



Constitution and Bylaws

Updated 2023

This document embodies the fundamental aspects, the detailed guidelines of these aspects, and the operational regulation and responsibilities of the Green Party of Alberta and their affairs. All rights reserved, 2023.

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ARTICLES

ARTICLE 1 NAME

C1.1 The name of the party is the "Green Party of Alberta", hereinafter referred to as the "Party".

ARTICLE 2 OBJECTIVES

C2.1 To participate in electoral politics with the aim of having a government elected in Alberta that is committed to the green principles as listed in Article 3; and,

C2.2 To recruit and support candidates in Alberta provincial elections.

ARTICLE 3 PRINCIPLES

C3.1 The principles of the Party are the same as the principles of the worldwide Green Party network as expressed in the Charter of the Global Greens (see Appendix A). The principles are:

- A. Ecological wisdom
- B. Social justice
- C. Participatory democracy
- D. Non-violence
- E. Sustainability
- F. Respect for diversity

ARTICLE 4 MEMBERSHIP

C4.1 Any natural person who is a Canadian citizen or a permanent Canadian resident shall be eligible for membership, provided that the applicant:

- A. supports the objectives and principles of the Party;
- B. Is resident of Alberta as defined in the *Elections Act* (RSA 2000);
- C. Is fourteen (14) years of age or older;
- D. pays the applicable membership fee; and
- E. Is accepted for membership by the Executive Council.

C4.2 Members are entitled to:

- A. receive notice of General Meetings of the Party;
- B. count in quorum for General Meetings;
- C. attend, speak, and vote at meetings of the members;

- D. be nominated and elected to the Executive Council subject to the provisions of Bylaw Article 2; and,
- E. exercise other rights and privileges as provided in the Constitution and Bylaws.

C4.3 Members are entitled to membership in the Constituency Association where they reside if that Constituency Association exists.

C4.4 Members may engage in policy development and may prepare and submit policy resolutions for the Party's consideration at General Meetings called for that purpose.

C4.5 Membership in the Party may be revoked by the Executive Council subject to the provisions of the Bylaw

ARTICLE 5 ACCOUNTABILITY TO THE MEMBERSHIP

C5.1 The General Meeting of the membership is the highest decision making forum of the Party, subject only to the authority of the Party Constitution and Bylaws.

C5.2 The Executive Council is accountable to the membership in General Meetings.

C5.3 Decisions of the members in General Meetings shall have precedence over decisions of the Executive Council. Any decision of the Executive Council that is inconsistent with a decision of the members in General Meetings shall be null and void to the extent of the inconsistency.

C5.4 The membership delegates to the Executive Council the authority to govern, manage and provide administrative oversight for the Party between General Meetings.

C5.5 The Executive Council shall uphold and enforce the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.

ARTICLE 6 MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

C6.1 Meetings of the membership shall include Annual General Meetings, Special General Meetings and Policy Conventions.

C6.2 Since Federal Elections now have fixed dates, the Party will not schedule Annual General Meetings or Policy Conventions within sixty (60) days prior to any fixed-date Federal Election.

C6.3 *Annual General Meeting*

C6.3.1 An Annual General Meeting shall be called once per calendar year and not later than eighteen (18) months following the previous annual general meeting.

C6.3.2 The Annual General Meeting is called by the Executive Council.

C6.3.3 The purpose of the Annual General Meeting is to:

- A. approve the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting;
- B. elect members to vacancies on the Executive Council;
- C. consider reports by the President and Leader on accomplishments of the year;
- D. present the financial statements; and,
- E. undertake other business as may be determined by the Executive Council.

C6.4 *Special General Meetings*

C6.4.1 Special General Meetings of the members may be called:

- A. at any time by the President;
- B. by the President in accordance with a resolution of the Executive Council; or,
- C. upon written request of a minimum of twenty (20) members or ten percent (10%) of the membership, whichever is greater, whereupon the President shall arrange for a General Meeting and give notice. The request must state the reason for the General Meeting.

C6.5 Policy Conventions are called by the Executive Council.

C6.5.1 In-person Policy Conventions shall be held no more frequently than annually and preferably in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting. Policy Conventions conducted virtually may be held no more than quarterly, at the discretion of the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 7 DISSOLUTION OR MERGER OF THE PARTY

C7.1 Any resolution to dissolve the Party or to merge it with another Party shall require:

- A. approval by 75% of the members at a General Meeting of which thirty (30) days notice specifying the intention to propose the resolution has been duly given; and,
- B. approval by 75% of the votes cast by a mail-in ballot of an identically worded resolution, with a ballot return date of no later than sixty (60) days following the General Meeting at which the resolution to dissolve or merge the Party was passed.

ARTICLE 8 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

C8.1 Notice of amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall be included in a ballot package to be distributed no less than ten (10) days before a General Meeting. Each amendment shall be an individual ballot item. Amendments shall be submitted by a member and seconded by at least seven (7) members of the Party.

C8.2 The Constitution may be may be rescinded, altered or added to by resolution that is approved by a 75% of the votes cast at a General Meeting.

C8.3 The Bylaws may be rescinded, altered or added to by resolution that is approved by 66% of the votes cast at a General Meeting.

C8.4 After each General Meeting at which the Constitution or Bylaws are amended, the Executive Council shall ensure the publication of the amended Constitution or Bylaws within sixty (60) days of the general meeting, and at that time may:

- A. renumber the provisions of the Constitution or Bylaws to accommodate the changes that have been made;
- B. correct references between provisions which are no longer accurate; and,
- C. correct errors which are purely typographical, insofar as such changes will not change the meaning of any provision.

C8.5 Changes to the Constitution or Bylaws shall not come into effect until the General Meeting has adjourned at which such changes have been made

BYLAWS

ARTICLE 1 PRIMARY DOCUMENTS

B1.1 The Bylaws are subject to the applicable provincial legislation and the Constitution, in that order.

B1.2 The Executive Council shall maintain the following documents for access by members: the Constitution, Bylaws, approved policy, and the minutes of General Meetings.

B1.3 Documents shall be sent to members on request, at cost and in a timely manner.

ARTICLE 2 MEMBERSHIP

B2.1 Every Member shall support the objectives and principles of the Party and uphold the Party's Constitution and Bylaws.

B2.2 *Application*

B2.2.1 An eligible applicant who applies to join within 30 days of a General Meeting will be eligible to attend that General Meeting, to participate in discussions, but not to stand for election, make motions, or to vote.

B2.2.2 Membership in the Party is not transferrable

B2.2.3 Green Party of Alberta memberships shall be free for all eligible Albertans under 30 years of age and low-income individuals.

B2.3 *Membership Expiry and Renewal*

B2.3.1 Memberships will expire a multiple of twelve (12) months after entry on the membership register according to the fee paid.

B2.3.2 If a membership is renewed after lapsing for less than ninety (90) days after expiry, the membership will remain active.

B2.3.3 If a membership is renewed after lapsing for more than ninety (90) days after expiry, the membership shall require reinstatement

B2.4 *Setting and Payment of Membership Fees*

B2.4.1 The Executive Council shall set the annual fees for membership and the schedule for payment

B2.4.2 Members shall personally pay their own membership fee.

B2.5 *Membership Termination*

B2.5.1 A membership in the Party terminates when:

- A. the member's current membership term expires;
- B. the member resigns;
- C. the member no longer meets the requirements for membership;
or,
- D. the member is terminated by the Executive Council for just cause and after a fair hearing at an Executive Council meeting. The Executive Council decision is final and not subject to appeal.

B2.6 *Communication Among Members*

B2.6.1 Executive Council shall facilitate the efforts of members to request the participation of other members in the:

- A. nomination of candidates for Executive Council or Leader;
- B. submission of policy resolutions;
- C. signing and submission of a petition for a Leadership Review; or
- D. submission of a request to call a General Meeting

B2.6.2 The Executive Council shall determine the procedures to be followed in facilitating communications, with due consideration for reasonableness of effort and protection of the privacy of members.

B2.6.3 Membership lists shall only be used for Party business as authorized by the Executive Council.

ARTICLE 3 GENERAL MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

B3.1 *General Meeting Notice*

B3.1.1 At least sixty (60) days written notice of the holding of any General Meeting shall be sent to all members of the Party. The notice shall be sent to the last known mail or email address recorded in the membership register.

B3.1.2 The Executive Council may designate the General Meeting to be an Annual General Meeting, a Special General Meeting or a Policy Convention.

B3.2 *Proceedings at General Meetings*

B3.2.1 The time and place of a general meeting shall be designated by the Executive Council.

B3.2.2 The agenda of a general meeting shall be set by the Executive Council.

B3.2.3 The Executive Council may designate that the meeting be conducted by Robert's Rules of Order or by alternate means.

B3.2.4 At the direction of the Executive Council, membership meetings may be conducted by teleconference, videoconference, Internet or other electronic means.

B3.3 *Presiding Officer*

B3.3.1 The President chairs every General Meeting of the Party, except that in her or his absence, the Vice-President presides.

B3.3.2 If neither the President nor the Vice-President is present within one half (1/2) hour after the set time of the Meeting, the members present shall choose another Member of the Executive Council to act as the Presiding Officer. If no member of the Executive Council is present, the members present shall choose a Presiding Officer from among their number.

B3.4 *Quorum*

B3.4.1 The quorum for a General Meeting shall be ten percent (10%) of the members or twenty-five (25) members, whichever is the lesser number.

B3.4.2 If a quorum is not present within sixty (60) minutes of the time appointed for the meeting, the Presiding Officer shall adjourn the meeting. The Executive Council shall choose a time and place for the adjourned meeting and give notice of the adjourned meeting to all members not less than twenty-one (21) days before the date of the adjourned meeting. If a quorum is not present within sixty (60) minutes after the set time of the adjourned Meeting, that Meeting will proceed with the members in attendance.

B3.5 *General Meeting Resolutions*

B3.5.1 Executive Council, or the General Meeting Committee appointed by the Executive Council, may establish procedures for the submission, grouping or presentation of resolutions for a General Meeting.

B3.5.2 Members shall be notified at least thirty (30) days in advance of any deadline to submit resolutions for consideration at a General Meeting of the members.

B3.5.3 Resolutions shall be submitted by at least three (3) members.

ARTICLE 4 VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

B4.1 The Presiding Officer, subject to Executive Council direction, shall determine the method of voting for any decision of the Party unless defined elsewhere in the Constitution and the Bylaws.

B4.2 Each member shall have one vote per proposed resolution.

B4.3 There shall be no voting by proxy at any General Meeting.

B4.4 The Executive Council may provide voting for any decision by mail-in ballot or by other means. Executive Council will provide a mail-in ballot or other means of voting if requested by five (5) members and the Party has the capability to provide for that option of voting.

B4.5 The Executive Council may adopt a process of consensus decision making.

B4.6 The Executive Council may conduct non-binding referenda of the Membership.

B4.7 The Presiding Officer does not have a second or casting vote. In the event of a tie vote, the motion is defeated.

B4.8 Where voting percentages do not resolve to a whole number then that number shall be rounded down.

B4.9 *Appointment of Scrutineers*

B4.9.1 Any member of the Executive Council may appoint a scrutineer for any vote at a General Meeting.

B4.9.2 Any candidate for election as Leader or as a member of Executive Council may appoint a scrutineer for that election vote.

ARTICLE 5 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

B5.1 *Authority*

B5.1.1 The Executive Council shall have the authority to make such policies, rules, and regulations as it may from time to time consider necessary for the governance and well-being of the Party, but such policies shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party, nor with the provisions of the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* (RSA 2000).

B5.1.2 The Executive Council may appoint and dismiss an Executive Director to manage the administration of the Party, in which case the Executive Council shall set out the scope of authority of the Executive Director. The Executive Director may be a paid or volunteer position.

B5.1.3 The Executive Council may borrow or raise funds to meet the Party's objectives and operations in such manner as the Executive Council sees fit in accordance with the *Elections Finance and Contributions Disclosure Act* (RSA 2000).

B5.1.4 In between General Meetings, the Executive Council shall be the final authority on the interpretation of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.

B5.1.5 All Executive Council members, Shadow Cabinet, Chairs, and Candidates/Potential Candidates of the GPA will undertake mandatory justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) training as sponsored, specified, and organized by the EC

B5.2 *Committees of Council*

B5.2.1 The Executive Council shall appoint the General Meeting Committee and the members thereof as a standing committee. The General Meeting Committee shall be responsible for organizing and conducting general meetings subject to Terms of Reference approved by the Executive Council.

B5.2.2 The Executive Council may appoint committees, sub-committees and ad hoc committees (and the members thereof) for any purpose consistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party. All committees shall operate under terms of reference approved by the Executive Council.

B5.3 *Executive Council Membership*

B5.3.1 Elected members of the Executive Council shall consist of the following members: the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, the Chief Financial Officer and from three (3) to six (6) Members-at-Large.

B5.3.2 The Leader may attend meetings of Executive Council and speak and vote on resolutions brought before the Council.

B5.3.3 The Executive Director is a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Executive Council and all committees.

B5.3.4 The Executive Council may appoint the Past President to the membership of the Executive Council. The Past President shall be a non-voting ex-officio position.

B5.3.5 The EC shall reflect the evolving demographic diversity of Alberta including but not limited to gender parity on the EC, including proportional representation from equity-seeking and marginalized groups, with mandatory Indigenous, racialized people, and LGBTQIA2S+ representation. If not achieved through election alone, then it may be achieved by further appointments to the EC.

B5.4 *Eligibility and Term*

B5.4.1 A member of the Party shall be eligible for election or appointment to the Executive Council if the member:

- A. does not hold memberships in other Alberta political parties;
and,
- B. is legally competent to conduct business and to enter into
contracts under the laws of Alberta.

B5.4.2 Elected Executive Council members shall be elected to serve a two (2) year term or until a successor is appointed.

B5.5 *Nominations and Voting for Executive Council*

B5.5.1 The call for nominations shall be made no less than sixty (60) days prior to the General Meeting at which elections shall be held.

B5.5.2 Candidates shall be nominated by three members of the Party and the candidates shall provide evidence of consent to their nomination. The nomination shall be submitted in writing to the General Meeting Committee no less than thirty (30) days prior to the General Meeting at which elections shall be held.

B5.5.3 Nominations from the floor shall not be accepted.

B5.5.4 The vote for any position on the Executive Council shall be by preferential ballot and a majority vote shall elect.

B5.6 *Election*

B5.6.1 The election shall be organized and conducted by the General Meeting Committee.

B5.6.2 Executive Council members shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting and shall serve until their successors are elected and installed.

B5.6.3 In odd numbered years, the President, Secretary and up to three (3) Members-at-Large shall be elected.

B5.6.4 In even numbered years, the Vice President, the Chief Financial Officer and up to three (3) Members-at-Large shall be elected.

B5.7 *Vacancy on Executive Council*

B5.7.1 If a position becomes vacant, the Executive Council may appoint a replacement from among the members of the Council or from the membership to that position until the next Annual General Meeting at which an election shall be held for the vacated position for the balance of the original term that was vacated.

B5.7.2 If quorum falls to less than four (4) voting members, a Special General Meeting shall be called to elect new Council members.

B5.8 *Resignation or Removal of a Member of the Executive Council*

B5.8.1 A member of the Executive Council shall be deemed to have vacated his or her position under the following circumstances:

- A. upon providing thirty (30) days written notice of resignation to the President. As decided by Council, the resignation becomes effective either when the resignation is received or on the date stated in the resignation letter;
- B. the membership in the Party lapses. If the membership is later renewed, the Executive Council may re-appoint the Member to the vacant position;
- C. the Member is no longer meets the requirements for eligibility as provided by Bylaw Article 5.4;
- D. upon being removed by a resolution of the Executive Council; or,
- E. upon the death of the member.

B5.9 *Removal of a Member of Council*

B5.9.1 A member of the Executive Council may be removed for cause from the Council by a 70% majority vote of the Council at a Council Meeting, which may be called specially for that purpose. At least thirty (30) days notice in writing shall be given for such a meeting.

B5.9.2 Council may remove a member if the member is absent for more than three (3) consecutive meetings of the Council.

B5.9.3 The members of the Party may, by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Party, direct the Council to remove any Council member and to appoint a replacement to the position.

ARTICLE 6 RESPONSIBILITIES OF NAMED POSITIONS ON EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

B6.1 The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Council and all General Meetings of the members, and shall be an ex- officio member of all committees.

B6.2 The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President whenever the President is unavailable.

B6.3 The Secretary shall ensure that a full and complete record is kept of all proceedings of the Party, except for those records required by the Alberta Elections Act to be kept by the Chief Financial Officer. Records to be kept shall include minutes of meetings of the members and of the Executive Council, and a register of members.

B6.4 The Chief Financial Officer shall:

- A. be responsible for the financial affairs, records, and accounts of the Party;

- B. fulfill all the requirements necessary for the proper maintenance of the Party 's status with Elections Alberta;
- C. regularly present any required financial information to the executive council; and,
- D. present a written financial statement to the annual general meeting of the Party.

B6.5 The Past President, if appointed, shall provide advice and leadership regarding past practices and other matters to assist the Executive Council and support the President and Vice President as needed.

ARTICLE 7 MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

B7.1 *Presiding Officer*

B7.1.1 The President shall preside at all meetings of the Council.

B7.1.2 If the President is absent, then the Vice-President shall preside at meetings.

B7.1.3 If both the President and the Vice-President are absent, then the members of the Council shall appoint a chair from among the members present for the meeting.

B7.2 *Calling and Notice of Meetings*

B7.2.1 Meetings of the Executive Council shall be held as often as may be required and shall not be fewer than six (6) times a year.

B7.2.2 Meetings of the Executive Council shall be called by:

- A. the President; or,
- B. on the instructions of any two Executive Council members provided they request the President in writing to call such a meeting and state the business to be brought before the meeting.

B7.2.3 Notice of meetings shall be no less than six (6) days unless seventy percent (70%) of the Executive Council members agree to a shorter notice period.

B7.2.4 The Executive Council may meet by teleconference or any other means as approved by the Council.

B7.2.5 The Executive Council may make decisions between meetings by telecommunication, or by any other means, provided that all the Executive Council members are in agreement and the decision is formally confirmed at the next Executive Council meeting.

B7.3 The quorum for Executive Council meetings shall be fifty percent (50%) plus 1 of the voting members of the Executive Council. The Leader shall not count in the quorum.

B7.4 *Voting*

B7.4.1 All decisions of the Executive Council shall be by a majority vote of those present.

B7.4.2 Members of the Executive Council shall not vote by proxy.

B7.4.3 Every individual member of the Executive Council shall vote only once on any matter decided at an Executive Council meeting regardless of how many positions they may hold.

B7.4.4 The Chair does not have a second or casting vote in the event of a tie vote. If there is a tie vote, the motion is defeated.

B7.5 The Executive Council may adopt procedural rules for conducting Executive Council meetings, provided that such rules are not inconsistent with the Constitution or the Bylaws.

B7.6 The Executive Council may by resolution allow members or invite non-Members to attend its meetings.

ARTICLE 8 THE LEADER

B8.1 *Responsibilities and Authorities*

B8.1.1 The Leader is the chief public official of the Party and shall be the official spokesperson for the Party on policy. The Leader may delegate this role, in connection with specified policy areas, to members of a cabinet, Shadow Cabinet, or other members of the Party.

B8.1.2 The Leader shall be an ex-officio member of any committees established for election planning, policy or communications purposes.

B8.1.3 The Leader may request the membership at a General Meeting to amend or reject policies that the leader believes are not in the best interests of Party.

B8.2 *Appointment of Deputy Leader and Cabinet or Shadow Cabinet*

B8.2.1 The Leader may, in consultation with the Executive Council, appoint up to two (2) Deputy Leaders.

- A. The Deputy Leaders shall assist the Leader as required.
- B. The Deputy Leaders may perform the duties of the Leader when the Leader is unavailable.

B8.2.2 The Leader shall appoint members to a cabinet or Shadow Cabinet, as the case may be, from among members of the caucus or the Party.

- A. The cabinet or Shadow Cabinet shall be responsible, together with the Leader, for creating the election platform in keeping with membership approved policies.
- B. The Leader may appoint individuals from other Alberta provincial parties to a cabinet or Shadow Cabinet subject to approval by the Executive Council of the proposed appointments.

B8.3 *Election of the Leader*

B8.3.1 Where a Leader's term ends or the position of a Leader otherwise becomes vacant:

- A. Executive Council shall forthwith appoint an interim Leader until a Leadership Contest is held and a new leader elected; and,
- B. A Leadership Contest must be held within six months of the appointment of an interim Leader.

B8.3.2 Candidates for the position of Leader shall be nominated by ten (10) members of the Party and the candidates shall provide evidence of their consent to their nomination.

B8.3.3 All members of the Party shall be eligible to vote for the position of Leader.

B8.3.4 The Party will permit, and encourage, Co-Leaders of the Party. These Co-Leaders will run as a team, enabling the Party to embrace a diversity of experience and geographical representation.

B8.4 *Leadership Review*

B8.4.1 A Leadership Review will be held:

- A. on the request of the Leader;
- B. within six (6) months after a general Provincial Election;
- C. on a vote of non-confidence by the Executive Council; or,
- D. within six (6) months of the President receiving a petition signed by twenty percent (20%) of the membership requesting a review.

B8.4.2 The Executive Council shall organize a Leadership Election to be held within six (6) months of the Leadership Review if the vote of approval of the current Leader is less than seventy percent (70%).

ARTICLE 9 INDEMNITY

B9.1 When acting honestly, in good faith, and exercising due diligence and within the scope of their authority under the Party's Constitution, Bylaws, and other duly passed Party rule, no lawfully sitting member, volunteer, employee, officer, member of any committee established by the Party, or any other person duly acting in any approved capacity on behalf of the Party, shall be liable for any debts, actions, claims, demands, liabilities or commitments of any kind of the Party howsoever incurred. The Party shall indemnify and hold harmless each such person against any such debt, action, claim, demand, liability or commitment whatsoever.

ARTICLE 10 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

B10.1 A Constituency Association is an association of the members of the Party residing within a specific Electoral Division.

B10.2 *Recognition*

B10.2.1 The Executive Council may grant recognition to one Constituency Association per Electoral Division.

B10.2.2 Such recognition may be revoked subject to the provisions of the Bylaws.

B10.3 *Responsibilities of Constituency Associations*

B10.3.1 Constituency Associations shall comply with such requirements as to their governance, financial management and reporting, as may be implemented by the Executive Council.

B10.3.2 The Constituency Association is subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Party.

B10.3.3 Members of a Constituency Association may choose to adopt model Constitution and Bylaws provided by the Party or may adopt a different Constitution and Bylaws. If different Constitution and Bylaws are adopted, they must be approved by the Executive Council.

B10.3.4 All members of the Constituency Associations Executive Board shall be members of the Party.

B10.4 *Reporting*

B10.4.1 The Constituency Association Executive Board is responsible to ensure that all records and reports requested by the Party are forwarded to the Party office. These may include but not be limited to:

- A. AGM and Founding Meeting minutes;
- B. A contact list for the current Constituency Association executive;
- C. A copy of the annual financial statements; and,
- D. A copy of the current Constitution and Bylaws

B10.5 *Authority of Executive Council*

B10.5.1 The Executive Council may overrule any resolution of any Constituency Association of the Party that is inconsistent with the Party's principles or policies.

B10.5.2 The Executive Council has the authority to dissolve any committee or Constituency Association of the Party.

B10.5.3 The Executive Council has the authority to remove any provincial election candidate.

B10.6 *Approval or Appointment of Candidates*

B10.6.1 All Provincial Election candidates require the endorsement of the Executive Council. The Executive Council shall consult with the Leader on suitability of the candidate prior to consideration of endorsement.

B10.6.2 The Executive Council may appoint candidates in Electoral Divisions where there is no Constituency Association, or where no candidate has been selected by a Constituency Association in a timely manner.

B10.7 The Executive Council of the Party may dissolve a Constituency Association if:

- A. the Constituency Association's Constitution or Bylaws is inconsistent with the Party's Constitution or Bylaws;
- B. the Constituency Association does not share the purposes of the Party and does not govern itself in accordance with its constitution and bylaws or with the constitution or bylaws of the Party; or,
- C. the Constituency Association has not filed with the Party required records and reports.

B10.8 The Party shall not be responsible for any liabilities or obligations of a Constituency Association or a candidate.

ARTICLE 11 DEFINITIONS (TO BE REVISED)

B11.1 *Natural person*: individual human being, as opposed to a legal person which may be a private or public organization; see Section 15 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

B11.2 *Canadian citizen*: according to the Citizenship Act, a person is a Canadian citizen if:

- A. they were born in Canada;
- B. they became a citizen through the naturalization process in Canada;
- C. they were born outside Canada and one of their parents was either born in Canada or naturalized in Canada before they were born. The person in this case is the first generation born outside Canada;
- D. they were born outside Canada from January 1, 1947, up to and including April 16, 2009, to a Canadian parent who was also born outside Canada to a Canadian parent (in this case, the person is the second or subsequent generation born outside Canada); or
- E. they were adopted outside Canada by a Canadian parent on or after January 1, 1947.

B11.3 *Resident of Alberta*: according to Elections Alberta, you are a resident of Alberta if you ordinarily spend your time as a residence within the province, with the intent to return when absent.

B11.4 *Directive resolution*: A resolution that instructs the Executive to take certain specific actions.

B11.5 *Policy resolution*: A resolution that changes the adopted Policy Document of the Party.

B11.6 *Constitution and Bylaw resolution*: A resolution that changes the adopted Constitution or Bylaws.

B11.7 *Active membership*: A new membership or a membership that has been renewed prior to ninety (90) days after expiring and membership privileges have been restored.

B11.8 *Membership expiry*: The date at which membership ceases, at the present time this is either one (1) year or three (3) years from the date of membership acquisition, according to the membership fee paid.

B11.9 *Lapsed membership*: A membership that has not been renewed before the date of expiry, and therefore membership privileges have ceased.

B11.10 *Terminated membership*: A membership that has not been renewed prior to ninety (90) days after expiring. If a previously terminated member wishes to be reinstated, then an application will be treated as a new application.

B11.11 *General Meeting*: A meeting of all the membership, held either annually (*Annual General Meeting*) or for a specific reason (*Special General Meeting*).

B11.12 *Policy Convention*: a meeting of all members, with the intent to discuss, debate, and adopt policies proposed by the membership.

B11.13 *Policy Document*: comprised of motions, which if adopted by the members at a Policy Convention, articulate what the Party will work toward.

B11.14 *Electoral Division* (or *District*): an geographical subdivision of a province considered as unit for the purposes of an election, to provide its population with representation in the province's Legislative Assembly; commonly known as a electoral riding.

B11.15 *Referenda* (plural of *Referendum*): the practice of referring measures proposed or passed by the Executive Council, to the vote of the membership for approval or rejection.

B11.16 *Presiding Officer* (or *Chair*): member who leads and is in control of meetings by deciding who can speak, keeping order, etc.

APPENDIX

Not Part of the Constitution or Bylaws

Section A

Principles of the Alberta Green Party

3.1. Ecological Wisdom

We acknowledge that human beings are part of the natural world and we respect the specific values of all forms of life.

3.2. Social Justice

We assert that the key to social justice is the equitable distribution of resources to ensure that all have full opportunities for personal and social development.

3.3. Participatory Democracy

We strive for a democracy in which all citizens have the right to express their views, and are able to directly participate in the environmental, economic, social and political decisions which affect their lives; so that power and responsibility are concentrated in local and regional communities, and devolved only where essential to higher tiers of governance.

3.4. Non-Violence

We declare our commitment to nonviolence and strive for a culture of peace and cooperation between states, inside societies and between individuals.

3.5. Sustainability

We recognize the limited scope for the material expansion of society within the biosphere, and the need to maintain biodiversity through the sustainable use of renewable resources.

3.6. Respect for Diversity

We honour cultural, linguistic, ethnic, sexual, religious and spiritual diversity within the context of individual responsibility toward all beings.

Section B

Addendum – Model Bylaws for Constituency Association *(to be revised for consistency with new version of Constitution and Bylaws)*

CA1.2 Constituency Association Bylaws

CA1.2.1 The name of the association shall be the “Green Party of Alberta

_____ Constituency Association”, hereafter referred to as the “Association”.

CA1.2.2 The Association is formed pursuant to the provisions of the Alberta Elections Act and by the Alberta Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act.

CA1.2.3 The boundaries of the Association are the boundaries of the Electoral Division of __, as those boundaries are set from time to time by the Government of Alberta.

CA1.2.4 The Association shall not merge or join with any other political parties.

CA1.3 *Constituency Association Membership*

CA1.3.1 All members of the Party residing within the boundaries of the Electoral Division of _____ shall be members of the Association.

CA1.3.2 Only members of the Party residing within the Electoral Division shall be members of the Association.

CA1.3.3 Members of the Party residing outside the _____ Electoral Division may serve on the Executive Board of the Association by special approval of the Party Executive Council but shall not be eligible to be members or to vote.

CA1.3.4 A member of the Association has the right to count in quorum, to attend, speak, and vote at a General Meeting of the Association, and to be elected to any office in the Association.

CA1.3.5 A member of the Association has the right to receive newsletters, information, membership services, and notices of General Meetings and other activities from the Association as these may be available.

CA1.3.6 Members of the Association have the right to receive at least one communication annually by mail if they do not have internet access.

CA1.4 *Constituency Association Executive Board*

CA1.4.1 The Constituency Association Board shall be elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting of the Association

CA1.4.2 In between Annual General Meetings, the Board shall be the governing body of the Association.

CA1.4.3 The Board shall be comprised of a minimum of four persons occupying the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Chief Financial Officer, and up to eight (8) Members-at-Large.

CA1.4.4 The members of the Board shall serve for rotating two (2) -year terms. In even numbered years, the President, Secretary and up to four Members at Large shall be elected. In odd numbered years, the Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and up to four (4) Members- at-Large shall be elected.

CA1.4.5 In the event of a vacancy on the Board, the Board shall appoint a member to fill the position until the time of the next scheduled election for that position.

CA1.4.6 The Board may create committees as necessary and appoint the members of such committees.

CA1.4.7 The Board shall define the procedures to be followed in Board Meetings and General Meetings.

CA1.5 *Constituency Association Financial Affairs*

CA1.5.1 The Chief Financial Officer shall fulfill all financial responsibilities of the Association and make regular reports to the membership.

CA1.5.2 The Chief Financial Officer shall fulfill all the requirements necessary for the proper maintenance of the Association's status with Elections Alberta.

CA1.6 *Constituency Association General Meetings*

CA1.6.1 Notification of General Meetings of the Association shall be delivered in writing to all Party members within the Constituency a minimum of thirty (30) days before the meeting.

CA1.6.2 The Association shall hold an Annual General Meeting once per calendar year and not later than eighteen (18) months following the previous Annual General Meeting.

CA1.7 *Constituency Association Candidate Nominations*

CA1.7.1 Except where the Executive Council decides that the Party will not be running a candidate in the particular Electoral Division in a given Provincial Election, the Association shall hold a Nomination Meeting to elect a candidate for the Party in the Electoral Division.

CA1.7.2 The Board shall set the date for the Nomination Meeting and shall normally provide notice to all members of the Association in writing dated no later than thirty (30) days prior to the Nomination Meeting.

CA1.7.3 Candidates seeking the Party nomination shall be sponsored in writing by at least three (3) members of the Association and shall deliver that written notice to the President at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the Nominating Meeting.

CA1.7.4 In the event that an Election has been called before a date for the Nomination Meeting has been set, the Board shall set the Nomination Meeting as soon as possible and shall provide notice of the meeting by telephone or email no less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Nomination Meeting. In this case, candidates seeking the Party nomination may be sponsored from the floor.

CA1.7.5 In the event that it is not possible to hold a Nomination Meeting, the Board may appoint a candidate.

CA1.7.6 No member of the Association shall be a member of the Board and a nominee or a candidate at the same time.

CA1.7.7 All members of the Association may vote at a Nomination Meeting.

CA1.7.8 Candidates shall be elected by majority vote which shall include the option of "none of the above".

CA1.8 *Constituency Association Voting*

CA1.8.1 Only members of the Association are entitled to vote at meetings of the Association.

CA1.8.2 The Board shall decide on the voting procedure to be used for Board Meetings and General Meetings.

Section C

The following amendments were made to the Constitution and approved on November 16, 2019:

Under Article 6 of the Constitution, the following was inserted as C6.2 "Since Federal Elections now have fixed dates, the Party will not schedule Annual General Meetings or Policy Conventions within sixty (60) days prior to any fixed-date Federal Election."

The following was added as Article 6.5.1 of the Constitution: "Policy Conventions will be held no more frequently than annually and preferably in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting."

The following was added as Article 8.3.4 of the Bylaws: "The Party will permit, and encourage, Co-Leaders of the Party. These Co-Leaders will run as a team, enabling the Party to embrace a diversity of experience and geographical representation."

Bylaw Articles 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 were removed. Article 2.2.1 stated "any person who satisfies the criteria for membership set out in Article 4 may apply to the Executive Council for membership and, on payment of the required fees and acceptance by the Council, become a member." While Article 2.2.2 stated "the Executive Council, or any membership committee of the Party appointed from time to time by the Council, shall be responsible for receiving, recommending, and processing applications for membership. The Council or Membership Committee shall review such applications to ensure that the applicants qualify for membership, and in addition may refuse any application on the grounds that it is not in the best interests of the Party to have the applicant as a member."

The following amendments were made to the Constitution and approved on November 22, 2020:

Article 6.5.1 of the Constitution to read: "In-person Policy Conventions shall be held no more frequently than annually and preferably in conjunction with the AGM. Policy Conventions conducted virtually may be held more frequently, at the discretion of the Executive Council."

Article 4.1c of the Constitution to read:"is fourteen (14) years of age or older;"

The following amendments were made to the Constitution and approved on November 22, 2022.

B2.2.3 Green Party of Alberta memberships shall be free for all eligible Albertans under 30 years of age and low-income individuals

B5.1.5 All Executive Council members, Shadow Cabinet, Chairs, and Candidates/Potential Candidates of the GPA will undertake mandatory justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) training as sponsored, specified, and organized by the EC

B5.3.5 The EC shall reflect the evolving demographic diversity of Alberta including but not limited to gender parity on the EC, including proportional representation from equity-seeking and marginalized groups, with mandatory Indigenous, racialized people, and LGBTQ2IAS+ representation. If not achieved through election alone, then it may be achieved by further appointments to the EC.

The following amendments were made to the Constitution and approved on October 14, 2023.

B3.4.1 The quorum for a General Meeting shall be ten percent (10%) of the members or twenty-five (25) members, whichever is the lesser number.