



Saskatchewan Green Party

Official AGM Package

27-May-2023

The annual general meeting (AGM) is your once-a-year chance to gather with and learn from other Greens and just to have some fun. We encourage every party member to attend, and we are looking forward to seeing you there! We also encourage car pooling. If you are looking for a ride or can offer a ride, fill out the form at bit.ly/SGPAGM_CarPool.

This is the Annual General Meeting Official Package for the annual general meeting (AGM). This is an important document that contains the information and ballots required to participate at the AGM. You must **print** the ballot pages because they contain the official ballots you will submit. Please email president@saskgreen.ca if you lack access to a printer.

If you are attending the AGM, we encourage you to keep an open mind. Please complete your ballots **after** visiting with candidates and discussing resolutions with submitters and others. If you **cannot** attend the AGM, send your ballots with another party member, or mail your ballots to SGP % Nancy Carswell RR1 Site 9 Comp 23 Shellbrook SK S0J 2E0. **Follow the instructions on the ballot pages.**

The AGM is on Saturday May 27th at the Multipurpose Hall on the University of Regina College Avenue Campus. The cutoff date for preregistration is May 17th.

The AGM \$20 registration includes two years of membership and lunch. Options to register for the AGM are:

1. Visit saskgreen.ca/agm_2023 and purchase "ticket(s)".
2. Or send an eTransfer to donations@saskgreen.ca mentioning AGM 2023.
3. Or mail a cheque to SGP % Nancy Carswell RR1 Site 9 Comp 23 Shellbrook SK S0J 2E0.

Executive Ballot Process

The executive ballot list contains only the name of the candidates running for **contested** positions. This year's executive ballot has **two** contested positions. In accordance with our Constitution and Bylaws Section B: 10.6.3 this ballot will be tabulated using the principles of instant runoff (ranked or preferential voting). Since we have no more than two candidates competing for the same executive position this year, we will be using a normal ballot. Please only mark the candidate you wish to vote for.

The candidates involved in the contested positions have been given an opportunity to submit brief biographies and they are included in this ballot package.

Executive Candidates

This year we have two contested races for the provincial executive:

1. Vice President
2. Fundraising Chair

The following biographies were submitted by the candidates themselves. Please read attentively. If you need more clarification from the candidates feel free to reach out to them before voting.

Vice President Candidate David Greenfield

I grew up in Saskatoon and became active in the green and progressive movement in the mid 1980s. During the mid eighties I was active for three years in an early chapter of the Greens. After our chapter faded away in 1987, I became active in a variety of Green-progressive activist groups. Then in 1998-99 I helped found our provincial party (originally known as the New Green Alliance) now called the Saskatchewan Green Party.

I served as vice president of our provincial party from 1999 to 2002, and as the Saskatchewan rep to the federal Green Party council from 2002 to 2005. I have also run as a Green Party candidate a total of eight times.

What I hope to bring to the role of vice president is a knowledge of party history and principles, and a willingness to build on our history and principles to make our party bigger, stronger and more awesome.

Vice President Candidate Remi G. Rheault

Remi G. Rheault is a self-employed developer applying the array of green technologies and instilling community job development into each project. As a longtime social activist (e.g., Black Lives Matter) he targets the loss of self-esteem that comes with joblessness and alienation from cultural traditions. Shortly after arriving in Langenburg from Ontario, Remi joined the Saskatchewan Green Party and became a Member-at-Large on the executive, with promoting affordable housing as a key goal. He believes that respecting and preserving Land and Resources for future generations is paramount for Canada and the world.

Remi's values are rooted in the First People of Turtle Island's traditions and nationhood, and this is his proud ancestry. He follows the Seven Sacred Teachings and aspires to lead by example. His second term on the executive would see him inviting members to roll up their sleeves along with him, to keep learning and growing as active Greens.

Fundraising Chair Marcia Neault

I am Saskatchewan born. I went to Indian Day School and to Saskatchewan University.

I began activism while still in high school. I was the one who did the blockade at North Battleford in 2006. I was arrested, the charge was dropped. I was part of the blockade in New Brunswick when they were stopping the fracking. I also continue to support the gay community among my many activist activities.

I am a senior, a proud Native, educated, smart and I care what happens to others. I speak more than one language, including Cree, Michif and not French, lol. I am pro-active in the lives of my children and grandchildren. Besides being gay I am also a traveller and I have spoken at universities, at the Manitoba legislature, and many minority organizations.

I am diverse and knowledgeable in many different political issues. I believe in the Green Party and support our Mandate. Moreover, I believe in our country and in all Canadians.

Fundraising Chair Candidate Neil Sinclair

Saskatoon is my hometown. I have been an environmentalist for as long as I can remember always caring about nature and wildlife.

I have been involved with the anti-nuclear movement for decades. This has led me to oppose uranium mining in Saskatchewan.

I helped found the Saskatchewan Green Party (New Green Alliance) and led the party in its first general election. We received over 8% in two ridings in that first election of 1999. I have been involved with the Green party one way or another since the 1980s.

My goal as Fundraising Chair is to increase the SGP's Election fund so as to assist more candidates get past the hurdle of the increased \$100 to \$500 nomination fee.

Resolutions Bonser Ballot Process

The Green Party of Saskatchewan uses the **Bonser Ballot** for all policy resolution voting. This is identified in the Constitution and Bylaws; Section B10.8.1 (g). The Bonser Ballot offers three options for voting. These options are:

Green	You agree with the resolution and are voting for it.
Yellow	You need some clarification .
Red	You disagree with the resolution and are voting against it.

If there is a **second vote** required at the AGM, the yellow option is dropped leaving only green (yes) or red (no) options.

Resolutions

The following are your policy resolutions submitted for your consideration at the 2023 AGM. The author who submitted the policy proposal is identified. Feel free to reach out to the authors of the

policy proposals before the AGM and ask for clarification or offer your support for the resolution. There will also be time to discuss the policies during breaks at the AGM before the voting process begins.

#1 Resolution Bio-Diesel

Neil Sinclair

WHEREAS biodiesel is made from plant oils, rather than fossil fuels, and these plants absorb carbon out of the atmosphere,

BE IT RESOLVED that a Saskatchewan Green Party government would support research and implementation to use biodiesel to replace fossil fuel based diesel, and thus lower greenhouse gas emissions.

#2 Resolution Oil Royalties

Neil Sinclair

WHEREAS Saskatchewan has collected the lowest (2.5% average) oil royalty rate on Earth since the 1980s and

WHEREAS Saskatchewan used to collect 40% oil royalty rate in the 1970s,

BE IT RESOLVED that a Saskatchewan Green Party government would raise Saskatchewan oil royalty rates to a world average rate taking into account oil producing political jurisdictions such as Norway (76%) and Alaska (38%).

#3 Resolution Presidential Term Amendment

Neil Sinclair

WHEREAS the current term for the position of Saskatchewan Green Party President is 2 years, and there is no reason to make this position longer than the 1-year terms of the other administrative positions on the Executive,

BE IT RESOLVED that, beginning with the 2024 AGM of Saskatchewan Green Party, the election shall take place to elect the President to a one-year term.

#4 Resolution Secret Ballot Bylaw Amendment

Neil Sinclair

WHEREAS the convention today is to have a secret ballot in modern democratic votes.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Green Party shall conduct all of its Executive elections, Bylaw and Constitutional amendments, and policy resolution votes with a secret ballot.

That is, a hard copy ballot shall be mailed out with a small unmarked envelope, and a large marked return envelope to all current party members.

The sealed ballots shall be mailed back to the Saskatchewan Green Party's official P.O. Box in Regina, Saskatchewan where they shall be collected by the Saskatchewan Green Party Secretary or Assistant to the Secretary or another member of the Executive.

The ballots shall remain sealed until the day of the AGM where upon the unmarked sealed ballots shall be put into a ballot box.

The ballots shall be counted by a Committee of the Whole (everyone in attendance) or an Election Committee chosen at the AGM. The Election Committee shall include scrutineers representing the candidates.

The vote counts shall immediately be made known at the AGM.

#5 Resolution Carbon Audits for Government Supported Projects

Neil Sinclair

WHEREAS government projects may release carbon into the atmosphere such as the construction of a major new hockey arena in Saskatoon,

BE IT RESOLVED that a Saskatchewan Green Party government would take into account the carbon footprint of a project in the calculation of whether to support the project or not.

#6 Resolution on Proposed New Hockey Arena for Saskatoon

Neil Sinclair

WHEREAS Saskatoon already has a relatively new hockey arena in the 35-year-old originally named Saskatchewan Place and,

WHEREAS the proposed convention use of the new arena would directly compete against the originally named Centennial Auditorium which itself has had millions of dollars recently spent to expand its own convention capacity and,

WHEREAS the construction of a new hockey arena in Saskatoon would emit large amounts of carbon into the atmosphere unnecessarily,

BE IT RESOLVED that a Saskatchewan Green Party government would not financially support the construction of a new hockey arena in Saskatoon.

#7 Resolution Lowering Membership Fee

Whitney Greenleaf

WHEREAS selling of party memberships has never been about fundraising. It has always been about allowing like-minded individuals an opportunity to participate in our political party;

WHEREAS we cannot give away memberships because payment is the easiest way to confirm that individuals are aware of and consent to joining the party;

BE IT RESOLVED that we lower the cost of membership to allow the growing percentage of Saskatchewan citizens living in extreme poverty a chance to be involved in the political process.

In the Bylaws part of the Constitution and Bylaws document under B:2.0 Section Expiry of Membership Articles 2.2.1 and 2.2.3 be amended to read as the following;

2.2.1 the Standard membership fee be adjusted from \$10.00 to \$2.00;

2.2.3 An individual may pay \$50.00 to remain as a member in good standing for 5 years should be amended to read; An individual may pay \$10.00 to remain as a member in good standing for 5 years.

#8 Resolution Executive Nominations and Members at Large

Marcie Neault

I move that we the Saskatchewan Green party, pass a resolution that all people who apply to be members at large, on the executive, be allowed to be such. They then have background to apply for other positions as the year progresses.

Furthermore..... That any and all position applications be accepted in any and all forms and to be confirmed and signed at a general meeting. This means even if they are typed, or even handwritten on a cornflakes box, etc. I might need this because I travel a lot.

We are not working for the premier. We are an autonomous entity until such time as we have a premier sitting at the legislator. Let's just be more compassionate to those of us who are less fortunate, and don't have access to printers, etc.

#9 Resolution Adopting a Fixed Expiration Date

Valerie Brooks and Nancy Carswell

WHEREAS the Saskatchewan Green Party Constitution and Provincial Bylaws states:

Expiry of Membership

B: 2.2.1 The standard membership fee is ten dollars (\$10.00) for a membership that expires exactly one (1) year after the day it is purchased.

B: 2.2.2 A member may pay 200 dollars to remain as a member in good standing without annual membership renewal and have sections 2.2.1 and 2.9.3 of the Saskatchewan Green Party's bylaws do not apply to their membership.

B: 2.2.3 An individual may pay \$50 to remain as a member in good standing for the next five years. Such membership expires exactly five (5) years after the day it is purchased.

WHEREAS membership renewal provides an opportunity to connect with members, but expiry dates are random, hard to track, and members may not recall their date; and

WHEREAS Saskatchewan Green Party members and executive would remember a common expiry day of December 31 making November a month to focus on membership renewals; and

WHEREAS members may prefer to buy multiple years and the election cycle is usually four (4) years, it would be beneficial to offer multiple year memberships;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Green Party amend B: 2.2.1 to the following:

Expiry of Membership

B: 2.2.1 The Saskatchewan Green Party membership fee for one (1) year is \$10. December 31 of the current year is the expiry date with the exception of memberships purchased between September 1 and December 31 which would expire on December 31 of the following year.

B: 2.2.2 A member may purchase a lifetime membership by paying \$200 or donating \$200 between January 1 and December 31 of the current year and become exempt from the renewal process.

B: 2.2.3 An individual may pay membership fees in multiples of \$10 up to a maximum of \$50 for five years. For example, \$30 would purchase a three (3) year membership.

#10 Resolution: Adopt and Promote the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth

Dave Greenfield and Naomi Hunter

WHEREAS, the past twenty years have seen the rise of a movement for the rights of nature, and

WHEREAS, the Saskatchewan Green Party is generally sympathetic to this movement, and

WHEREAS one primary expression of the principles of this movement for the rights of nature is the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, a declaration that was adopted by the Peoples' Congress on Climate Change and the Rights of Mother Earth held in Cochabamba Bolivia in April 2010,
BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Saskatchewan Green Party adopt the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth as a document whose principles inform and guide our thinking, policies, and actions.

That we include the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth on our website.

That prior to forming government in Saskatchewan, we will promote the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth as a document that we encourage our provincial government and municipal governments to adopt.

That upon forming government in Saskatchewan, we will adopt the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth as a document to guide Saskatchewan government policies and practices.

The text of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth is included below.

Preamble

We, the peoples and nations of Earth:

Considering that we are all part of Mother Earth, an indivisible, living community of interrelated and interdependent beings with a common destiny;

Gratefully acknowledging that Mother Earth is the source of life, nourishment and learning and provides everything we need to live well;

Recognizing that the capitalist system and all forms of depredation, exploitation, abuse and contamination have caused great destruction, degradation and disruption of Mother Earth, putting life as we know it today at risk through phenomena such as climate change;

Convinced that in an interdependent living community it is not possible to recognize the rights of only human beings without causing an imbalance within Mother Earth;

Affirming that to guarantee human rights it is necessary to recognize and defend the rights of Mother Earth and all beings in her and that there are existing cultures, practices and laws that do so;

Conscious of the urgency of taking decisive, collective action to transform structures and systems that cause climate change and other threats to Mother Earth;

Proclaim this Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, and call on the General Assembly of the United Nation to adopt it, as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations of the world, and to the end that every individual and institution takes responsibility for promoting through teaching, education, and consciousness raising, respect for the rights recognized in this Declaration and ensure through prompt and progressive measures and mechanisms, national and international, their universal and effective recognition and observance among all peoples and States in the world.

Article 1. Mother Earth

- (1) Mother Earth is a living being.
- (2) Mother Earth is a unique, indivisible, self-regulating community of interrelated beings that sustains, contains and reproduces all beings.
- (3) Each being is defined by its relationships as an integral part of Mother Earth.
- (4) The inherent rights of Mother Earth are inalienable in that they arise from the same source as existence.
- (5) Mother Earth and all beings are entitled to all the inherent rights recognized in this Declaration without distinction of any kind, such as may be made between organic and inorganic beings, species, origin, use to human beings, or any other status.
- (6) Just as human beings have human rights, all other beings also have rights which are specific to their species or kind and appropriate for their role and function within the communities within which they exist.
- (7) The rights of each being are limited by the rights of other beings and any conflict between their rights must be resolved in a way that maintains the integrity, balance and health of Mother Earth.

Article 2. Inherent Rights of Mother Earth

- (1) Mother Earth and all beings of which she is composed have the following inherent rights:
 - (a) the right to life and to exist;
 - (b) the right to be respected;
 - (c) the right to regenerate its bio-capacity and to continue its vital cycles and processes free from human disruptions;

- (d) the right to maintain its identity and integrity as a distinct, self-regulating and interrelated being;
 - (e) the right to water as a source of life;
 - (f) the right to clean air;
 - (g) the right to integral health;
 - (h) the right to be free from contamination, pollution and toxic or radioactive waste;
 - (i) the right to not have its genetic structure modified or disrupted in a manner that threatens its integrity or vital and healthy functioning;
 - (j) the right to full and prompt restoration for violation of the rights recognized in this Declaration caused by human activities;
- (2) Each being has the right to a place and to play its role in Mother Earth for her harmonious functioning.
- (3) Every being has the right to wellbeing and to live free from torture or cruel treatment by human beings.

Article 3. Obligations of human beings to Mother Earth

- (1) Every human being is responsible for respecting and living in harmony with Mother Earth.
- (2) Human beings, all States, and all public and private institutions must:
- (a) act in accordance with the rights and obligations recognized in this Declaration;
 - (b) recognize and promote the full implementation and enforcement of the rights and obligations recognized in this Declaration;
 - (c) promote and participate in learning, analysis, interpretation and communication about how to live in harmony with Mother Earth in accordance with this Declaration;
 - (d) ensure that the pursuit of human wellbeing contributes to the wellbeing of Mother Earth, now and in the future;
 - (e) establish and apply effective norms and laws for the defence, protection and conservation of the rights of Mother Earth;
 - (f) respect, protect, conserve and where necessary, restore the integrity, of the vital ecological cycles, processes and balances of Mother Earth;
 - (g) guarantee that the damages caused by human violations of the inherent rights recognized in this Declaration are rectified and that those responsible are held accountable for restoring the integrity and health of Mother Earth;
 - (h) empower human beings and institutions to defend the rights of Mother Earth and of all beings;
 - (i) establish precautionary and restrictive measures to prevent human activities from causing species extinction, the destruction of ecosystems or the disruption of ecological cycles;
 - (j) guarantee peace and eliminate nuclear, chemical and biological weapons;
 - (k) promote and support practices of respect for Mother Earth and all beings, in accordance with their own cultures, traditions and customs;
 - (l) promote economic systems that are in harmony with Mother Earth and in accordance with the rights recognized in this Declaration.

Article 4. Definitions

- (1) The term “being” includes ecosystems, natural communities, species and all other natural entities which exist as part of Mother Earth.
- (2) Nothing in this Declaration restricts the recognition of other inherent rights of all beings or specified beings.

Executive Candidate Ballot

To ensure confidentiality, place your ballots in an **unmarked** sealed envelope. Place that envelope within another envelope with one piece of **signed** documentation indicating that you completed the ballot yourself. Your sealed envelope will be opened by the ballot committee.

Vice President

Select **one**:

☐ David Greenfield

☐ Remi G. Rheault

Fundraising Chair

Select **one**:

☐ Marcia Neault

☐ Neil Sinclair

Resolutions Ballot

To ensure confidentiality, place your ballots in an **unmarked** sealed envelope. Place that envelope within another envelope with one piece of **signed** documentation indicating that you completed the ballot yourself. Your sealed envelope will be opened by the ballot committee.

Resolution	Green	Yellow	Red
#1 Resolution Bio-Diesel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#2 Resolution Oil Royalties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#3 Resolution Presidential Term Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#4 Resolution Secret Ballot Bylaw Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#5 Resolution Carbon Audits for Government Supported Projects	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#6 Resolution on Proposed New Hockey Arena for Saskatoon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#7 Resolution Lowering Membership Fee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#8 Resolution Executive Nominations and Members at Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#9 Resolution Adopting a Fixed Expiration Date	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
#10 Resolution: Adopt and Promote the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>