

# PROVINCIAL BOARD RULE #6 - LEADERSHIP CONTEST -



**NOVA SCOTIA LIBERAL PARTY**  
Created August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020



This Rule shall govern the Provincial Board's process when selecting a party leader:

## **1. AUTHORITY TO ENACT THESE RULES**

1.1 The By-laws of the NSLP provide:

10.1 *In the event of a resignation or vacancy in the office of Party Leader, the President must call a meeting of the Provincial Board to be held within thirty (30) days, and at that meeting the Provincial Board must set a date for a leadership convention within eighteen months (18) of the date of the resignation or vacancy.*

10.2 *The Provincial Board shall be responsible to plan, organize, and carry out the leadership convention and to determine the method of voting and of the counting of votes. The Provincial Board may delegate these responsibilities, in whole or in part, to any committee or any agent it shall designate.*

10.3 *Each member of any committee or any agent appointed by the Provincial Board to, in whole or in part, plan, organize, and carry out the leadership convention or determine the method of voting and of the counting of votes, must agree in writing to remain neutral in the election of the Party Leader and to not run in the election of the Party Leader.*

10.4 *Every person who is a Party Member thirty (30) days prior to the date of the leadership convention, ordinarily resides in Nova Scotia, and who complies with the rules and procedures that govern the leadership convention, shall be entitled to vote to select the Party Leader.*

10.5 *Party Members shall vote by secret ballot.*

## **2. RULES AND PROCEDURES**

2.1 Following the resignation or vacancy in the office of Party Leader, the Executive Director will immediately limit access to membership and NSLP data in anticipation of a formal process to restore access for those that require it for the Leadership contest or other, approved Party business.

2.2 As soon as practicable, the Executive Director will provide the Board with a summary of any recent and relevant leadership processes used by other parties.



- 2.3 The Executive Director will provide, at an in-person Provincial Board meeting, a presentation and recommendations to the Board on each of the decision points contained in 2.4.
- 2.4 The Board will set out the following criteria for the leadership contest and approve the composition and membership of the following Committees:
- (a) Date of the Leadership Convention;
  - (b) Nomination deadline;
  - (c) Leadership Committee;
  - (d) Candidate financial requirements and spending limits;
  - (e) Voting model for selecting the leader;
  - (f) Budget for the Leadership Committee.

### **3. LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE**

- 3.1 The Leadership Committee shall consist of:
- (a) Two Co-Chairs, one of whom must be a woman;
  - (b) A Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), who will oversee both the drafting and the execution of the rules surrounding the leadership contest and will also act as the Chair of the Rules Committee;
  - (c) A Chief Financial Officer (CFO) who will act as the treasurer and budgeting officer for the leadership contest;
  - (d) The President of the NSLP Board who will be a voting, ex-officio member;
  - (e) A caucus representative who will be a non-voting, ex-officio member;
  - (f) The Executive Director who will be a non-voting member;

- (g) A Chair of the Appeals committee;
  - (h) A Chair of the Green Light committee;
  - (i) A Chair of the Operations Committee.
- 3.2 The Co-Chairs and the President of the NSLP Board shall be the spokespersons for the Leadership Committee.
- 3.3 The Leadership Committee shall appoint members of the Rules Committee, the Appeals Committee, the Operations Committee and the Green Light Committee, each of which are to consist of the Chair and at least two members.
- 3.4 The Leadership Committee may establish other positions or committees that it, in its sole discretion, sees fit.
- 3.5 The Leadership Committee will be responsible for adopting the rules governing the selection of the leader at the Leadership Convention.

#### **4. RULES COMMITTEE**

- 4.1 The Rules Committee shall be responsible for recommending rules of procedure governing the selection of the leader at the Leadership Convention to the Leadership Committee. These Rules will include, but not be limited to, rules relating to access to membership lists and communication with Party Members, information required to be provided by persons seeking to be a leadership candidate, penalties for leadership candidates who have been found to materially infringe the Constitution, the Bylaws, any Rules enacted pursuant to this Rule or any resolution of the Provincial Board,
- 4.2 The Executive Director shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Rules Committee.
- 4.3 The Rules Committee shall review any potential infringement by a leadership candidate of the Constitution, the Bylaws, any Rules enacted pursuant to this Rule or any resolution of the Provincial Board.



- 4.4 A leadership candidate found to have infringed the rules may appeal the decision to the Appeals Committee.

## **5. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 The Operations Committee shall be responsible for coordinating the operations of the leadership contest, including, but not limited to, the venue, media broadcast, volunteers, debates and other logistical requirements.
- 5.2 The CFO shall be a member of the Operations Committee.

## **6. GREEN LIGHT COMMITTEE**

- 6.1 The Green Light Committee shall review the nomination papers submitted by potential candidates and make a determination of whether to approve the person as a leadership candidate. A person who is not approved as a leadership candidate may appeal the decision to the Appeals Committee.
- 6.2 If a person, after having been approved as a leadership candidate, is later found not to be eligible for any reason, the Green Light Committee shall be empowered to declare such leadership candidate ineligible for election as leader, or may determine in its sole and unfettered discretion, what steps, if any, the leadership candidate may take in order to become eligible for election. A person who has been declared ineligible for election as leader may appeal the decision to the Appeals Committee.

## **7. APPEALS COMMITTEE**

- 7.1 A person who seeks to be a leadership candidate or a leadership candidate may appeal a decision of the Green Light Committee or the Rules Committee to the Appeals Committee.
- 7.2 The Chair of the Appeals Committee may make any rules to regulate the procedure of Appeals.
- 7.3 A decision of the Appeals Committee is final.