

RULES GOVERNING THE 2022 NOVA SCOTIA LIBERAL PARTY LEADERSHIP CONVENTION



**NOVA SCOTIA LIBERAL PARTY
ISSUED FEBRUARY 14, 2022**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

DEFINITIONS.....	1
LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE	3
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.....	3
CANDIDATES FOR LEADERSHIP	4
FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.....	7
CHALLENGES RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP/DELEGATE STATUS	10
MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS.....	12
ADVERTISING	12
DELEGATES & VOTING PROCEDURE.....	13
FORM OF BALLOT.....	14
COUNTING THE BALLOTS	15
GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES	16
DISPUTE RESOLUTION.....	18
NOTICE PROVISIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS.....	19

RULES GOVERNING THE 2022 NOVA SCOTIA LIBERAL PARTY LEADERSHIP CONVENTION

These Rules have been prepared and duly adopted by the Nova Scotia Liberal Party's Leadership Committee. They shall govern all matters related to the process whereby members of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party ("NSLP") will select their next Leader through a Leadership Convention on July 9, 2022.

DEFINITIONS

1. In these Rules,

"Administrative Fee" means a levy, the amount of which is set by the Provincial Board of the NSLP, that is to be withheld from all contributions directed toward a Candidate paid to the NSLP;

"Candidate" means any person who, having filed the required documentation with the NSLP in accordance with these rules and such further requirements established by the Leadership Committee, lets their name stand as a candidate for the leadership of the NSLP in the leadership election;

"Candidate Representative" means any person whom a Candidate has authorized, in writing, to the CEO to communicate with the NSLP on their behalf;

"Chief Electoral Officer" ("CEO") means the individual appointed to act as the CEO by the Provincial Board of the NSLP;

"Chief Financial Officer" ("CFO") means the individual appointed to act as the CFO by the Provincial Board of the NSLP;

"Delegate" means a Member who has registered or reregistered as a Member on or before June 9, 2022 online or on or before May 26, 2022, if registering with a paper form, has complied with the procedures set out in these Rules and has been assigned a PIN for the purpose of registering their vote in the leadership election;

"Delegate Fee" means the fee set by the Leadership Committee to register as a Delegate;

"Family and Accessibility Expenses" means reasonable expenses incurred by a Potential Candidate or Candidate as a result of the Candidate's candidacy in respect of (i) childcare, (ii) spousal care, (iii) elder care, (iv) the care of a person with a disability, as defined in the *Accessibility Act*, for whom a Candidate normally provides care, and (v) expenses incurred in relation to a disability, as defined in

the *Accessibility Act*, of the Potential Candidate or Candidate, the reasonableness of which shall be determined by the CEO;

"Leader" means the Candidate who receives not less than 50 percent plus one of the total number of points assigned to the Candidates following any round of voting during the Leadership Election;

"Leadership Candidate Nomination Package" or "LCNP" means the official form(s) duly approved and issued by the Leadership Committee upon which any applicant to become a Candidate must provide all requested information relating to their candidacy;

"Leadership Convention" means the convention called by the NSLP to be held in conjunction with the Leadership Election on July 9, 2022;

"Member" means a person who is a registered member in good standing of the NSLP as of June 9, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. Any person ordinarily resident in Nova Scotia is permitted to be a registered member. **However, to become a Delegate and be eligible to vote in the leadership election, a Member must register as a Delegate in the prescribed form with the NSLP and pay the Delegate Fee;**

"NSLP" means the Nova Scotia Liberal Party;

"NSLP Bylaws" means the Bylaws of the Liberal Association of Nova Scotia and any amendments thereto;

"PIN" means a Personal Identification Number provided to each Delegate by the NSLP and/or its agent which shall be required to cast a vote;

"Potential Candidate" means any individual who has appointed an Official Agent and has, to the satisfaction of the CFO, opened a leadership campaign bank account;

"Provincial District" means any of the 55 provincial electoral districts;

"Remote Voting" means any electronic, internet or telephone-based method of registering a vote in the Leadership Election, as adopted by the Leadership Committee, which allows a Delegate to cast their vote;

"Voting Period" means the date(s) and time(s) designated by the Leadership Committee during which Delegates may cast their vote.

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

2. The Leadership Committee may delegate all or part of its powers under these Rules to any person or sub-committee as it, in its sole and unfettered discretion, sees fit.
3. The Leadership Committee has all of the authority and power to prepare and enact these Rules and to do all such other things required hereunder for the nomination of Candidates and for the selection of the NSLP Leader, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the power and authority to:
 - a. appoint persons to act as officials to ensure the proper registration of Members and Delegates, including the appointment of a Deputy Chief Elections Officer for the Leadership Election;
 - b. appoint persons to act as members of an Appeals Committee, a Rules Committee, a Green Light Committee and an Operations Committee for the duration of the Leadership Election;
 - c. make such additional rules or amendments hereto as it deems appropriate, and to issue further written directives regarding the application of these Rules, and any such directives will be binding as if part of the within Rules; and
 - d. exercise all powers provided to it under these Rules, Provincial Board Rule 6, and pursuant to the NSLP Bylaws.
4. The Leadership Committee shall remain seized of its authority, as set out in the preceding paragraphs and as provided for in these Rules, until its mandate is completed, and its authority shall specifically survive the announcement of the final results at the Leadership Convention.

CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

5. The CEO shall:
 - a. be responsible for all matters pertaining to the conduct of the vote, other than those reserved to the Leadership Committee herein;
 - b. certify the list of Delegates for each Provincial District;
 - c. prescribe the form of the ballot;

- d. perform such other duties as may be determined by the Leadership Committee from time to time.
6. With the exception of any specific rulings referred to herein that are subject to an appeal to the Appeals Committee, a decision of the CEO is final.
7. The CEO has the authority to interpret these Rules and any additional Rules.

CANDIDATES FOR LEADERSHIP

8. To be eligible to be a Candidate, a person must:
 - a. be a Member of the NSLP as of the date of their application for candidacy and remain a Member until the results of the Leadership Convention are announced;
 - b. be eighteen years of age or older on the date of the Leadership Convention;
 - c. be a Canadian citizen on or before the date of the Leadership Convention;
 - d. have taken a leave of absence from any position on the Provincial Board of the NSLP;
 - e. have, to the satisfaction of the Green Light Committee, resigned or taken a leave of absence from any position that could create a conflict of interest;
 - f. have discharged, or made arrangements satisfactory to the Green Light Committee, of all debts relating to any previous election due by that person or by any campaign organization that supported the election of that person in any previous election or nomination; and
 - g. be approved by the Co-Chairs.
9. If a person, after having been declared a Candidate, is later found not to be eligible for any reason, the Co-Chairs shall be empowered to declare such Candidate ineligible for election as NSLP Leader, or may determine in their sole and unfettered discretion what steps, if any, such Candidate may take in order to become eligible for election in accordance with these Rules.
10. In order to become a Candidate, a person who meets the eligibility requirements set out in this part, shall file with the Executive Director of the NSLP, or their designate, on or before March 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. a duly completed Leadership

Contestant Nomination Package in the format determined and issued by the Leadership Committee. The LCNP must include:

- a. the signatures of at least 100 persons who are Members in good standing of the NSLP as of the date that the person files their LCNP;
 - b. those 100 signatures must contain at least 10 Young Liberals in good standing as of the date that person files their LCNP; and
 - c. those 100 signatures must contain at least 1 Member of the NSLP in good standing from each of 10 Provincial Districts as of the date that person files their LCNP.
11. A Member may sign the LCNP of more than one Candidate, and the signing of one or more LCNP's shall not be construed as a commitment or obligation on such person to vote in any specific manner in the Leadership Election.
 12. Each Candidate will pay a nomination fee of \$25,000 to the NSLP. The nomination fee is payable in three installments. The first installment of \$5,000 shall be paid at the time of filing the LCNP. The second installment of \$10,000 shall be paid by not later than April 11, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. The third installment of \$10,000 shall be paid by not later than May 12, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
 13. Payment of the nomination fee shall be by certified cheque, money order, or electronic payment in a form approved by the CFO and shall be payable to the "Nova Scotia Liberal Party".
 14. The nomination fee, or any part of the nomination fee is non-refundable. For greater certainty, the nomination fee does not include the compliance deposit referred to below.
 15. To ensure compliance with these Rules and good conduct of the Candidates in the election process, a compliance deposit of \$5,000 will be levied. The compliance deposit shall be paid at the time of filing the LCNP.
 16. Payment of the compliance deposit shall be by certified cheque, money order, or electronic payment in a form approved by the CFO and shall be payable to the "Nova Scotia Liberal Party".
 17. The Administration Fee does not apply to the compliance deposit and the compliance deposit is not eligible for a tax receipt.

18. The compliance deposit shall be held as security for the Candidate's completion and submission of all the required financial filings and compliance with these Rules. Following completion of the Election Process and once the Chief Financial Officer has determined that all required financial filings have been made and no amounts remain chargeable against the compliance deposit pursuant to these Rules, the remainder of the compliance deposit which has not been drawn upon will be returned to the Candidate.
19. A Candidate shall have 72 hours from the date of receiving notice of any fine levied by the CEO to replenish the compliance deposit by certified cheque, money order or electronic transfer in a form approved by the CFO. At any time that a Candidate's compliance deposit is less than \$5,000, that Candidate shall not be entitled to receive any information or be provided with access to lists or participate in the election process unless otherwise determined by the Leadership Committee.
20. If a Candidate's compliance deposit is less than \$5,000 at 5:00 p.m. on June 30, 2022, then that person's name shall be removed from the ballot unless otherwise determined by the Leadership Committee.
21. The Green Light Committee shall, within 2 business days of the receipt of the LCNP, verify each LCNP and the accompanying payment of the first installment payment of the nomination fee and the compliance fee and advise the Potential Candidate as to its completeness. In the event that that LCNP is incomplete or deficient, the applicant will be notified accordingly and the reason for its incompleteness or deficiency shall be stated.
22. The applicant may correct incomplete or deficient LCNPs within 48 hours of the notice from the Green Light Committee or its nominee(s) of its incompleteness or deficiency without submitting a new LCNP. Thereafter, a new LCNP shall be required. If, after submitting corrections, a LCNP remains incomplete or deficient, the LCNP shall be rejected and a new LCNP shall be required, provided the deadline of March 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. has not passed.
23. LCNPs will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on March 21, 2022 but incomplete or deficient LCNPs may be corrected in accordance with Article 22.
24. LCNPs shall be made available through the NSLP office from February 14, 2022 at 2:00 p.m. to March 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.
25. The Green Light Committee, or its nominee(s), shall review each completed LCNP, and meet with the Potential Candidate. The Green Light Committee will then make

a recommendation to the Co-Chairs to either approve or reject the Potential Candidate as a Candidate. The decision of the Co-Chairs is final.

26. The Co-Chairs may amend or establish from time to time additional forms comprising the LCNP and may require a Potential Candidate to submit further documentation or information that they deem relevant to the evaluation of the Potential Candidate.

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

27. A Candidate shall not incur campaign expenses which total more than \$250,000.00, including the value of donated goods and services, on or after the date of the Leadership Convention, including the period before a person was a Potential Candidate or a Candidate.
28. An individual must appoint an Official Agent before doing any of the following:
 - a. incurring a loan;
 - b. incurring a campaign expense;
 - c. filing their LCNP.
29. The Official Agent must open a separate bank account to be used exclusively for the individual's campaign.
30. The bank account must remain open until the campaign fulfills all of its financial obligations.
31. A Potential Candidate or a Candidate may borrow a maximum of \$30,000 to be used for the nomination fee, the compliance deposit or any campaign expenses. The *Elections Act* applies to determining when a loan becomes a contribution.
32. If a Potential Candidate has been fundraising prior to submitting their LCNP and wishes to use part or all these funds being held in trust by the Nova Scotia Liberal Party to pay their initial Nomination Fee installment and Compliance Deposit:
 - Applicable donations must be received by the NSLP prior to the Potential Candidate filing their LCNP.
 - Direct deposit banking information must be provided to NSLP

- Total donations received by NSLP (confirmed by CFO), less the 25% Administrative Fee, can be deducted from the \$10,000 due at filing the LCNP.
- The Official Agent for the Potential Candidate will prepare a certified cheque, money order or EFT to the NSLP for the amount still owing for the Nomination Fee and Compliance Deposit.

Examples:

	Candidate A	Candidate B	Candidate C
Donations Received by NSLP	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ -
Less Administrative Fee (25%)	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -
Owing to Candidate	\$ 18,750.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ -
DUE AT FILING	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 10,000.00

33. Payment can be by certified cheque or money order made payable to the Nova Scotia Liberal Party or by EFT
34. Unless otherwise defined in these Rules, "advertising", "contribution", "corporation", "donation in-kind", "fair market value", "organization", "trade union", and "third party" and all other relevant definitions have the same meaning as in the Elections Act in force at the relevant time.
35. All contributions made by a Candidate to their campaign are to be reported as contributions and are subject to the Administrative Fee.
36. In these Rules, "expenses" includes all costs incurred, or non-monetary contribution used, as an incidence of the Candidate's campaign.
37. Expenses which shall be excluded from the spending limit are:
 - a. the nomination fee;
 - b. the compliance deposit;
 - c. Family and Accessibility expenses.
38. No Candidate shall accept a contribution from or permit expenses to be paid for or on their behalf by a government entity including the Nova Scotia Government, Parliament of Canada, any Electoral District Association, riding association, or

affiliated entity of any present or previous federal or provincial political party or any other Candidate or Potential Candidate.

39. No Candidate shall accept a contribution from a corporation, trade union, non-resident individual or entity as prohibited by the *Elections Act*.
40. Subject to the following, Potential Candidates and Candidates shall have all contributions sent to the NSLP as a contribution on their behalf.
41. All donations for the benefit of a Potential Candidate or a Candidate must be payable to the NSLP and contain an instruction to direct the donation to a particular Candidate.
42. Subject to the Rules, all payments for any purposes related to the conduct or management of the Potential Candidate or Candidate's campaign shall be made by the Official Agent with payments drawn on the campaign account.
43. Any and all donations/contributions are subject to the requirements of the *Elections Act*, including, but not limited to, those related to individual contribution limits.
44. The NSLP shall be responsible for the issuance of tax receipts directly to the contributors.
45. The NSLP will issue a cheque or electronic funds transfer on Thursday for those monies submitted by 4:00 p.m. the preceding Friday, beginning the Thursday following the day upon which the Potential Candidate has been approved as a Candidate, payable to the Candidate's campaign for the total of monies submitted less:
 - a. Any amounts payable or due and owing by the Candidate in accordance with the Rules; and
 - b. An Administrative Fee of 25%.
46. The Administrative Fee shall not be considered an expense counted against the spending limit.
47. The CFO shall be entitled to perform random audits on the accounts of Candidates and Potential Candidates throughout the Election Process. The Candidate's Official Agent shall provide all books and accounts to the CFO or any person that the CFO designates forthwith upon request and failure to comply shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

48. Without limiting the generality of any of the foregoing provisions, any action by a Candidate or Potential Candidate aimed at circumventing or avoiding the application of any section of the Financial Regulations shall be a violation of these provisions and be subject to sanction by the CEO.
49. For greater certainty, failure to comply with any contribution or expense filing deadlines will be considered a violation of these Rules and shall be subject to sanction by the CEO.
50. The NSLP shall not be responsible for any debts incurred by a Candidate.
51. All surplus funds remaining in a campaign account, after all campaign expenses have been paid, shall be paid to a charity, registered in Nova Scotia, no later than October 2, 2022. The receipt for the donation shall be provided to the CFO as soon as practicable thereafter.
52. Financial reports, in the form determined by the CFO, must be filed with the CFO on or before September 1, 2022.

CHALLENGES RELATED TO MEMBERSHIP/DELEGATE STATUS

53. This section applies to the determination of membership in the NSLP and the eligibility of a Member to be a Delegate.
54. As soon as practicable after a Potential Candidate is approved as a Candidate, the CEO shall provide electronic access to NSLP's active membership list.
55. The membership list may not be copied, transferred or removed from Liberalist for any purpose, and any data obtained through Liberalist must be used within the confines of Liberalist and its approved tools. Mass emailing to members and/or delegates must be conducted with the Liberalist email blast tool and not through any other means. This is not intended to limit the campaigns from communication with their volunteers by email, which remains possible outside of Liberalist, as long as the data was obtained by the campaign outside of Liberalist.
56. In the event that a Candidate,
 - a. is not in compliance with the filing requirements of the rules;
 - b. has a compliance deposit below \$5,000; or
 - c. has not complied with a non-compliance direction from CEO;

that Candidate shall not be entitled to have access to the membership list or the list of Delegates until they return to full compliance.

57. By June 13, 2022 at 5 p.m., the CEO or their designate shall issue to each Candidate or their designate the list of all Delegates, sorted alphabetically by Provincial District. Subject only to amendments made by the CEO in accordance with challenges to the eligibility or Provincial District affiliation of any Delegate, this list circulated shall be deemed to be the final list of Delegates.
58. Any request for a change of a Member's Provincial District must be made in writing and received by the CEO along with any supporting documentation no later than 12:00 pm on July 2, 2022.
59. The CEO shall have the absolute discretion to leave the Member's Electoral District as entered on the Delegate list unchanged or substitute an alternative Electoral District.
60. Any challenges as to the eligibility of any Delegate or the proper Provincial District to which a Delegate is affiliated must be made to the CEO by no later than June 17, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. The CEO shall rule upon such challenges by no later than June 24, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. The CEO will advise all Candidates and each Delegate, who is a person named in a challenge, of their ruling, which decision shall be final and binding.
61. Any changes to the final list of Delegates will be reflected in a revised list, to be provided to the Candidates (if necessary) by no later than June 29, 2022 at 12:00 p.m.
62. Any challenge pursuant to this section must specify the Delegate's name, Provincial District and basis of the challenge and be in the prescribed form.
63. The onus of proof where a challenge has been submitted is on the Candidate who submitted the challenge.
64. The CEO shall investigate the challenge, request further information as deemed necessary and make a determination.
65. In the event that the CEO determines that a challenge pursuant to these sections has been made frivolously then the CEO shall be entitled to levy a fine against the compliance deposit of the challenging Candidate.

MEMBERSHIP COMMUNICATIONS

66. No Candidate shall send any email communication to anyone who has provided instructions to that Candidate's campaign to the effect that they do not wish to receive any such further communications.
67. Candidates shall be subject to a limit on the number of emails they may send to Members and Delegates. The limit is 10 emails in any one calendar month until the Leader is announced.
68. No Candidate shall send any automated phone calls or text messages to anyone who has provided instructions to that Candidate's campaign to the effect that they do not wish to receive any such further communications.
69. Candidates shall be subject to a limit on the number of automated phone calls they may send to Members and Delegates. The limit shall be one in any week until the Leader is announced.
70. Candidates shall be subject to a limit of the number of text messages they may send to Members and Delegates. The limit shall be one in any week until the Leader is announced.
71. This section shall not be construed so as to restrict or limit communications by or on behalf of a Candidate that are strictly a matter of internal campaign communication, directed toward known supporters of that Candidate.
72. The CEO may issue further directives to facilitate and ensure compliance with all of the provisions contained in this section.

ADVERTISING

73. No Candidate can receive paid or in-kind advertising of any kind from a third party, individual, group or organization.
74. No Candidate may enter into an agreement, express or implied, or influence anyone to circumvent these Rules, including by sharing information that has the objective of influencing anyone to circumvent these Rules.
75. All advertising of any kind (social media, print, radio, television or any other form) must clearly identify the Candidate and state it is authorized by the Official Agent of the Candidate.

76. The use of deliberately misleading or false information by any Candidate is not permitted.
77. The NSLP logo, trademarks and any other official mark duly owned and/or used by the NSLP shall not be used by any Candidate as part of their campaign.

DELEGATES & VOTING PROCEDURE

78. The vote to select the NSLP Leader shall be a preferential one-member one-vote system, weighted by Provincial District. All Members registered by June 9, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. shall be eligible to become a Delegate. Only Delegates, in accordance with these Rules, shall be entitled to cast a vote in the leadership election.
79. To become a Delegate:
 - a. a Member must register online and pay the Delegate Fee on or before June 9, 2022; or
 - b. a Member must fill out the registration in the prescribed paper form and pay the Delegate Fee. The paper form must be hand delivered to the NSLP office on or before May 19, 2022 or be post-marked on or before May 19, 2022. Forms that:
 - i. are not legible;
 - ii. are not signed;
 - iii. are not properly witnessed by a Member in good standing;
 - iv. do not contain all of the prescribed information; or
 - v. are not received or post-marked on or before May 19, 2022will not be accepted.
80. The maximum number of paper forms that may be delivered by any one individual by hand or by post is 10.
81. Every person who:
 - a. is a Member having registered by June 9, 2022 at 11:59p.m.; and
 - b. complies with the registration procedures and pays the Delegate Fee established by the Leadership Committee;

shall be a Delegate and shall be eligible to cast one vote to select the NSLP Leader. Only Delegates may vote in the Leadership Election.

82. Candidates or anyone acting on their behalf, are prohibited from directly or indirectly paying a Member's fee to register as a Delegate.
83. On or before March 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. the NSLP shall publish on its website the procedure which Members must follow in order to become a Delegate.
84. Votes shall be cast electronically, either by internet access (through a computer, smart phone, or similar device) or by telephone.
85. Each Delegate shall record their vote in respect of the Provincial District with which they are affiliated, in accordance with the final list of Delegates.
86. The voting period shall begin July 4, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. and will end on July 9, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.
87. Votes shall be cast by a preferential ballot, in that each Delegate shall be asked to rank the Candidates in order of preference, from number one (1) to such other number commensurate with the number of Candidates, so that each Delegate shall have ranked the Candidates in the order of their preference. There shall only be one PIN assigned to one Delegate and accordingly, each Delegate may vote only for the purpose of selecting and ranking the preferred NSLP Leader of their choice as aforesaid.

FORM OF BALLOT

88. On the ballot, the Candidates shall be listed in alphabetical order by surname followed by first name, if more than one Candidate has the same surname.
89. Unless otherwise requested by a Candidate and approved by the CEO, the name used by the Candidate for the purposes of their application to the LCNP shall be the name used on the ballot.
90. A ballot is valid if at least one Candidate is selected.
91. The last date a Candidate can be removed from the ballot is July 2, 2022 at 5 p.m. Requests to be removed from the ballot must be submitted to the CEO and approved by the Co-Chairs.
92. The CEO shall approve the form of the ballot and any necessary changes thereto in accordance with the Rules.

COUNTING THE BALLOTS

93. The ballots shall be counted, under the direction of the CEO, in accordance with the following procedure:
- a. Each Provincial District shall be allocated 100 points per count, for a Province-wide total of 5,500 points per count;
 - b. Votes shall be allocated and counted in the Provincial District where the Delegate is affiliated, as per these Rules;
 - c. On the first count, the first preference for each ballot submitted shall be tabulated, by Provincial District, with each Candidate being awarded a number of points per Provincial District commensurate with the percentage of first preference votes received by such Candidate rounded to two decimal places, converted to points, and the portion of points rounded to two decimal places. [By way of illustration only, if Candidate A receives 15% of the first preference ballots in a Provincial District on the first count, then Candidate A will receive 15 points for that Provincial District on the first count];
 - d. allocated to each Candidate in the 55 Provincial Districts will be totaled, and that total shall be the Candidate's result for the first count;
 - e. Should any Candidate receive 2,751 points or more on the first count, i.e. 50% plus one vote, they shall be declared the NSLP Leader;
 - f. Should no Candidate receive 2,751 points or more on the first count, then the votes shall be tabulated on a second count and the Candidate(s) who received the lowest number of points on the first count and/or received less than 5% of total points on the first count shall not be included in the list of Candidates for the second count;
 - g. On a second count, if applicable, the first preference ballots cast for the Candidate with the lowest total of points on the first count and each candidate receiving less than five percent (5%) of total points on the first count will be redistributed to the remaining Candidates in accordance with the second preference selected on those ballots that were cast for the Candidate that is no longer on the list as per the preceding paragraph, and the second vote shall be tabulated in accordance with paragraphs (2) through (6) hereof, with necessary modifications;

- h. Should no Candidate receive 2,751 points or more on the second count, successive counts shall be carried out in the same manner as prescribed herein with necessary modifications, until a Candidate receives 2,751 or more points and is declared the NSLP Leader.
 - i. For the purposes of calculating the result of this Leadership race, both the percentage of vote per EDA and points awarded from each EDA shall be calculated to two decimal points.
 - j. In the event of a tie, a winner will be selected by coin toss.
 - k. Results of each count shall remain confidential until the CEO or such other person authorized by the Leadership Committee announces the results during the Leadership Convention.
 - l. Each Candidate may appoint a number of scrutineers to be present at the taking and counting of the ballots. The CEO will determine the number. At no time may scrutineers hinder or interfere with the voting and counting processes. In addition, scrutineers shall at all times comply with directions given to them by the CEO or their designates. Failure to comply with any of these requirements may result in the exclusion of the noncompliant scrutineer(s). Scrutineers must keep the result of each count confidential until the CEO or such other person authorized by the Leadership Committee announces the results during the Leadership Convention.
94. If, after the Voting Period begins but before the Voting Period ends, a Candidate cannot continue or is deemed ineligible to continue as a Candidate by the Co-Chairs, that individual's name will remain on the ballot, however, that Candidate shall be removed from the count. If more than one Candidate cannot continue or is deemed ineligible to continue as a Candidate by the Co-Chairs, each Candidate shall be removed from the count in alphabetical order by surname.

GENERAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

95. These Rules and relevant supplementary rules shall apply and govern all matters relating to the selection of the NSLP Leader, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, including all matters relating to voting, voter eligibility, the procedures for becoming a Candidate, the voting procedures, the Leadership Convention and all such matters that relate to the Leadership Election.
96. The Rules shall apply, without limitation, to all Candidates and to their campaign volunteers and activities. Anything done on behalf of a Candidate shall, unless

proven by the Candidate to have been done without their knowledge and consent, be deemed to have been done by the Candidate.

97. The Leadership Convention shall take place on July 9, 2022 with the results of the Leadership Election being announced on July 9, 2022. Each Candidate will be afforded an opportunity to deliver a speech in advance of the Leadership Convention at a time and in the order determined by the Leadership Committee. A time limit for speeches, to be determined by the Leadership Committee, will apply.
98. All Candidates must attend and fully participate in the Leadership Convention, unless there are exigent circumstances, as determined by the Leadership Committee.
99. The NSLP Leader shall be announced upon the final tabulation of the results during the Leadership Convention. The NSLP Leader shall not be announced to any Candidate prior to it being announced at the Convention.
100. A fee of \$20, the amount of which has been determined by the Provincial Board, will be charged and remitted by any person wishing to be a Delegate. A tax receipt will be issued for the Delegate Fee.
101. To ensure that a Delegate only votes once, the Delegate must go through an authentication process and initiate a voting session using their PIN. The authentication process will be adopted by the CEO but must, at a minimum, be sufficient to ensure that a Delegate can only vote once and that no one PIN may be used more than once.
102. Only the Delegate may secure and obtain their PIN. That is, Candidates and/or anyone acting on their behalf are prohibited from taking steps to secure, obtain and/or assign the PIN of a Delegate, either directly or indirectly, by any means, and any such improper intervention by any of the Candidates and/or anyone acting on their behalf shall be deemed to be a violation of these Rules which is subject to sanction. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as precluding a Delegate who requires the aid of another person for medical or other bona fide reasons to seek and obtain the assistance of any other person to secure and be assigned such Delegate's PIN.
103. If a Delegate does not receive a PIN or loses their PIN, that PIN may be replaced. When a replacement PIN is issued, the Delegate's original PIN is no longer valid.

104. If a Delegate, for any reason, after receiving a PIN is unable to vote during the Voting Period, no other person may use that PIN to cast a vote.
105. These Rules shall be interpreted and applied in a manner which is fair and equitable, having regard to all of the circumstances, and in the best interests of the NSLP.
106. All Candidates and campaigns shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with restrictions, directions, declarations and orders in place at the relevant time in relation to COVID-19.
107. The Leadership Committee may interpret and amend these Rules in a manner consistent restrictions, directions, declarations and orders in place at the relevant time in relation to COVID-19.
108. All times listed in these Rules are Atlantic Time.
109. Any reference to statutes in these Rules is to statutes in Nova Scotia. If any provision of a statute referred to herein is amended and/or proclaimed at any time prior to the Leadership Convention, any reference to the statute is to the version in force at the relevant time.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

110. Upon request of any Candidate or Member or on its own initiative, the CEO may inquire into whether a Candidate has contravened these Rules, any directive or any law of Canada or Nova Scotia.
111. The CEO shall notify the Candidate of its inquiry and will provide the Candidate an opportunity to present a written response that shall be provided within 24 hours.
112. If the CEO, following consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Leadership Committee determines that a Candidate has contravened these Rules, any directive or any applicable law, the CEO may do one or more of the following:
 - a. Direct the Candidate to take specified actions to achieve compliance and to remedy any consequences of the contravention, with which direction the Candidate must immediately comply;
 - b. impose a fine and charge any such fine against all or part of the Candidate's compliance deposit;
 - c. Issue a warning;

- d. Make public the CEO's determination and ruling;
 - e. Advise the appropriate authorities;
 - f. Recommend to the Co-Chairs to disqualify the Candidate; and
 - g. Take such other steps that it deems appropriate.
113. The decisions of the CEO under this section may be appealed by a Candidate or former Candidate to the Appeals Committee.
114. The Appeals Committee shall publish general Rules of Procedure for the conduct of Appeals.
115. A decision by the Appeals Committee is final.

NOTICE PROVISIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

116. All notices to be provided under these Rules shall be provided in writing to:

Nova Scotia Liberal Party
office@liberal.ns.ca

or

Nova Scotia Liberal Party
5151 George Street, Suite 1400
Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 1M5

117. Candidates must provide, in the form provided by the CEO, a list of their contact information along with the contact information for their Campaign Manager, Official Agent and any Candidate Representative(s).
118. Communications with a Candidate's Campaign Manager, Official Agent or any Candidate Representative shall be the same as communicating directly with the Candidate and all communications or notices delivered to any one or combination of these shall be the same as notice having been given to the Candidate.
119. Any communication received from a Candidate's Campaign Manager, Official Agent or Candidate Representative shall be the same as a communication directly from the Candidate and all communications or notices delivered to any one or combination of these shall be the same as notice having been given by the Candidate.

120. Any signature required under these Rules is valid if it complies with section 11 of the *Electronic Commerce Act*, SNS 2000, c. 26.