

CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS

1. CANDIDATE SEARCH COMMITTEE

- 1.1 The Electoral District Association (“EDA”) shall establish a Candidate Search Committee (see the NSLP Candidate Recruitment Guide and Guidelines for Nomination Contestants for additional details).
- 1.2 The EDA Executive, by majority vote, shall appoint the Candidate Search Committee, and a Chair of the Candidate Search Committee.
- 1.3 The President of the EDA may be a member of the Candidate Search Committee.
- 1.4 The President of the EDA may also serve as the Chair of the Candidate Search Committee.
- 1.5 The Chair of the Candidate Search Committee and the EDA President shall remain neutral and impartial throughout the Nomination process.
- 1.6 Subject to any additional criteria established by the EDA Executive, all members of the Candidate Search Committee must be members in good standing of the NSLP.
- 1.7 If an incumbent Liberal MLA, who was the Liberal candidate in the immediately preceding election or by-election in the riding, wishes to re-offer in this election, the EDA is not required to establish a Candidate Search Committee.

2. GREEN LIGHT PROCESS AND POSSIBLE NOMINATION CONTESTANTS

- 2.1 The Provincial Board shall establish Nomination Contestant Guidelines for the Nomination process. These Guidelines shall be the “Candidate Nomination Package” and will remain in effect until changed or repealed by the Provincial Board.
- 2.2 Only Nomination Contestants who have satisfactorily completed the “Candidate Nomination Package” and follow the Rules contained within, and have been approved by the Provincial Campaign Chair, shall be recognized at the Nomination Meeting.

3. CALLING A NOMINATION MEETING

- 3.1 The EDA must establish a Candidate Search Committee (see Section 1: “Candidate Search Committee”) and allow the Committee to complete a thorough candidate search, as per the “NSLP Candidate Recruitment Guide”, prior to the call of a Nomination Meeting.
- 3.2 Once the EDA Executive has received the report of the Candidate Search Committee, and the EDA Executive is satisfied that the Committee has completed a thorough candidate search, the EDA President shall advise the NSLP that the EDA has completed the Candidate Search.
- 3.3 In consultation with the EDA, NSLP, Nomination Contestant(s), and the Leader of the NSLP, the Provincial Campaign Chair shall call the Nomination Meeting.
- 3.4 The NSLP will issue a Call Letter to the EDA President and Nomination Contestant(s) that shall confirm:
 - (a) The date, time, and in person or online options of the Voting Period/Speeches;
 - (b) The cut-off date for eligibility to vote during the voting period;
 - (c) The Chair of the Nomination Meeting; and
 - (d) The Returning Officer of the Nomination Meeting
- 3.5 Notice of the Nomination Meeting shall be sent to all members in good standing of the EDA, by the NSLP through electronic means, no less than fourteen (14) days prior to the date of the voting period. The Executive of the EDA may choose, by majority vote, to implement additional methods of notification. The EDA is responsible for the cost of implementing additional methods of notification.
- 3.6 If the EDA is unable to hold a Nomination Meeting, the Provincial Board, in consultation with the NSLP Executive Director, the Leader of the NSLP, and the Provincial Campaign Chair, shall have the power to call a Nomination Meeting at such time and place, within the Electoral District, as the Provincial Board sees fit.
- 3.7 If the EDA Nomination Meeting is not held in compliance with the NSLP By-laws and Rules, the Provincial Board shall have the power to nullify the results of the EDA Nomination Meeting.
- 3.8 If there is no Provincial Campaign Chair appointed, the NSLP Executive Director shall fill the position until the Provincial Campaign Chair is appointed by the Leader of the NSLP.

4. ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE AT A NOMINATION MEETING

- 4.1 All persons ordinarily residing in the Electoral District who are members in good standing of the NSLP fourteen (14) days prior to the opening of the voting period shall be eligible to vote.
- 4.2 The form and procedures for application for membership shall be as prescribed by the NSLP.
- 4.3 Nomination Contestants shall abide by the By-Laws and Rules of the NSLP with respect to membership.
- 4.4 The EDA shall abide by the By-Laws and Rules of the NSLP with respect to membership.

5. CONDUCTING THE NOMINATION MEETING

- 5.1 The Provincial Board shall appoint a Provincial Returning Officer for Nomination Meetings.
- 5.2 The Provincial Returning Officer shall have the authority to appoint Deputy Provincial Returning Officers to conduct meetings and oversee voting periods.
- 5.3 The Provincial Returning Officer shall have the full authority for all matters relating to the conduct of the voting period and Nomination Meeting. In consultation with the Executive Director, the Provincial Returning Officer shall be the final arbiter.
- 5.4 The order of business at the Nomination Meeting shall be determined by the Provincial Returning Officer, in consultation with the EDA, NSLP, and Nomination Contestant(s).
- 5.5 Balloting shall be conducted by a majority vote, ranked ballot.
- 5.6 Due to the uncertainty surrounding Public Health protocols during this pandemic era, voting will be conducted digitally, by phone or internet, over a set voting period.
 - (a) Due to additional costs associated with digital voting, a cost sharing arrangement of \$500 will be in effect between the NSLP and EDAs where digital voting is used for the nomination contest. (This is in lieu of normal venue, audio visual, and refreshment costs incurred by the EDA)

6. ELECTORAL URGENCY

- 6.1 Following the issuance of the writ of an election, the Provincial Board shall have the authority to waive notice and membership eligibility requirements for a Nomination Meeting.

- 6.2 The Provincial Board may determine that a state of electoral urgency exists in Nova Scotia, by passing a resolution by not less than three fourths (3/4) of such members entitled to vote as are present at a duly called meeting and shall have the authority to waive notice and membership eligibility requirements for a Nomination Meeting.