



2021 LEADERSHIP RULES

DEFINITIONS

"Constitution" means the Constitution of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party.

"CRO" means Chief Returning Officer,

"Delegate" means any eligible member who has registered to attend the Leadership Convention, either in-person or remotely, and paid any applicable delegate fee as of 5:00 p.m. CST on October 10th, 2021.

"DRO" means Deputy Returning Officer,

"Eligible Member" means a member in good standing of the SLP as of 12:00 p.m. CST on September 18th, 2021.

"Leadership Candidate" means a person who has met the necessary qualifications as fixed by these rules and the Constitution for seeking the leadership of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party.

"Leadership Convention" means the general meeting of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party which is being held on October 16th, 2021.

"LRC" means the Leadership Rules and Campaign Committee appointed by the Executive of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party with the authority to organize, conduct and oversee the Leadership Convention.

"PAC" means Permanent Appeals Committee.

"Rules" means these rules as promulgated by the LRC.

"SLP" means the Saskatchewan Liberal Party.

1. PERMANENT APPEALS COMMITTEE

1.1 The PAC shall consist of a chair person appointed by the SLP President and two members as selected by the chair person.

1.2 The PAC shall deal only with challenges to the decision of the CRO.

1.3 The PAC shall consider any written appeal signed by a minimum of five eligible members.

1.4 The PAC shall be governed by the following instruments in order of priority:

- a) Constitution of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party;
- b) The Leadership Rules (*this document*).

1.5 The PAC shall be required to communicate, in writing, its decision to the petitioners and to the President of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party.

1.6 The decision of the Permanent Appeals Commission is final.

2. GENERAL RULES AND PRINCIPLES

2.1 The Leader of the SLP shall be chosen at a Leadership Convention by a direct vote of eligible members. Secret voting shall be conducted by a majority vote, ranked ballot.

2.2 The LRC shall appoint the CRO who shall act as the senior election official in respect of all aspects of the leadership election process. Subject to the Constitution and these rules, the rulings of the CRO shall, in all instances, be final.

2.3 The LRC may appoint a DRO, who shall have authority to assist the CRO in fulfilling their responsibilities.

2.4 The Constitution and these rules shall constitute the complete legal authority over the Leadership Convention process, and any provision relating hereto contained in the Constitution of any constituency association shall be of no force or effect.

2.5 Duly completed nomination papers for Leadership Candidates and other such forms as may later be adopted by the LRC shall be filed with the CRO not later than 5:00 p.m. CST on August 24, 2021.

2.6 At the Leadership election, in the event that there are more than two candidates for Leader, and on the initial count no candidate receives a majority of the valid first preference votes cast, the candidate receiving the lowest number of valid first preference votes cast shall retire, provided that this leaves at least two candidates on the ballot. Ballots assigned to the retired candidate shall then be recounted and

assigned to one of the remaining candidates based on the next preference on each ballot. This process shall be repeated until one of the candidates receives a majority of the valid votes cast and shall thereby be elected. Ballots that exhaust all their ranked preferences during any count shall be set aside.

2.7 Prior to the election, the CRO shall cast a physical paper ballot that shall then be sealed and set aside. This ballot shall be opened and counted only in the event of a tied vote needing to be settled.

2.8 Each Leadership Candidate shall be allowed to assign a maximum of one candidate's representative to observe the voting process and counting of ballots, provided that the presence of the representative does not cause any form of disruption to the voting process or the work of poll officials.

3. LEADERSHIP CANDIDATES

3.1 Qualifications. To be eligible for election as the Leader of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party, a person must:

- a) be a member of the SLP in good standing;
- b) be eligible to be a candidate in an election of a member to serve in the Legislature of Saskatchewan under the Saskatchewan Elections Act;
- c) before 5:00 p.m. CST on August 24, 2021, deliver to the CRO at the address of **PO Box 825, Regina SK S4P 3B1**, a completed nomination package:
 - i. A fully and frankly written leadership candidate questionnaire (Part 1);
 - ii. Agreement to support the elected candidate (Part 2);
 - iii. Agreement to the code of conduct (Part 3);
 - iv. Acknowledgment of financial responsibility (Part 4);
 - v. The name and signature of 25 nominators, who shall be members in good standing (Part 5)
 - vi. A \$150 CAD deposit in the form of a bank draft, which shall be returned to qualified leadership candidates within 90 days following the Leadership Convention, provided that all established reporting requirements and deadlines are met.

3.2 Review of candidate's questionnaire. The LRC is responsible to review all questionnaires delivered to the CRO as contemplated by Rule 3.1(c) and may approve or refuse to approve a person as a Leadership Candidate. If the Committee approves a person as a Leadership Candidate, then it must notify the CRO in writing of that approval. If the Committee refuses to approve a person as a Leadership Candidate, then the committee must notify that person in writing of that refusal and the reasons for

that refusal. Subject only to a direction otherwise by the Permanent Appeal Committee, a decision of the Committee under this rule is final.

3.4 Review of nomination. The CRO is responsible to review all documents delivered as contemplated by Rule 3.1(c) for compliance with the requirements of these Rules and the SLP Constitution. The CRO has the right to independently verify any information provided by the prospective leadership candidate, and to request additional information for the purpose of seeking clarification to any answer provided in the candidate's questionnaire. If the documents delivered by a prospective leadership candidate meet all requirements of these Rules and the SLP Constitution and the CRO has received the approval of that prospective leadership candidate from the LRC, then the CRO must forthwith notify that prospective leadership candidate that the SLP has accepted the person as a Leadership Candidate. If the documents delivered by a prospective leadership candidate do not meet all requirements of these Rules and the SLP Constitution, then the CRO must notify that prospective leadership candidate in writing that they are not accepted as a Leadership Candidate and the reasons for that lack of acceptance. Subject only to a direction otherwise by the Permanent Appeal Committee, a decision of the CRO under this Rule is final.

3.5 Disqualification. If a person:

- a) is later found by the LRC not to be eligible for election as the Leader of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party; or
- b) is found in accordance with the Leadership Expense Rules to be in violation of those rules; or
- c) withdraws as a Leadership Candidate;

then the CRO must ensure that the name of that person is removed from all ballots at the Convention.

3.6 A Leadership Candidate shall not serve as Leader, Interim Leader, or in any role on the SLP Executive or any party committee. A prospective leadership candidate shall resign from any such office prior to being accepted as a Leadership Candidate.

4. ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE

4.1 Each registered Delegate is entitled to vote for the Leadership.

4.2 Voting shall be conducted through an electronic (web-based) voting system, within voting hours set out by the LRC.

4.3 Voting instructions shall be provided by email to each Delegate prior to the Convention. Each Delegate has the responsibility of providing a valid and unique email address at the time of registration.

4.4 No provision for advance, proxy, telephone, or paper-based voting methods shall be provided.

5. MEMBERSHIP LISTS AND CHALLENGES

5.1 Availability of voting list. Each leadership candidate or their agent shall be allowed one electronic copy of the membership list upon approval of their nomination, and an updated copy on July 30, 2021 and August 31, 2021. A final list of all eligible members will be made available on September 18, 2021.

5.2 Challenges. If a Leadership Candidate or their agent wishes to challenge any individual's right to vote as an eligible member, they must do so before 5:00 p.m. CST on September 25, 2021. Challenges may be made with respect to:

- (a) whether the address shown on the membership list is accurate; or
- (b) whether the member resides at such address; or
- (c) whether the member is a member of another provincial political party.

5.3 Method of making challenge. Challenges must be made in writing setting out the reasons for the challenge and must be delivered to the CRO.

5.4 Adjudication of the challenge. After receiving the challenge, the CRO is responsible to distribute a copy of the challenge to each candidate or their agents at the email address provided by the candidate for that purpose. The CRO shall give the challenged individual an opportunity to answer the challenge, and then shall:

- (a) accept the challenge and rule that a challenged individual is not eligible to vote as an eligible member at the Convention; or
- (b) reject the challenge.

6. APPEAL

6.1 Any person aggrieved by any decision made under these rules, shall have a right of appeal to the PAC.

6.2 An appeal to the PAC shall only be commenced by notice, in writing, received not later than 72 hours after the decision requiring review has been made.

6.4 The PAC may require appropriate fees to be paid by an appellant before any appeal is heard.

6.5 The delivery of a notice of appeal shall not cause any deadline or process to be postponed or delayed, unless specifically ordered by the PAC.

6.6 The PAC shall give notice of an appeal to each Leadership Candidate, the LRC, and any other person deemed appropriate by the PAC.

6.7 The PAC may delegate all aspects of an appeal, including the hearing, to other adjudicators appointed from time to time by the PAC who shall be residents of Saskatchewan.

6.8 Decisions of the PAC shall be final and not subject to appeal.

6.9 The PAC has all the powers necessary to give effect to its decisions, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the power to declare a nominee duly elected.

7. SPENDING LIMITS, DONATIONS & FUNDRAISING REQUIREMENTS

7.1 The spending limit for each candidate shall be set at \$15,000.00 CAD. The LRC shall establish reporting requirements and penalty provisions, to be communicated to each Leadership Candidate by the close of nominations.

7.2 Each Leadership Candidate must raise a total of \$3500.00 CAD in non-refundable donations to the Party, separate from any donations made directly to the Leadership Candidate's campaign. There are no limits on the number of donors or individual donation amounts. The full amount must be raised by September 25, 2021. Failure to raise the required funds shall result in immediate disqualification as a candidate.

Note: Official tax receipts will be issued by the Party for eligible donations over \$25. Please be advised that any contribution in excess of \$250 in one calendar year will be publically disclosed under The Election Act.

7.3 Donations made directly to a Leadership Candidate's campaign are not considered to be donations to the Party and are not eligible to be receipted for tax purposes.

8. INTERPRETATION

8.1 The foregoing rules shall be interpreted and applied in a manner which is fair and equitable to all participants in the candidate selection process, having regard to all the circumstances and in the best interests of the SLP.

8.2 In the event of any matter not specifically covered by these rules, regard shall be given to the Constitution of the SLP.

8.3 From time to time the LRC and/or CRO may issue bulletins to explain any of the rules herein contained. These rules may be amended by the LRC.

9. ABRIDGMENT

9.1 In any situation where the LRC, in consultation with the Executive of the SLP, deems it advisable, it may abridge the time limits or amend these rules as it in its sole discretion may see fit.

Notices of Amendment:

Amended on June 21, 2021 by the Executive of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party:

That the deadline for nominations be changed from July 24, 2021 to August 24, 2021.