

LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA

# RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE 2006 LEADERSHIP AND BIENNIAL CONVENTION

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 3, 2006

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

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In accordance with article 16(15)(j) of the Constitution of the Liberal Party of Canada, the following rules are proposed for adoption at the opening plenary session of the 2006 Leadership and Biennial Convention as the rules governing proceedings at the Convention and, insofar as they relate to the election of officers of commissions, as the rules governing those elections at the contemporaneous biennial conventions of those commissions.

## I . PRELIMINARY

### 1.1 **Definitions and interpretation.** In these Rules:

- (a) “Candidate” has the meaning assigned in Rule 9.2;
- (b) “Co-Chairs” mean the co-chairs of the Convention appointed by the National Executive;
- (c) “Convention” means the 2006 Leadership and Biennial Convention of the Liberal Party of Canada;
- (d) “Convention Organizing Committee” means the convention organizing committee established and appointed by the National Executive for the Convention under articles 16(7) and (8) of the National Constitution;
- (e) “Convention Office” means the office established by the Convention Organizing Committee as the convention office;
- (f) “Convention Returning Officer” means the person appointed by the Convention Organizing Committee as the chief election officer for voting at the Convention and who has signed a declaration of neutrality in the form set out as Form 5 to the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates;
- (g) “Delegate Handbook” means the document published by authority of the Convention Organizing Committee and distributed to registered delegates and registered alternates with details of the business to be conducted at the Convention;
- (h) “General Secretary” means the general secretary appointed by the National Executive for the Convention under article 16(7) of the National Constitution;
- (i) “Leadership Contestant” means a person who is a “Leadership Contestant” as defined in the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates and who has not withdrawn as such a contestant;
- (j) “National Constitution” means the Constitution of the Liberal Party of Canada;

- (k) “National Returning Officer” means the person appointed under rule 2.1 of the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates;
- (l) “Party Speeches” has the meaning assigned in Rule 9.3;
- (m) A “registered alternate” is a person entitled to be an alternate in accordance with the National Constitution and the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates and who has paid the appropriate registration fee and received and signed an official delegate badge before the registration of delegates and alternates closes;
- (n) A “registered delegate” is a person entitled to be a delegate in accordance with the National Constitution and the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates and who has paid the appropriate registration fee, received and signed an official delegate badge and received a voting card before the registration of delegates and alternates closes, or in the case of an alternate entitled to promotion to delegate status, such alternate who has been promoted in accordance with these Rules;
- (o) “Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates” means the “Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates to the 2006 Leadership and Biennial Convention” enacted under article 9(2) of the National Constitution.

1.2 **Definitions in National Constitution.** Any terms that are not defined in these Rules but are defined in the National Constitution have the meaning assigned in the National Constitution.

1.3 **Plenary sessions.** The following are plenary sessions of the Convention:

- (a) the Opening Plenary Session scheduled to be held on Wednesday, November 29, 2006;
- (b) the Constitutional Plenary Sessions scheduled to be held on Thursday, November 30, and Friday, December 1, 2006;
- (c) the Policy Plenary Session scheduled to be held on Thursday, November 30, 2006;
- (d) any plenary session convened by the Co-Chairs on their own motion.

1.4 **Supplementary rules of order.** The chair of any session may, except to the extent that it is inconsistent with the National Constitution and these Rules, rely on the *Code Morin* or on the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* for guidance in the conduct of the session and as a source of authority for their directions.

## 2. GENERAL RULES FOR PROCEEDINGS

2.1 **Application of general rules.** This Rule 2 applies to the plenary sessions of the Convention, the policy workshop sessions, the Party Speeches and all other official proceedings of the Convention unless otherwise provided in these Rules.

2.2 **Amendment of rules and agenda.** These Rules and the official agenda of the Convention, once adopted by a plenary session of the Convention, may not be amended and are not subject to suspension except by resolution at a plenary session of the Convention passed by not less than 90% of the votes cast.

2.3 **Official languages.** The official languages of Canada, English and French, are the official languages of the Convention. The Co-Chairs must ensure that substantially the same announcements are made by them in both official languages. Published proceedings and official releases must be in both languages. The Convention Organizing Committee is responsible to provide facilities for the translation in the other official language of any oral announcements made by either of the Co-Chairs and other oral official proceedings of the Convention. The Convention Organizing Committee must also ensure that all written official proceedings and official releases of the Convention are in both official languages.

2.4 **Co-Chairs.** The Co-Chairs have the right to preside at all sessions and during all official proceedings of the Convention. They have the right to interpret and enforce these Rules and to decide all questions of order and any other matters other than those matters relating to the election of officers and the Leader or otherwise within the jurisdiction of the Convention Returning Officer, subject to an appeal without debate to a plenary session of the Convention. Either of the Co-Chairs may delegate some or all of their authority.

2.5 **Chairs of other sessions.** Subject to these Rules, the Convention Organizing Committee may appoint the chairs of any sessions of the Convention and such chairs have the right to interpret and enforce these Rules and to decide all questions of order and any other matters which arise in the course of the sessions which they chair, subject to (a) in the case of a session which is not a plenary, an appeal to the Co-Chairs and (b) in the case of a plenary session, an appeal without debate to that plenary session. To the extent reasonably practicable, if the Convention Organizing Committee appoints a single chair for a plenary session, that person must be fluently bilingual in English and French and if the committee appoints co-chairs for a plenary session, one of them must be a man and the other of them must be a woman and one of them must be English speaking and the other of them must be French speaking.

2.6 **Responsibility for policy sessions.** The chair of the Standing Committee on Policy Development is responsible for all proceedings at the Policy Plenary Session and the policy workshop sessions. The Policy Plenary Session will be conducted in accordance with Rule 6 and the policy workshop sessions will be conducted in accordance with Rule 5.

2.7 **Responsibility for constitutional amendments.** The co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs are responsible for all proceedings at the Constitutional Plenary Sessions. These sessions will be conducted in accordance with Rule 7.

2.8 **Show of voting cards.** Voting on all questions will be conducted by a show of voting cards unless otherwise provided by these Rules.

2.9 **Recount.** A recount of any vote (other than an election under Rules 8, 9 and 10) must be taken at any session if 25 registered delegates request such a recount by raising their voting cards.

2.10 **Motion to reconsider.** A motion to reconsider is not permitted.

2.11 **Rights of participation.** Registered delegates may vote or move resolutions or amendments and may speak at sessions of the Convention. Registered alternates may speak at sessions of the Convention but may not vote or move resolutions or amendments.

2.12 **Debate.** After a motion is duly moved and seconded in any session, the chair of the session must ask the registered delegates at the session if the motion should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate (by a show of voting cards) that they wish a debate, the resolution will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

2.13 **Speeches.** A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, commission, club or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a resolution, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the resolution and two speakers opposed to the resolution and may limit the time for each speaker to two minutes. A registered delegate may speak only once to any resolution. This process will be subject to the discretion of the chair.

2.14 **Quorum.** The quorum for the policy plenary session is 100 registered delegates and for any other plenary session is 200 registered delegates.<sup>1</sup>

2.15 **Access for persons with disabilities.** The Co-Chairs are responsible to ensure that there is reasonable access for registration and other Convention facilities for persons with disabilities.

<sup>1</sup> Note that article 18(1)(d) of the National Constitution requires a quorum for the Constitutional Plenary Session of 200 registered delegates. To the extent that this rule deals with that quorum it cannot be amended.

### 3. REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES, ALTERNATES AND OBSERVERS

3.1 **Accreditation.** All delegates and alternates must be accredited in accordance with the procedures specified in the National Constitution and the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates.

3.2 **Disputes.** Any dispute over the accreditation of delegates will be decided by the Convention Returning Officer or his or her designate, and such decisions will be final and binding subject only to the rulings of the Permanent Appeal Committee.

3.3 **Appointment of assistants.** The Convention Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, delegate all or part of his or her authority to other individuals (including the National Returning Officer and the Regional Returning Officers appointed under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates), and the Convention Returning Officer has the power to appoint persons (including delegates) as assistants to assist the Convention Returning Officer in his or her duties under this Rule. Any such individuals may act only if they have signed a declaration of neutrality in the form set out as Form 5 to the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates.

3.4 **Registration deadlines.** Registration of delegates and alternates closes at 9:00 a.m., Friday, December 1, 2006. Observers may register at any time during the Convention. The Convention Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, in circumstances of force majeure, extend any deadline for the registration of delegates or alternates.

3.5 **Promotion of alternates.** For the purposes of article 16(14)(b)(iii) of the National Constitution, a delegate who fails to register before the close of registration at the Convention will be replaced by the person, if any, who:

- (a) sought election from the same body;
- (b) presents himself or herself for promotion to delegate at the time and place designated in the convention agenda for that purpose;
- (c) has not already been promoted to delegate; and
- (d) declared in their "Notice of Intention to Stand" support for the same Leadership Contestant as the delegate they are replacing;
- (e) satisfies the greatest number of the following criteria:
  - (i) is a youth, if the delegate position was for a youth;
  - (ii) is a senior, if the delegate position was for a senior;
  - (iii) is a woman, if the delegate position was for a woman;

- (iv) is a man, if the delegate position was for a man;
- (v) received more votes than any other person who sought election from the same body and presents himself or herself for promotion to delegate at the time and place designated in the convention agenda for that purpose.

**3.6 Replacement of delegates who do not intend to attend the Convention.** Any delegate who notifies the General Secretary or the Convention Returning Officer in writing that the delegate does not intend to attend the Convention is deemed to have failed to register before the close of registration, and the promotion to delegate status of an alternate under Rule 3.5 in respect of that delegate may be completed at any time after the opening of the Convention but before the completion of the promotion of other alternates under Rule 3.7.

**3.7 Replacement of other delegates who fail to register.** The promotion to delegate status of all alternates other than those promoted under Rule 3.6 will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, December 1, 2006, at the place provided in the official agenda of the Convention. All such alternates who wish to be promoted to delegate status must attend at that time and place; if an alternate is not present by that time and at that place, then that alternate will lose all rights to be promoted to delegate status.

**3.8 Appointment of scrutineers.** Each Leadership Contestant may appoint the number of scrutineers permitted by the Convention Returning Officer to be present in the registration area during registration and the promotion of alternates.

## 4. POLICY RESOLUTIONS

**4.1 Types of policy resolutions.** There are only two types of policy resolutions that may be considered by delegates at the Convention:

- (a) the resolutions that appear in the Delegate Handbook as “workshop resolutions” which will be submitted first to a policy workshop and, only if approved by a policy workshop as a “priority resolution,” will be considered at the policy plenary;
- (b) the resolutions that are approved by the Standing Committee on Policy Development as “emergency resolutions” for submission to either a policy workshop or directly to the policy plenary.

**4.2 Emergency resolutions.** If a resolution is submitted to the General Secretary in writing before 8:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2006, with written reasons substantiating the emergency character of the resolution, the Standing Committee on Policy Development may approve the resolution as an “emergency resolution” and, if it is approved as an emergency resolution, may determine whether it will be submitted to a policy workshop or directly to the policy plenary. All decisions of the Standing Committee on Policy Development about emergency resolutions are final and are not subject to appeal.



4.3 **No other resolutions.** Other than resolutions referred to in Rules 4.1 and 4.2, no new policy resolutions may be introduced in any session of the Convention (including policy workshops and the policy plenary).

## 5. POLICY WORKSHOPS

5.1 **Order of resolutions.** Subject to Rule 5.2, a policy workshop session will deal with resolutions in the following order:

- (a) first, any emergency resolution referred to the workshop by the Standing Committee on Policy Development;
- (b) next, the workshop resolutions that appear in the Delegate Handbook in the order in which they appear in the Delegate Handbook.

5.2 **Changing order of resolutions.** The order for considering resolutions may only be changed by the Standing Committee on Policy Development or upon motion submitted in writing signed by 25 registered delegates and submitted to the chair of the workshop session at the beginning of the workshop and approved by a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates present at the workshop.

5.3 **Proposals properly moved.** Each resolution will be announced by the chair of the workshop session and is deemed to be properly moved and seconded.

5.4 **Time for consideration.** The chair of the workshop session may allocate at their discretion a time period for the disposition of any resolution and related amendments.

5.5 **Introductory presentation by sponsor.** The chair of the workshop session may allow one registered delegate who is an authorized representative of the sponsor of a resolution up to one minute to explain or clarify the resolution.

5.6 **Debate.** After the presentation by a representative of the sponsor of the resolution, the chair of the workshop session must ask the registered delegates at the workshop if the resolution should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 10 registered delegates indicate (by a show of voting cards) that they wish a debate, the resolution will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

5.7 **Speakers in a debate.** In the case of a debate, speakers may speak for up to one minute each. Only registered delegates and registered alternates will be recognized as speakers. A delegate (except the representative of the sponsor) may speak only once to any resolution. The representative of the sponsor who gave the introductory presentation on the resolution may speak for up to one minute to close debate. A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, commission, club or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must

recognize speakers debating a resolution, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the resolution and two speakers opposed to the resolution and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. The process set out in this Rule is subject to the discretion of the chair.

**5.8 Amendments.** Amendments to resolutions at a workshop session may only be made by notice in writing signed by a registered delegate and delivered to the chair of the workshop session before the workshop is called to order. The delegate making the amendment must read the amendment to the workshop at a time designated by the chair of the workshop session, and the chair of the workshop session may allow this delegate up to one minute to explain or clarify the amendment. Unless 10 registered delegates indicate (by a show of voting cards) that they wish a debate, the amendment will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate. Debate will be conducted in accordance with Rule 5.7.

**5.9 Tabling of resolutions.** A motion to table a workshop resolution (in the sense of postponing the resolution indefinitely) may be made at any time when a resolution is pending and no other delegate has the floor. It is not amendable and is not debatable.

**5.10 Voting.** After the conclusion of debate (if any), the resolution will be put to a vote. All votes will be conducted by a show of voting cards. The chair of the workshop session may appoint one or more persons to assist with the counting of the vote. If a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates are cast in favour of the resolution, then it will be adopted by the workshop.

**5.11 Designation of priority resolutions.** Immediately before the end of the policy workshop, registered delegates may designate only three resolutions to be submitted to the policy plenary as a “priority resolution” by a show of voting cards in a manner approved by the Co-Chairs.

**5.12 Forwarding of resolutions to the Leader.** The Standing Committee on Policy Development is responsible to forward to the Leader all resolutions adopted at a policy workshop.

## 6. POLICY PLENARY

**6.1 Order of resolutions.** Subject to Rule 6.2, the policy plenary session will deal with resolutions in the following order:

- (a) first, the resolutions designated by a policy workshop as “priority resolutions” in the order determined by the Standing Committee on Policy Development;
- (b) next, any emergency resolution referred directly to the plenary by the Standing Committee on Policy Development.

6.2 **Changing order of resolutions.** The order for considering resolutions may only be changed by the Standing Committee on Policy Development or upon motion submitted in writing signed by 50 registered delegates and submitted to the chair of the plenary session at the beginning of the plenary session and approved by a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates present at the plenary session.

6.3 **Proposals properly moved.** Each resolution will be announced by the chair of the plenary session and is deemed to be properly moved and seconded.

6.4 **Time for consideration.** The chair of the plenary session may allocate at their discretion a time period for the disposition of any resolution and related amendments.

6.5 **Introductory presentation by sponsor.** The chair of the plenary session may allow one registered delegate who is an authorized representative of the sponsor of a resolution up to two minutes to explain or clarify the resolution.

6.6 **Debate.** After the presentation by a representative of the sponsor of the resolution, the chair of the plenary session must ask the registered delegates at the plenary if the resolution should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate (by a show of voting cards) that they wish a debate, the resolution will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

6.7 **Speakers in a debate.** In the case of a debate, speakers may speak for up to one minute each. Only registered delegates and registered alternates will be recognized as speakers. A delegate (except the representative of the sponsor) may speak only once to any resolution. The representative of the sponsor who gave the introductory presentation on the resolution may speak for up to one minute to close debate. A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, commission, club or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a resolution, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the resolution and two speakers opposed to the resolution and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. The process set out in this Rule is subject to the discretion of the chair.

6.8 **Amendments.** Policy plenary resolutions may not be amended.

6.9 **Tabling of resolutions.** A motion to table a policy plenary resolution (in the sense of postponing the resolution indefinitely) may be made at any time when a resolution is pending and no other delegate has the floor. It is not amendable and is not debatable.

6.10 **Voting.** After the conclusion of debate (if any), the resolution will be put to a vote. All votes will be conducted by a show of voting cards. The chair of the plenary session may appoint one or more persons to assist with the counting of the vote. If a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates are cast in favour of the resolution, then it will be adopted by the plenary.

6.11 **Forwarding of resolutions to the Leader.** The Standing Committee on Policy Development is responsible to forward to the Leader all resolutions adopted at the policy plenary.

## 7. CONSTITUTIONAL PLENARY SESSIONS

7.1 **Order of proposals.** Subject to the discretion of the chair of each Constitutional Plenary Session, the proposed amendments to the National Constitution (the “Constitutional Proposals”) will be put to and dealt with in the Constitutional Plenary Sessions in the following order:

- (a) first, the new constitution proposed by the National Executive (the “Red Ribbon Constitution”) and any Technical Amendment of the Red Ribbon Constitution but not any Amendment Proposal or Contradictory Proposal related to the Red Ribbon Constitution;
- (b) second, if the Red Ribbon Constitution is adopted, amendments to the Red Ribbon Constitution in the following order:
  - (i) the amendment to section 56 of the Red Ribbon Constitution proposed by the National Executive (known as the “One Member One Vote Proposal”), (A) any Technical Amendment of the One Member One Vote Proposal, (B) any Amendment Proposal related to the One Member One Vote Proposal and (C) and Contradictory Proposal related to the One Member One Vote Proposal;
  - (ii) in an order determined by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session, amendments proposed in accordance with the procedure contemplated by section 81 of the Red Ribbon Constitution by the National Executive and the president of the Liberal Party of Canada and any related Technical Amendments, Amendment Proposals and Contradictory Proposals;
  - (iii) in an order determined by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session, amendments proposed in accordance with the procedure contemplated by section 81 of the Red Ribbon Constitution by a provincial or territorial association and any related Technical Amendments, Amendment Proposals and Contradictory Proposals;

- (iv) in an order determined by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session, amendments proposed in accordance with the procedure contemplated by section 81 of the Red Ribbon Constitution by a commission in an order determined by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session and any related Technical Amendments, Amendment Proposals and Contradictory Proposals;
- (v) in an order determined by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session, amendments proposed in accordance with the procedure contemplated by section 81 of the Red Ribbon Constitution by a riding association, constituency association or electoral district association of the Party in an order determined by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session and any related Technical Amendments, Amendment Proposals and Contradictory Proposals;
- (c) third, if the Red Ribbon Constitution is not adopted, amendments to the existing constitution of the Liberal Party of Canada that appear in the Delegate Handbook in the order in which they appear in the Delegate Handbook.

**7.2 Proposals properly moved.** Each of the Constitutional Proposals will be announced by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session and is deemed to be properly moved and seconded.

**7.3 Introductory presentation by sponsor.** The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may allow one or more delegates authorized by the president of the Party a reasonable time to comment on the Red Ribbon Constitution. In the case of all other Constitution Proposals, the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may allow one registered delegate who is an authorized representative of the sponsor of a Constitutional Proposal up to two minutes to explain or clarify the proposal.

**7.4 Presentation by member of Standing Committee.** The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may allow the co-chairs and one member of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs a reasonable time after the introductory presentation or during any debate to comment on technical aspects of a Constitutional Proposal.

**7.5 Debate.** After the presentation by a representative of the sponsor of a Constitutional Proposal and the presentation (if any) of the co-chairs or a member of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs, the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session must ask the registered delegates at the session if the proposal should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate (by a show of voting cards) that they wish a debate, the proposal will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

7.6 **Speakers in a debate.** In the case of a debate, speakers may speak for up to two minutes each. Only registered delegates and registered alternates will be recognized as speakers. A delegate (except the representative of the sponsor) may speak only once to any proposal. The representative of the sponsor who gave the introductory presentation on the proposal may speak for up to one minute to close debate. A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, commission, club or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a proposal, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the proposal and two speakers opposed to the proposal and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. The process set out in this Rule is subject to the discretion of the chair.

7.7 **Related but contradictory proposals.** If two or more Constitutional Proposals are, in the opinion of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs, related to substantially the same matter but are contradictory ("Contradictory Proposals"), then they must be considered and debated together. The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session will allow a presentation by a representative of the sponsor of each of the Contradictory Proposals and a presentation (if any) of the co-chairs or a member of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs before asking the registered delegates at the session if the proposal should be put to a vote without debate. In the case of a debate, the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may increase the number of speakers in proportion to the number of proposals being considered together.

7.8 **Voting on Contradictory Proposals.** Voting on Contradictory Proposals will be conducted as follows:

- (a) If there are two Contradictory Proposals under consideration, each delegate will be asked to vote for one (and only one) of them, and the one which receives the most votes will go forward to a full vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate, and which requires a two-thirds majority in order to be passed.
- (b) If there are three or more Contradictory Proposals under consideration, each delegate will be asked to vote for one (and only one) of them, and the two which receive the most votes will go forward to a run-off vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate. On the run-off vote, the Contradictory Proposal which receives the most votes will go forward to a full vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate, and which requires a two-thirds majority in order to be passed.

7.9 **Withdrawal of proposal.** If a sponsor of a Constitutional Proposal wishes to withdraw such proposal, an authorized representative of the sponsor may make a request to that effect to the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session. The chair



of the session must ask the registered delegates at the session if the proposal may be withdrawn. Unless, on a show of voting cards, 25 registered delegates indicate they object to the withdrawal, the proposal will be withdrawn. If 25 registered delegates do so object, the question of withdrawal will be put to a vote without debate and will be withdrawn on a simple majority.

**7.10 Amendment Proposals.** If a Constitutional Proposal (the “Amendment Proposal”) is, in the opinion of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs, an amendment of another Constitutional Proposal (the “Original Proposal”), then the Amendment Proposal must be considered and debated before the Original Proposal and if it is passed by a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates, then the Original Proposal as amended by the Amendment Proposal must be considered and debated and requires a two-thirds majority in order to be passed.

**7.11 Technical Amendments.** Amendments to the Constitutional Proposals are not permitted except as contemplated by Rule 7.10 and as follows (which are referred to as “Technical Amendments”):

- (a) if the amendment (i) does not, in the opinion of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs, make the proposed change to the Constitution greater than that contained in the Constitutional Proposal, (ii) is made in writing by the sponsor of the Constitutional Proposal and (iii) is received by one of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs at least 24 hours before the commencement of the Constitutional Plenary Session;
- (b) if the amendment (i) does not, in the opinion of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs, make the proposed change to the Constitution greater than that contained in the Constitutional Proposal, (ii) is made in writing signed by 100 registered delegates (including at least 30 registered delegates from each of three different provinces or territories) and (iii) is received by one of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs at least 24 hours before the commencement of the Constitutional Plenary Session; or
- (c) the amendment is one which, in the opinion of the co-chairs of the Standing Committee on the Constitution and Legal Affairs, corrects a drafting or typographical error or deficiency in a manner consistent with the original intention of the Constitutional Proposal.

A Technical Amendment to a Constitutional Proposal is passed by a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates.

**7.12 Tabling of resolutions.** A motion to table a resolution (in the sense of postponing the resolution indefinitely) proposed by the National Executive is out of order.

7.13 **Voting.** After the conclusion of debate (if any), the Constitutional Proposal will be put to a vote. All votes will be conducted by a show of voting cards.<sup>2</sup> The chair of a Constitutional Plenary Session may appoint one or more persons to assist with the counting of the vote.

7.14 **Effective date of proposals.** In the absence of an express provision to the contrary, any Constitutional Proposal adopted at a Constitutional Plenary Session becomes effective at the close of this Convention, except that any change to the number of, or qualifications of elected officers, only becomes effective with the election of such officers at the next convention of the Liberal Party of Canada.

7.15 **Adjournment.** The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may adjourn and reconvene the session at her or his discretion. The session, if adjourned, may be reconvened at any time prior to the conclusion of the Convention considered by the Co-Chairs to be appropriate on not less than one hour's notice to delegates of the reconvening given in a manner approved by the Co-Chairs.

## 8. ELECTION OF THE LEADER

8.1 **Elections to be conducted.** At the session of the Convention scheduled for such election, the election for the Leader will be conducted in accordance with this Rule 8 and Rule 10 under the supervision of the Convention Returning Officer.

8.2 **Presentations of contestants.** Each Leadership Contestant may make a presentation to the Convention at the session of the Convention scheduled for that purpose in accordance with rules established by the Convention Organizing Committee or the Co-Chairs. The presentations will be made in the reverse order of the number of delegates elected for each Leadership Contestant under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates (as certified by the National Returning Officer as of the opening of the Convention) so that the Leadership Candidate for whom the smallest number of delegates elected under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates had declared support will speak first. All Leadership Contestants will be allotted equal time for their presentation. The length of each presentation must not exceed the time determined by the Co-Chairs. Leadership Contestants are free, within the time allotted, to apportion the time to be used for speeches, demonstrations or other forms of presentation.

8.3 **Withdrawal.** A Leadership Contestant wishing to withdraw from the first ballot may do so by delivering to the General Secretary before 9:00 a.m. on Friday, December 1, 2006, a notice in writing signed by the contestant or the "Contestant's Chief Agent" (as defined in the Rules of Procedure for Election of Delegates). A Leadership Contestant wishing to withdraw from any subsequent ballot may do so by delivering to the General Secretary within 20 minutes after the public announcement of the results of the previous ballot a notice in writing signed by the contestant or the Contestant's Chief Agent.

<sup>2</sup> Article 18(1)(d) of the National Constitution provides that the proposal is adopted if passed by not less than two-thirds if the votes cast.



8.4 **Ballots for committed delegates.** For the first ballot, each registered delegate who was elected in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Election of Delegates in support of a Leadership Contestant will be issued with a ballot marked in favour of that contestant.

8.5 **Ballots for other delegates.** For the first ballot, all other registered delegates (including, without limitation, those who were elected in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Election of Delegates after marking their “Notice of Intention to Stand and Declaration of Support Form” with “Undeclared” and those who were elected in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Election of Delegates after marking their “Notice of Intention to Stand and Declaration of Support Form” with the name of a “Leadership Contestant” who has withdrawn as such a contestant before the Convention or in accordance with Rule 8.3) will be issued with a ballot not marked in favour of any Leadership Contestant.

8.6 **Secret ballot.** Except as provided in Rule 8.4, voting for the election of the Leader will be by secret ballot.

8.7 **Successive ballots.** If any Leadership Contestant fails to win a majority of the valid votes cast on any ballot, then the Leadership Contestant or Contestants who received the fewest votes on the ballot are eliminated from all further ballots. Successive ballots must be held until one Leadership Contestant receives a majority of the valid votes cast.

8.8 **Tie votes.** In the case of (a) a tie vote for all contestants on any ballot or (b) a tie vote for all contestants on any ballot except one and that one does not receive a majority of the valid votes cast, then another ballot will be conducted and all registered delegates (including, without limitation, those who were elected in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for Election of Delegates in support of a Leadership Contestant) will be issued with a ballot not marked in favour of any Leadership Contestant. In the case of a tie vote of the contestants who receive the fewest number of votes (and at least two contestants would remain on the ballot if those tied contestants were eliminated), then all of those tied contestants are eliminated.

8.9 **Election of Leader.** The Leadership Contestant who receives a majority of the valid votes cast on any ballot is thereby elected Leader of the Liberal Party of Canada. If there is only one Leadership Contestant at any time before the commencement of voting, then the Co-Chairs will declare such Leadership Contestant elected by acclamation.

8.10 **Appointment of scrutineers.** Each Leadership Contestant may appoint the number of scrutineers permitted by the Convention Returning Officer to be present in the voting area immediately before and during voting and to observe the counting of the ballots. If a Leadership Contestant appoints any scrutineers, then that Leadership Contestant must designate one of those scrutineers as their chief scrutineer, and the chief scrutineer is responsible for the conduct of all other scrutineers appointed by that Leadership Contestant.

8.11 **Scrutineer for challenges.** One of the scrutineers for each Leadership Contestant may remain at the Convention Returning Officer's desk in the voting area during the voting procedure to observe the resolution of the Convention Returning Officer and his or her designates of any challenge to a person attempting to vote.

8.12 **Preparations for ballot counting.** The Convention Returning Officer is responsible to designate a secure area for the counting of the ballots (the "Counting Room") and may authorize assistants appointed under Rule 10.2, while ballots are still being cast in the voting area, to remove ballot boxes from the voting area to the Counting Room, open such ballot boxes and unfold and stack the ballots in preparation for counting. One of the scrutineers for each Leadership Contestant may remain in the Counting Area during this process, but if a scrutineer is present in the Counting Room at any time during this process, then unless permitted by the Convention Returning Officer to leave that scrutineer must remain in the Counting Room until the result of the ballot has been officially announced.

8.13 **Addressing Convention before Leader elected.** After the commencement of voting for the Leader and before a new leader is elected, except for the presentation of contestants provided for in Rule 8.2, no person addressing the Convention may speak in favour of, or in opposition to, any contestant for the leadership.

## 9. ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

9.1 **Elections to be conducted.** Elections for the following offices will be conducted in accordance with this Rule 9 and Rule 10 under the supervision of the Convention Returning Officer:

- President
- National vice-president (French-speaking)
- National vice-president (English-speaking)
- Regional vice-president, Atlantic (Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island)
- Regional vice-president, Québec
- Regional vice-president, Ontario
- Regional vice-president, Western (Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta)
- Regional vice-president, British Columbia
- Regional vice-president, Northern (Yukon, Nunavut and the Western Arctic)
- Secretary-treasurer
- The chair of the Standing Committee on Policy Development
- The chair of the Standing Committee on Organization
- The chair of the Standing Committee on Communications and Publicity
- The chair of the Standing Committee on Multiculturalism
- Co-chairs, Senior Liberals' Commission of the Liberal Party of Canada
- President of the Commission of Young Liberals of Canada
- Financial Vice-president, Commission of Young Liberals of Canada
- Communications Vice-president, Commission of Young Liberals of Canada
- Policy Vice-president, Commission of Young Liberals of Canada
- External Vice-president, Commission of Young Liberals of Canada

Organization Vice-president, Commission of Young Liberals of Canada  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the Aboriginal Peoples Commission  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the Standing Committee on Policy Development  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the Standing Committee on Organization  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the Standing Committee on Communications and Publicity  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the Standing Committee on Multiculturalism  
 Young Liberals of Canada representative to the Standing Committee on Constitution and Legal Affairs  
 President, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Regional representative, Atlantic, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Regional representative, Quebec, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Regional representative, Ontario, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Regional representative, Saskatchewan/Manitoba, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Regional representative, Alberta/Northwest Territories/Nunavut, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Regional representative, British Columbia/Yukon, National Women's Liberal Commission  
 Co-president (Male), Aboriginal Peoples' Commission  
 Co-president (Female), Aboriginal Peoples' Commission  
 Vice-president (Finance), Aboriginal Peoples Liberal Commission  
 Vice-president (Communications), Aboriginal Peoples Liberal Commission  
 Vice-president (Policy), Aboriginal Peoples Liberal Commission  
 Vice-president (Organization and Membership), Aboriginal Peoples Liberal Commission  
 Vice-president (Youth), Aboriginal Peoples Liberal Commission  
 Vice-president (Women), Aboriginal Peoples Liberal Commission

**9.2 Definition of “Candidate”.** In this Rule, those persons who have been nominated for Party office in accordance with article 16(9) of the National Constitution, those persons who have been nominated for the offices of the Commission of Young Liberals of Canada in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Commission of Young Liberals of Canada, those persons who have been nominated for the offices of the National Women's Liberal Commission in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the National Women's Liberal Commission, those persons who have been nominated for the offices of the Aboriginal Peoples' Commission in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Aboriginal Peoples' Commission and those persons who have been nominated for the office of co-chairs of the Senior Liberals' Commission in accordance with the provisions of the constitution of the Senior Liberals' Commission are referred to collectively as the “Candidates” and individually as a “Candidate”.

9.3 **Presentation of Candidates.** The Co-Chairs are responsible for presenting the Candidates to the Convention at a session of the Convention scheduled for the presentations by Candidates (the “Party Speeches”) in the reverse of the order of the list in Rule 9.1 as follows:

- (a) If there is only one Candidate for an office, the Candidate will not be entitled to address the Convention and the Co-Chairs will declare such Candidate elected by acclamation.
- (b) If there is more than one Candidate for an office, then before the Party Speeches, the Co-Chairs will draw lots to determine the order of presentation; and during the Party Speeches:
  - (i) the Co-Chairs will announce the names of all the Candidates for the office in the alphabetical order of the family names of the Candidates;
  - (ii) in the order determined by the drawing of lots, the Co-Chairs will call upon the Candidates to come to the podium to make a presentation;
  - (iii) the presentation of each Candidate will be timed from the moment that the Co-Chairs call upon them to come to the podium to make their presentation, and the length of the presentation (including the time used in coming to the podium and the speech of the Candidate) must not exceed three minutes for each office except that of the president of the Liberal Party of Canada and must not exceed ten minutes for the office of the president of the Liberal Party of Canada.

9.4 **Withdrawal.** Any Candidate wishing to withdraw may do so up to 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, November 30, 2006. Withdrawals by Candidates must be in writing, signed by the Candidate and delivered submitted to the General Secretary. The Co-Chairs will make a simple announcement of the withdrawal, but no withdrawal speech is permitted, and the contents of the candidate's withdrawal notice will not otherwise be announced publicly.

9.5 **Ballots for delegates.** A registered delegate will be issued only with ballots for offices for which they are entitled to vote. As an example, only registered delegates from a particular region will be issued a ballot to vote for the vice-president of that region, only registered youth delegates will be issued ballots to vote for Candidates of the Commission of Young Liberals of Canada and only registered seniors delegates will be issued ballots to vote for Candidates of the Senior Liberals' Commission.

9.6 **Secret ballot.** Voting for the election of officers will be by secret ballot.

9.7 **Voting procedure.** For each office, there will be only one ballot and the Candidate who receives a plurality of the votes cast in that ballot will be elected. In the case of a tie vote, the winner will be decided in a manner determined by the Convention Returning Officer.

9.8 **Scrutineers.** Each Candidate may appoint the number of scrutineers permitted by the Convention Returning Officer to be present in the voting area immediately before and during voting and to observe the counting of the ballots for that office.

## 10. GENERAL CONDUCT OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

10.1 **Authority of Convention Returning Officer.** Voting for the election of officers and the Leader will be conducted under the supervision of the Convention Returning Officer. All matters pertaining to the conduct of the voting and the counting of votes and, upon the adoption of these Rules, all matters previously within the jurisdiction of the National Returning Officer are within the sole jurisdiction of the Convention Returning Officer whose decisions are final and binding subject only to the rulings of the Permanent Appeal Committee.

10.2 **Appointment of assistants.** The Convention Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, delegate all or part of his or her authority to other individuals (including the National Returning Officer and the Regional Returning Officers appointed under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates), and the Convention Returning Officer has the power to appoint persons (including delegates) as registration clerks, associate returning officers, deputy returning officers and poll clerks and may appoint any other assistants to assist the Convention Returning Officer in his or her duties. Any such individuals may act only if they have signed a declaration of neutrality in the form set out as Form 5 to the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates.

10.3 **Qualifications to vote.** All registered delegates wishing to vote must wear their official delegate badge, and any person not wearing such a delegate badge may only vote upon the specific determination of the Convention Returning Officer that the person is a properly registered and accredited delegate and has not previously voted.

10.4 **Time and place of voting.** Except as provided in Rule 10.5 and in this Rule, voting will take place at the time and in the place provided in the official agenda of the Convention and, with respect to the second and any subsequent ballots for the election of the Leader, as determined by the Convention Returning Officer, in his or her discretion. The Convention Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, determine that voting opens at a different time than that provided in the official agenda of the Convention and closes later than the time provided in the official agenda of the Convention. The Convention Returning Officer, in his or her discretion, may suspend voting at any time. Each registered delegate within the voting area at the close of voting is entitled to vote.

10.5 **Advance polls.** If, for religious reasons or a personal, family or medical emergency, or for some other similar reason, a registered delegate is unable to vote at the times specified in the official agenda of the Convention for the first ballot for the election of the Leader or for the election of national officers, he or she, upon signing an affidavit setting out such reason, and, subject to the approval of the Convention Returning Officer, may be permitted to vote at an advance poll at the time and place designated by the Convention Returning Officer.

10.6 **Conduct of scrutineers.** Each scrutineer must wear a badge provided by the Convention Returning Officer, indicating only the name of the scrutineer and, if applicable, the contestant or candidate on whose behalf he or she acts. While in the voting area during voting, a scrutineer must not wear any badge (other than that provided by the Convention Returning Officer) or garment or act in any manner that indicates support for a particular contestant or candidate and must not interfere in any way with the voting and counting procedures. The Convention Returning Officer has complete authority to control the activities of scrutineers to ensure there is no interference and no breach of these Rules.

10.7 **Control over voting areas.** The Convention Returning Officer may designate an area as the “voting area” for all purposes of these Rules. Only the Convention Returning Officer, the associate returning officers, deputy returning officers, poll clerks, scrutineers, registered delegates in the process of voting and those so authorized by the Convention Returning Officer may enter the voting area. No campaigning is allowed at any time in the voting area. The Convention Returning Officer has full authority over such areas and any other area designated by her or him as necessary for the voting procedure. Access may be restricted accordingly. Throughout the voting process the Convention Returning Officer may take all steps necessary to maintain order in the voting stations and voting and counting areas.

10.8 **Assistance in voting.** Any registered delegate requiring assistance to vote may be accompanied by another registered delegate of his or her own choosing to the appropriate voting station under the supervision of the Convention Returning Officer or may request the assistance of the Convention Returning Officer.

10.9 **After polls close.** Once the voting stations have closed and the counting of ballots begun and until the result of a ballot has been announced officially, no person in the voting or counting areas, except for the Convention Returning Officer, her or his assistants and anyone authorized by her or him, may leave the voting or counting areas or communicate in any way whether verbally, visually, electronically or otherwise with anyone outside the voting or counting areas or carry or use any communications device including, without limitation, a cell phone or a Blackberry.



10.10 **Announcement of results.** In respect of each position to be elected (including the Leader), the Convention Returning Officer must report to the Co-Chairs the total number of delegates eligible to vote, the number of ballots cast for each candidate, the number of ballots spoiled and the name of the successful candidate. The Co-Chairs must then announce the name of the successful candidate and may announce any of the other information provided by the Convention Returning Officer. The Convention Returning Officer must not otherwise disclose any portion of the results.

10.11 **Destruction of ballots.** Upon the adjournment of the Convention and in the absence of instructions to the contrary from the Co-Chairs, the Convention Returning Officer may destroy the ballots.