal to the Permanent Appeals Committee. Words importing the singular include the plural, and vice versa. The power to appoint includes the power to replace. The power to make a by-law or adopt rules includes the power to amend or repeal the by-law or rule. Wherever any period between two events is expressed as a number of days, the days on which the first and second events take place are not to be counted. Wherever it is stated that a person must have been a Registered Liberal for a number of days immediately preceding an event, then their application to be a Registered Liberal must have been received (a) during regular business hours on a day when the receiving office was open at least that number of days before the event or (b) electronically in a manner approved by the National Board of Directors before midnight, local time of the residence of the applicant, that number of days before the event. For all purposes of this Constitution, a Registered Liberal will be considered to live at the place of their ordinary residence, which must be determined in accordance with the Canada Elections Act. Each member of the House of Commons, each candidate at a general election or a by-election and each Registered Liberal living with the member of the House of Commons or candidate is entitled to be deemed to have a place of ordinary residence in the electoral district represented by the Member of Parliament or in which the candidate seeks to be elected, as the case may be. A document is delivered to a person when it is actually received by that person, and a document is delivered to an office designated by the National Board when it is actually received at that office.

50. Notice

Unless this Constitution otherwise provides, any notice to a Registered Liberal may be given by mail to each household, by electronic mail, or in any other manner established by the National Board. A notice need not be given to any Registered Liberal designated as “inactive” in accordance with procedures established by the National Board in a by-law, or who has requested not to receive correspondence. The inadvertent failure to give notice to any Registered Liberal of the Party of anything does not invalidate the notice, the meeting or any business of the meeting.

~~O. Transition~~

51. Effective Date
This Constitution takes effect on the date it is adopted (the "Effective Date"), except as noted below.

52. Repeal
As of the Effective Date, the Existing Constitution, the constitution of each Commission, and every previously adopted by-law of the Party is repealed. As of January 1, 2017 (the "Transfer Date"), the constitution and any by-laws of each Provincial and Territorial Association (each, a "PTA") existing under the Existing Constitution (other than a blended PTA) is repealed.

53. Dissolutions as of Effective Date
As of the Effective Date, each of the Council of Presidents, the National Election Readiness Committee, and the National Policy and Platform Committee are dissolved.

54. Registered Liberals
Each person who was, pursuant to the Existing Constitution, a member or supporter of the Party immediately prior to the Effective Date, is, as of the Effective Date, a Registered Liberal. The National Membership By-Law of the Party will continue to apply to all Registered Liberals, mutatis mutandis, until the earlier of the date on which the National Board passes a by-law governing the process of registration as a Registered Liberal, or the Transfer Date.

55. Commissions
As of the Effective Date, each of the Indigenous Peoples' Commission, the National Women's Liberal Commission, the Commission of Young Liberals of Canada, and the Senior Liberals' Commission are continued as Commissions (the "Existing Commissions") established by the National Board. As of the Effective Date, the constitutions and any by-laws of each Existing Commission will be deemed, *mutatis mutandis*, to become a by-law of the National Board until such time as the National Board passes a by-law relating to the governance of Commissions. As of the Effective Date, all property of the Existing Commissions is transferred to the Party, each section and club of an Existing Commission will continue as a section or club of the applicable Commission, and each officer of an Existing Commission shall continue as an officer of such Commission.

56. Permanent Appeals Committee.
As of the Effective Date, the Permanent Appeals Committee existing immediately prior to the Effective Date is continued as the Permanent Appeals Committee of the Party.

57. National Board
Each officer of the Party elected at the May, 2016 Biennial Convention of the Party in Winnipeg will continue to hold the office to which they were elected until the next National Convention of the Party, except that the titles of such officers shall changes as follows:

58. National Convention

As Elected Under Existing Constitution	New Title
National President	President
National Vice-President (English)	Vice-President (English)
National Vice-President (French)	Vice-President (French)
National Policy Chair	Policy Secretary
National Membership Secretary	Party Secretary

The next National Convention of the Party will be held between September 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018, as determined by the National Board (and provided that the National Board may in its discretion elect to hold a convention outside of this period where, in its view, it is necessary to accommodate venue availability requirements) to elect a new National Board in accordance with the terms hereof.

59. Chief Agent
As of the Effective Date, the Federal Liberal Agency of Canada is deemed to be continued as the Chief Agent of the Party. The provisions of Section 37 shall take effect as of the Transfer Date.

60. Provincial or Territorial Boards
As of the Effective Date, the President of each PTA shall be designated as a Director from the province or territory they represent. As of the Effective Date, the executive or board of each PTA shall be deemed to also constitute

O. Transition (Cont.)

the Provincial or Territorial Board for their province or territory. Any Provincial or Territorial Conventions held following the date hereof and prior to the Transfer Date will elect a Provincial or Territorial Board consistent with Section 23 hereof, and such election shall take effect immediately, with such Provincial and Territorial Board serving as the executive of the relevant PTA from its date of election, and automatically becoming the applicable Provincial or Territorial Board on the Transfer Date. Following the Transfer Date, each Provincial or Territorial Convention (which shall be scheduled and held in accordance with the terms hereof) will elect a Provincial or Territorial Board consistent with Section 23 hereof.

61. Dissolution of PTAs

On the Transfer Date, each PTA (other than a Blended PTA) shall be dissolved, and the property, leases and contracts of each such PTA transferred to the Party. Each employee of such a PTA immediately prior to the Transfer Date shall be an employee of the Party as of the Transfer Date. Each office location of such a PTA immediately prior to the Transfer Date shall be an office location of the Party as of the Transfer Date. No PTA shall enter into any new contract or financial commitment, following the Effective Date, except with the prior express written consent of the National Director.

62. Blended PTAs

On the Transfer Date, each of The Liberal Party of Newfoundland and Labrador, The Liberal Party of Prince Edward Island, The Nova Scotia Liberal Party and The New Brunswick Liberal Association (each, a Blended PTA) shall be continued as associations whose purpose is to participate in the public affairs of their Province by endorsing Liberals as candidates for election to the Legislature of those Provinces. Such Blended PTAs shall, as of the Transfer Date, have no further federation with the Party. As of the Transfer Date, each Blended Association will continue to hold the property, leases and contracts held by it, and employ the person employed by it, immediately prior to the Transfer Date, except as may be otherwise agreed between the Party and such Blended PTA. The Party will negotiate in good faith to provide for administration agreements between itself and each Blended PTA with respect to the shared used of personnel, assets and offices. For greater clarity, nothing in this Constitution or its transition prevents the Party from (a) sharing personnel, assets, information and/or meeting arrangements with the formerly blended PTAs, as described above, or to continue to cooperate in election readiness, campaign activities, and other mutually agreed to activities and (b) allowing Registered Liberals from holding office in a provincial Liberal association or any association thereof.

63. Electoral District Associations

Each Electoral District Association subsisting under the Existing Constitution is deemed to be recognized by the National Board and continued as an Electoral District Association under this Constitution. The constitution of each Electoral District Association will continue to govern such Electoral District Association until the Transfer Date, at which time such Electoral District Association will be governed by the by-laws of the National Board.

64. Leader

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau shall be continued as the Leader on the Effective Date.

65. By-Laws

On or prior to the Transfer Date, the National Board shall pass by-laws with respect to each of the following:

a. the establishment and governance of Commissions, and the recognition of sections, branches and clubs;
b. the governance and administration of Electoral District Associations;
c. the process of policy consultation and development followed by the Party;
d. the rules governing registration as Registered Liberals;
e. the rules governing registration and attendance at any convention of the Party;
f. the rules governing the election of officers to the National Board;
g. the responsibilities, rules and procedures of the National Board and the Management Committee;
h. the rules governing the election, responsibilities, removal and limitation on Provincial or Territorial Boards;
i. the procedures of the Permanent Appeals Committee; and
j. the Chief Agent.

66. Expiry

Part O of this Constitution will expire as of the date of the first National Convention convened after the Transfer Date.

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