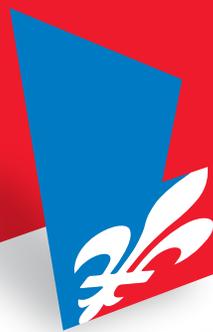


2019-2020 RULES FOR THE LEADERSHIP ELECTION

*Presented at the General Council
in Drummondville on Sunday, May 5, 2019.*



**Parti
Libéral
du
Québec**

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1. Summary of the Executive Committee's decisional process

a. Decision rendered by the Quebec Liberal Party's Executive Committee

On October 4, 2018, Premier Philippe Couillard announced that he was resigning from his position as Leader of the Quebec Liberal Party.

The Legal Committee therefore informed the members of the Executive Committee and Management Committee that the Quebec Liberal Party's Constitution and Bylaws state that it is incumbent upon the members of the Executive Committee to ratify by resolution the rules that will govern the election of a new Leader and, following consultation with the Management Committee, determine the manner in which the election is to be held. The Legal Committee also informed the members of the Executive Committee and Management Committee of the obligations that are provided for in the Election Act CQLR c E-3.3 (hereafter "**Election Act**").

In accordance with the Bylaws, a Returning Officer was appointed by the Executive Committee on March 4, 2019.

Many consultations ensued and led to the Executive Committee meeting held on April 29, 2019, during which the Rules for electing a new Leader were ratified.

In accordance with the consensus that emerged, the leadership election, which will have a maximum duration of seven (7) months, will be divided into 4 phases: 1) the consultation phase, the start of which will mark day one of the leadership election, will last at least three (3) months, allowing riding associations, regional councils and permanent committees to meet the Candidates and express their concerns, ideas, needs, etc.; 2) the communication phase, which will begin the day after the last day of the consultation phase and will last at least two (2) months, will primarily consist of a series of public debates during which the Candidates will be able to share their vision, projects and programs; 3) the voting phase, which will span at least five (5) consecutive days and will come to an end a reasonable number of hours after each of the Candidates' final speech have been delivered at the Convention; and 4) the Convention, which is the culminating point of this campaign, where the Quebec Liberal Party's next Leader will be elected.

This document is the result of a collective effort undertaken by numerous volunteers. Special thanks to Casper Bloom, Mark Dewar, Louise Fleischmann, Françoise Hogue-Plante, Kevin-Alexandre Lavoie, Béatrice Limoges, Alessandra Lubrina, Simon Martin, Marc Montpetit, Johara Obaïd, Rafael P. Ferraro and Marc Tanguay.

2. Definitions

The words and expressions below have the following definition within the framework of these terms and conditions:

- a. **Party:** means the Quebec Liberal Party;
- b. **Candidate:** means any person who is duly recognized as a Party Leadership Candidate in accordance with the Election Act and the present Rules;
- c. **Executive Committee:** means the Party's Executive Committee;
- d. **Election Committee:** means the Election Committee which was duly formed in accordance with the present Rules;
- e. **Convention:** means the Convention for electing a Leader which will take place in eastern Quebec in the Spring of 2020;
- f. **Election Expenses:** means any expense incurred by or for a Candidate from the moment he or she declared his or her intention to run for the leadership of the Party, which was incurred with the aim of promoting his or her candidacy for the Party leadership; section 402 of the Election Act is incorporated by reference, with the necessary modifications, to define what constitutes an Election Expense;
- g. **Official Party Documents:** means the Party's Code of Ethics and Conduct, its Constitution and its Bylaws;
- h. **Election:** means the election held to select the next Leader which must take place at the Convention;
- i. **Electors:** means any person who is eligible to vote in the Election, that is to say all members in good standing (in accordance with section 4.a of the present Rules);
- j. **List of electors:** means the List of electors established by the Election Committee;
- k. **Election Period:** means the period spanning from the first day of the consultation phase, which marks the beginning of the leadership race, to the Election;
- l. **Rules:** means the present Rules;
- m. **Official Representative:** means the person designated by a Candidate to act as the Candidate's representative to the Party, its bodies and the Election Committee;
- n. **Voting Period:** means the period during which Electors can vote to elect the Party's next Leader;
- o. **Vote:** means the vote held at the Convention for the purpose of selecting the Party's next Leader.

3. Election Committee

a. Role of the Election Committee

An Election Committee is formed for the purpose of overseeing and ensuring the proper functioning of the process for electing the next Leader of the Party, as well for ensuring compliance with the Election Act, Official Party Documents, and the present Rules, bearing in mind the fact that the Executive Committee wants this choice to be made in a transparent, equitable and reasonable manner. The Election Committee's roles and powers include the following:

- 1) Ensuring, generally, the smooth functioning of the Election Period, the Election, and the period preceding the Election Period, which will begin on May 6, 2019;
- 2) Independent of any other procedure, making all decisions and, if necessary, imposing appropriate sanctions on any person who has a derogatory behavior, who does not denounce a situation of non-compliance brought to their attention, or does not take the necessary means to avoid any non-compliance including, among others:
 - i. suspend voting privileges;
 - ii. impose a fine;
 - iii. remove a Candidate;
 - iv. suspend any member of the electoral staff;
 - v. in general, undertake any measure deemed necessary to ensure compliance with the present Rules as well as the proper functioning of the Election during the Election Period and the period preceding the Election Period which begins on May 6, 2019; and
 - vi. ensure the necessary coordination with the Directeur général des élections du Québec (hereafter the "**DGEQ**").
- 3) Diligently process any written complaint by issuing a substantiated ruling;
- 4) Approve the electronic voting devices that will be used during the Convention;
- 5) Supervise the Vote and the ballot count.

It has also been expressly agreed that it is incumbent upon Candidates and their respective teams to take all the necessary measures to comply with the requirements of the Election Act, the Official Party Documents and the present Rules.

b. Election Committee Members' commitment to neutrality, impartiality and confidentiality

The Election Committee members are obligated to remain neutral and impartial throughout the leadership race and to maintain the confidentiality of their deliberations. To that effect, they must sign the *Sworn Statement* found in Schedule A of the present Rules, and rigorously respect all of the conditions therein.

c. Composition of the Election Committee

The following people form the Election Committee:

- i. Rafael P. Ferraro – Who was appointed by the Executive Committee on March, 4, 2019, to act as the Returning Officer, in accordance with the Bylaws;
- ii. Jean Beaupré;
- iii. Mark Dewar;
- iv. Louise Fleischmann;
- v. Françoise Hogue-Plante;
- vi. Kevin-Alexandre Lavoie;
- vii. Béatrice Limoges;
- viii. Frédérique Lissoir;
- ix. Alessandra Lubrina;
- x. Simon Martin;
- xi. Johara Obaïd;
- xii. Jean-Pierre Mckenzie;
- xiii. France Pagé;
- xiv. Marc Tanguay;
- xv. Any person designated as such by the Party's Executive Committee, to replace the aforementioned people, if necessary.

4. Electors

- a. For the purposes of the Election, the Election Committee will establish the List of electors within the 20 days prior to the Voting Period;
- b. Only an individual whose name appears on the List of electors is considered to be an Elector for the purposes of the Election;
- c. The Election Committee will, in a timely manner, adopt a bylaw which will allow it to establish and amend the List of electors until the beginning of the Voting Period;
- d. The Election Committee members cannot be Electors and cannot vote during the Election.

5. Candidates

- a. Only a Party member in good standing who has been recognized as a Candidate by the Election Committee is an eligible Candidate for the Party's leadership at the Convention;
- b. In order to be recognized as a Candidate, a member in good standing must submit the candidacy documents to the Election Committee, in the prescribed manner, at no later than 5 pm on the last day of the consultation phase. These candidacy documents must include a report of interests, a sworn statement of good conduct recommended by the Party's Legal Committee, the identity and contact information for his or her financial representative, the identity and contact information for his or her Official Representative and finally a commitment to comply with the Election Act, the Party's Official Documents, as well as the present Rules;
- c. In order to be recognized as a Candidate, a member in good standing must also amass seven hundred and fifty (750) signatures supporting his or her candidacy from members in good standing from at least seventy (70) ridings and twelve (12) regions, as listed in the Bylaws. Among these 750 signatures, at least two hundred and fifty (250) must come from people who became members in good standing after May 5, 2019. Each of the signatures must be affixed on the form provided to that effect and the name, civic address and membership number as well as the telephone number and/or email address must also appear;
- d. In order to be recognized as a Candidate, a member in good standing must also submit, in support of his or her documents, a total sum of \$50,000.00, in trust, to be cashed by the Party upon presentation of a receipt for services rendered, or to be rendered, within the context of the Convention. It will be possible for a member in good standing who wants to be recognized as a Candidate to submit, in trust, a first

non-refundable instalment of \$25,000.00 as of the first day of the consultation phase, which marks the beginning of the leadership election, in exchange for which he or she will receive the list of Party members in good standing. It is understood that, if the aspiring Candidate's candidacy has been confirmed at the time that he or she receives the list of Party members in good standing, the aspiring Candidate will ensure that he or she, as well as all the members of his or her team who will have access to the list, maintain its confidentiality and will sign all of the documents to that effect required by the Election Committee. The remaining balance of \$25,000.00 must be remitted, in trust, within the period indicated in section 5.b of the present Rules;

- e. Within seven (7) days of reception, the Election Committee will either accept or refuse a candidacy submitted in compliance with the present Rules;
- f. The Election Committee reserves its right to refuse any candidacy for serious cause, even if all the criteria set out in the present Rules are met.

6. Election Expenses

- a. It is understood that for the purposes of the Election, the Candidates will have access to the services of a financial representative, in accordance with the Election Act;
- b. The only people with the authority to incur Election Expenses in accordance with the Election Act are the Candidates' financial representative;
- c. The authorized Election Expenses for each Candidate cannot exceed five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00), excluding the (\$50,000.00) provided for in section 5 of the present Rules;
- d. Copies of all the financial reports that are produced, or will be produced, by the Candidate's financial representatives to the DGEQ must also be sent the same day to the Party's finance department, as well as to the Election Committee.

7. Vote

- a. Votes are cast by secret ballot;
- b. Votes are cast in order of preference via Internet or telephone;
- c. The Voting Period will last for a period of at least five (5) consecutive days and will end a reasonable number of hours after each of the Candidates' final speech have been delivered at the Convention;
- d. The Candidate having obtained 50% plus one of the total points obtained for all the ridings will be elected Leader;
- e. If no Candidate obtains over 50% of the points in the first round, a second round runoff will be held between the two Candidates having obtained the most points;
- f. In the event that one of the rounds of voting result in a tie that needs to be settle, and taking into account the formula granting a weight of 33 1/3% to votes cast by members aged 25 years and younger, the Candidate who obtained the highest number of members' votes from the highest number of ridings, will continue on to the second round, or will be elected Leader, as the case may be. If the tie persists, the Candidate who received the largest total number of members' votes will continue on to the second round, or will be elected Leader, as the case may be. If the tie still persists, the Election Committee will establish the rules to hold another vote that will allow, depending of the situation, to identify the two Candidates who will continue to the second round and, as the case may be, elect the new Leader;
- g. The president of the Election Committee will report on the Vote count at the Convention;
- h. At the Convention, the Vote count results will be unveiled at a time specified by the Executive Committee, upon recommendation by the Election Committee.

8. The consultation and communication phases of the leadership campaign

a. The consultation phase:

- 1) Candidates' meetings with riding associations, regional councils and permanent committees, as the case may be, during the consultation phase of the campaign must be negotiated directly between the Candidates' Official Representative and representatives of these bodies;
- 2) The favoured format is that of individual meetings with Candidates, one after the other, in order to promote direct dialogue between the members and the Candidates;
- 3) Once an agreement has been made, it is incumbent upon each of the bodies to inform the Election Committee in writing without delay, including a confirmation of the location, date, time, expected length, as well as the identity and contact information of the chosen facilitator, if applicable;
- 4) Candidates' meetings with riding associations, regional councils and permanent committees are reserved for Party members in good standing and for media representatives who will have provided an identity document as such, where applicable;
- 5) The Party will not grant any financial contributions for holding the meetings between Candidates and riding associations, regional councils and the permanent committees during the consultation phase, but can, however, with reasonable notice, make its Montreal or Quebec offices available for the event.

b. The communications phase:

- 1) The Election Committee and the Party will provide the organization, coordination and staging of the major public debates that are to be held during the communication phase;
- 2) Barring an agreement to increase or decrease the number, which would require the approval of the Election Committee and the Executive Committee, there will be four (4) major debates, which will take place on dates determined by the Election Committee;
- 3) Two (2) major debates will be held in western Quebec and two (2) will be held in eastern Quebec;
- 4) One (1) of the major debates held in western Quebec must be held in English;

- 5) The debates will be hosted by one or more people who are chosen by the Election Committee;
- 6) In the absence of an agreement between the Election Committee and the Candidates' Official Representative concerning the major debates, the Election Committee reserves its right to enact binding rules which will apply to Candidates for the said debates;
- 7) Where applicable, the Election Committee will ensure the negotiation of the radio or television broadcast of the debates with media representatives;
- 8) In the absence of an agreement between the Election Committee, the Candidate's Official Representative and media representatives, the Election Committee reserves its right to exclude the Candidate's Official Representative from negotiations and enter into a binding agreement for Candidates with media representatives;
- 9) The debates will be broadcast on the Party's website as well as on social media;
- 10) An additional debate will be organized by the Party's Youth Commission. The rules indicated above in sections 8.b.1 to 9 do not apply to this additional debate;
- 11) It will be possible for regional councils to organize regional debates, following the submission of a detailed proposal to the Election Committee and upon the approval of the Election Committee's and the Executive Committee's. The desired format for these regional debates is that of town hall citizen assemblies in the presence of representatives of the public, the composition of which will be negotiated by the Election Committee with the Candidates' Official Representative, representatives from regional councils and media representatives, where applicable. The rules above in sections 8.b.1 to 9 do not apply to these regional debates.

9. Arbitration committee

- a. An arbitration committee composed of three (3) people will be created;
- b. The members of the arbitration committee will be appointed by the Executive Committee, upon recommendation by the Election Committee, once they have signed the Sworn Statement provided in Schedule B;
- c. Candidates and any other person concerned or having sufficient interest, may file a motion before the arbitration committee to have any decision rendered by the Election Committee reviewed, within five (5) days of the decision being communicated;
- d. The arbitration committee's rules of practice will be established by the Executive Committee, upon recommendation by the Election Committee.

10. Other rules

- a. The Election Committee can, where applicable, suggest that the Executive Committee adopt any other rules that it deems useful or necessary for the proper functioning of the Party's leadership election;
- b. All rules submitted to the Executive Committee for adoption by the Election Committee are presumed to have been adopted from the moment that they are communicated to the Candidates or their Official Representative.

ANNEXE

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