



**CONSTITUTION
OF THE YUKON
NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

AS AMENDED IN JUNE 2017



CONSTITUTION OF THE YUKON NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

*As amended in June 2017
at its general membership meeting.*

1.0 NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Yukon New Democratic Party ("Party").

2.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Party is:

- a. to provide an open, inclusive and organized forum for Yukon people who share the belief that the public life of the Yukon should be guided by the social democratic principles of Equality, Democracy, Sustainability, Community and Co-operation;
- b. to advocate the application of democratic socialist principles to government and the administration of public affairs to assure social, economic and political progress.
- c. to make a positive contribution to public awareness and debate on matters of public policy, particularly in the areas of social policy and social justice, environmental stewardship, responsible and sustainable economic

management, First Nations issues, and the rights of workers, minorities, women and marginalized persons;

d. to demonstrate solidarity with other Yukon organizations working for positive social change;

e. to support the election of New Democrats to the Yukon Legislative Assembly in all territorial electoral districts ("ridings"); and

f. to exercise the authority, and fulfill the responsibilities, of a registered political party under the Yukon Elections Act.

The operations of the Party shall be carried on within the Yukon Territory.

3.0 INTERPRETATION

The President is responsible for interpreting this Constitution between conventions of the Party. Any such interpretation may be overruled by a majority of Board members present at any meeting of the Board.

In the absence of the President, the presiding officer is responsible for interpreting this Constitution.

During the Convention, the Convention Chair shall be responsible for interpreting this Constitution, subject to a majority vote by the eligible participating members to overrule such interpretation.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP

Any individual resident of the Yukon age 12 or over who undertakes to abide by the Constitution of the Party, who is not a member or supporter of any other territorial political party may apply for membership in the Party by completing forms provided by the Yukon New

Democratic Party or signing up at www.ndp.ca.

Membership applications are subject to approval by the Membership Secretary or per an appeal. Once approved, a Member whose status continues to be current shall be considered a member in good standing. The Party may suspend or revoke a membership.

A Member shall be registered in the territorial electoral district (“riding”) in which he or she lives, except for an elected member of the Yukon Legislative Assembly (“MLA”) who shall, and whose spouse and dependents may, be registered in the riding he or she represents. All Members registered in a territorial riding shall be considered members of the Riding Association for that riding.

4.1 Definition of Residency

For purposes of Party membership, a resident of the Yukon is defined as anyone who:

- a. maintains a permanent residence in the Yukon Territory; or
- b. may not have a fixed residence, but holds either a valid Yukon Health Care card or a valid Yukon driver’s license; or
- c. is normally resident in the Yukon but is temporarily residing outside the Yukon for educational, work, travel, or health-related reasons, but holds either a valid Yukon Health Care card or a valid Yukon driver’s licence; or
- d. is a resident of another jurisdiction who is studying in the Yukon on a student visa of at least one year’s duration; or
- e. is a resident of another Canadian jurisdiction who is either on a work secondment, or enrolled in a course of study in the Yukon, of at least one year’s duration.

In the case of c.), d.), or e.), above, the Board may decline a membership application if not satisfied that the applicant has provided sufficient documentation of his or her status.

4.2 Approval of Membership Application

Any Member of the Party may recruit prospective Members and receive membership applications from them, as well as receiving applications for renewal of membership from existing Members. Such applications shall be submitted to the Membership Secretary for validation within ten days of receipt.

A membership application or membership renewal application shall be deemed to be approved once the Membership Secretary, acting on behalf of the Board has added the applicant’s name to the Party membership list and issued a membership card to the applicant.

4.3 Denial of Membership Application

An application for membership renewal shall be approved automatically unless the membership in question has been suspended or revoked.

The Membership Secretary may deny a new membership if the Membership Secretary believes that:

- a. the applicant does not meet the eligibility requirements as set out above;
- b. the application contains false information;
- c. the applicant is a member of supporter of another territorial political party; or
- d. the applicant is involved in public activities that would be detrimental to the interests of the Party.

If a membership is denied the Membership Secretary shall advise the membership applicant

and the appropriate Riding Association officials. The membership applicant and/or Riding Association official may refer the matter to the Board for a decision whether to accept or deny the membership.

An applicant whose membership is denied may appeal in writing to the Council. Before deciding on the appeal, Council shall take into consideration any submissions it has received from the applicant, the Board, or the Riding Association. It may invite the applicant to appear in person. The decision of Council shall be final.

4.4 Entitlements

Membership in the Party entitles individuals to actively participate in the following bodies:

- a. the Yukon New Democratic Party
- b. A Yukon New Democrat Riding Association
- c. the New Democratic Party of Canada; and
- d. the Federal New Democrat Riding Association representing the Yukon.

4.5 Entitlements of Membership

All Members of the Party have a right to participate fully and equally in the direction and activities of the Party. This includes the right to:

- a. speak to, and vote on, any matter debated at Convention or a general membership meeting;
- b. vote for a Party Leader;
- c. help select an NDP candidate in the member's territorial riding;
- d. seek nomination as a Yukon NDP candidate if eligible under the Elections Act;

- e. help set policy direction for the Party;
- f. hold elected office in the Party or in a Riding Association of the Party;
- g. be informed of, and participate in, all Party-sponsored events;
- h. Bring forward policy resolutions and/or Constitutional amendments;
- i. Assist in the election of and raise funds for candidates for nomination or election; and
- j. Support and vote for any candidate for Party leader.
- k. exercise the rights of membership in the New Democratic Party of Canada if eligible per relevant legislation and New Democratic Party of Canada rules.

4.6 Membership Rules and Limitation, Definition and Interpretation of Entitlements

Notwithstanding other articles of the Constitution, Convention may adopt or change rules regarding membership fees, application process, effective and expiry dates and renewal provisions. Membership entitlements are subject to these and any other reasonable limitation, definition or interpretation that may be duly adopted or amended by simple majority vote of Convention as a Convention resolution and added to the policy manual or as an amendment to the Constitution.

4.7 Fee Structure

The fee structure for membership shall be:

- a) There is no fee to join the Yukon NDP.
- b) A statement declaring the applicant's support for the Yukon NDP will be required as part of the application process.;

4.8 Membership Term

A membership is valid for one (1) year from the date the completed and signed membership application is received and approved by the Membership Secretary or the Board. A Member shall remain in good standing for one (1) year from the date of his/her last donation to the Party or per Renewal Grace Period for Lapsed Members. A member who contributes through pre-authorized contributions shall remain in good standing for one (1) year from the date of his/her last donation if that donation and any pre-authorized contributions in the immediately preceding month(s) cumulatively meet or exceed the relevant fee. Such renewal shall be automatic unless the membership expired more than two (2) years prior, in which case a new application for membership must be completed and signed.

4.9 Renewal Grace Period for Lapsed Members

Notwithstanding other parts of the Constitution, where a person renews within ninety (90) days following a lapse of membership, that member shall be eligible to participate in the business of the Party as if membership had been continuous.

4.10 Eligibility to Vote in the Selection of a Candidate

To be eligible to vote in the selection of a candidate to represent the Party in a territorial general election or by-election, a person must have become a Member at least seven (7) days prior to the date of the nomination meeting if the meeting occurs prior to the issuance of the writ of election. In the case of a nomination meeting that occurs after the issuance of the writ of

election, a person must have become a Member at least two (2) days prior to the date of the meeting.

4.11 Territorial Riding Associations

Membership in the Yukon New Democratic Party automatically constitutes membership in the territorial Riding Association where they reside. A member of the Yukon Legislative Assembly and/or nominated candidate may request their membership and that of their spouse and any dependent who lives with them be held in the constituency which they represent.

4.12 Honorary Affiliate Membership

Affiliated Membership shall be open to trade unions, co-operatives, women's organizations, First Nations organizations and other groups and organizations which undertake to accept and abide by the Constitution of the Party including

Any application for Affiliate Membership must be an official act of a local, territorial, or regional organization or branch of a national or international organization

An application for Affiliate Membership shall be made to the Yukon New Democratic Party Board.

Honorary Affiliate Memberships pay no fees and have no voting rights.

5.0 PARTY STRUCTURE

The Yukon New Democratic Party is a political organization that is democratically controlled, and principally financed, by its members. It serves as a territorial section of the New Democratic Party of Canada, but not as an

electoral district association under the federal Elections Act.

The organization of the Party consists of distinct bodies or entities with different, but complementary, roles and responsibilities. These are:

- a. the membership in convention (“Convention”);
- b. a Board of Directors (the “Board”) consisting of Board officers and Directors-at-large (the “Directors”);
- c. an Advisory Council (the “Council”);
- d. membership organizations representing the Party at the level of territorial electoral districts (“Riding Associations”); and
- e. the elected Leader of the territorial Party (the “Leader”)

Members of the Party who are elected to the Yukon Legislative Assembly comprise a distinct group (“Caucus”). While individual MLAs are expected to take an active role in Party matters and to be guided by Party policies set by Convention, Caucus is not part of the Party structure.

5.1 Governance

The governing body of the Party is the Convention, in which all Members may participate. Convention sets policy direction for the Party and may provide guidance to the Board and/or other Riding Associations. Convention shall convene annually on a date set by the Board except where prevented by exceptional circumstances such as a territorial general election, the Board shall set the date for Convention at a date no earlier than April 15 and no later than June 15.

At the call of the Board, Convention may also convene as a General Membership Meeting upon at least 30 days of notification to deal with any matter the Board, or Council, deems to warrant the consideration of the Party membership. A General Membership Meeting shall have the same authority as the Convention and shall be conducted according to the same rules of procedure.

Between conventions, the Advisory Council (“Council”) may make interim decisions on matters of governance. Such decisions shall be subject to ratification at the following Convention.

5.1.1 Notice

The Membership Secretary shall notify Members of the date and location of the Convention at least forty five (45) days prior to the Convention date.

The Board shall appoint a chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Convention who shall assist with Convention preparations, the appointments shall be ratified at Convention. If a majority of Members at Convention do not ratify the appointments, an election shall be held at the Convention for the position(s).

5.1.2 Duties of Convention

The Convention may:

- a. appoint such committees as Convention may require;
- b. debate and pass resolutions to determine Party policy;
- c. debate and pass amendments to the Constitution;
- d. receive the official financial statements of the party;

- e. elect members of the Board;
- f. elect the territorial Leader, if the Convention includes a Leadership Election

5.1.3 Resolutions

Resolutions may be submitted by any Member of the party.

All resolutions must be submitted to the Vice President Policy not less than thirty (30) days prior to the Convention date.

Policy resolutions must be in the form of an amendment to current policy unless they cover new subject areas.

Provided they abide by the Constitution, the Vice President Policy shall submit all resolutions received to the Convention and recommend the order in which they will be debated.

5.1.4 Emergency Resolutions

Emergency Resolutions shall be submitted to Convention only if the issue the resolution addresses has arisen in the past thirty (30) days.

If the Vice President Policy agrees that the resolution is an emergency as defined the chairperson of the Convention will seek the consent of Convention to debate the resolution.

The Vice President Policy decision regarding an emergency resolution is subject to appeal to the will of Convention. Any appeal of a decision regarding an emergency resolution must be submitted to the Convention prior to a consent to debate the resolution.

5.1.5 Visitors

Any person may register as a visitor to Convention. Visitors shall have no vote, but upon approval of Convention, shall be granted speaking rights. A Member may move a

Convention motion to restrict a particular Convention proceeding(s) to Members' only attendance. If passed by a majority of Members, the particular proceedings may be so restricted.

5.2 Board of Directors

The administrative responsibility for the Party resides with the Board which consists of Board officers and up to nine directors-at-large, one of whom shall be the immediate past president. It shall be a responsibility of the Board to undertake the administration of the Party and supervise the work of the Board officers.

The Board shall meet at least six times per year. Meetings of the Council shall be considered Board meetings.

The Board may designate Directors from within its ranks to chair committees of the Board. The President, or other Board officer designated by the Board, shall serve as an ex officio member of all Board Committees.

A male president may only serve as an ex officio member of a committee on women's issues with the approval of that committee.

5.2.1 Powers of the Board

The Board shall in accordance with the Constitutions and the will of Convention, have the power to:

- a. set the date for the Convention;
- b. Upon thirty (30) days notice, convene a General Membership Meeting;
- c. Oversee the work of the Board members;
- d. Refer any matter to the Convention, General Membership Meeting or Council;

e. Establish such committees the Board deems necessary; and

f. Designate any member of the Board to chair committees as may be established from time to time.

5.2.2 Duties of the Board

The Board shall be responsible for:

a. Reporting on its activities to the Convention;

b. Meeting at least six (6) times annually at the call of the President;

c. maintain financial oversight of Party affairs;

d. maintain administrative oversight of Party affairs.

5.2.3 Quorum

The quorum required to conduct business at any duly convened Board meeting shall be at least a majority of all Directors including at least three (3) Board officers.

5.2.4 Term

The term of all Board members shall commence upon their election at a Convention or Council meeting and shall expire on the date of the following Convention.

5.2.5 Guests

Any Member may attend any Board meeting and shall have the right to participate in discussions of any matter but shall neither have the power to vote nor be counted for the sake of quorum. The presiding officer may restrict a particular Board discussion and attendance to Board members.

5.2.6 Vacancies

Any vacancies of a Board officer position may be filled through a special election held at a Council meeting. In the event of a special election, the Membership Secretary shall notify members via electronic or other means of the position vacant, the time, date and location of the special election and all Members attending may vote. Interim officers may be appointed by the Board from Membership.

5.2.7 Operation

Responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the Party resides with the Board which consists of the following:

a. President

b. Vice-president, Policy

c. Vice-president, Organization

d. Membership Secretary

e. Treasurer

f. Secretary

g. Party Leader

h. Up to nine (9) Directors-at-large (Directors), at least one of whom shall be the immediate past president.

All Board members shall be elected at Convention. The Board speaks for the Party on matters of party organization, through the President or Board member designated for that purpose.

The Board may designate Members from within its ranks and the general membership to serve on committees set up to deal with specific

matters within a certain time period. All such committees shall be chaired by a Board member who is responsible for reporting to the Board on committee business.

5.2.8 *Composition of the Board*

All Board members shall be elected at Convention. The Board shall be the President, the Vice President Organization, Vice President Policy, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Secretary, Territorial Party Leader as Board officers, and up to nine (9) Directors at least one of whom shall be the immediate past president.

A representative from the Federal Riding Association and the NDP Member of Parliament for the Yukon shall sit on the Board as ex-officio members.

President

The President shall be responsible for:

- a. calling and chairing all meetings of the Board;
- b. all official correspondence regarding the affairs of the party;
- c. calling to order the Convention; and
- d. notify Board and Council members of meetings no less than fifteen (15) days before the meeting date.

Vice President Organization

The Vice President Organization shall:

- a. be responsible for organizing Council meetings;
- b. provide support for Territorial Riding Associations as requested by the Riding Association or the Board:

c. organize development workshops for party officers, nominated candidates and election staff as required; and

d. organize pre-election activities including candidate search, and campaign assistance.

Vice President Policy

The Vice President Policy shall:

- a. be responsible for maintenance of the Constitution;
- b. be responsible to bring all Convention resolutions received in accordance with Convention resolution provisions to the Convention or General Membership Meeting; and
- c. be responsible for compiling and maintaining the Yukon NDP Policy Manual as approved by Convention.

Secretary

The Secretary shall:

- a. take minutes at Board and Council meetings and provide the minutes back to the members of those bodies within ten (10) days; and
- b. arrange for the recording of minutes for the Convention and provide minutes from the Convention to the Board within thirty (30) days.

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall:

- a. for the purposes of the Yukon Elections Act be referred to as the Chief Financial Officer;
- b. report on the financial status of the party at every Board meeting; and
- c. report to the Convention the financial status of the Party and provide for consideration audited financial statements.

Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary shall:

- a. report to Board meetings the status of the membership;
- b. be responsible for communication between the Board and the Members;
- c. arrange for the circulation of a newsletter at least three (3) times annually;
- d. be responsible for ensuring membership lists are current and up-to-date;
- e. be responsible for ensuring membership lists are accurate for the purposes of Leadership elections and Convention; and
- f. with the Vice President Organization, organize membership drives as needed.

5.3 Advisory Council

Council serves as an advisory branch of the Party and as the Party's governing body between Conventions. Council shall meet at least once per year to conduct business referred to it by Convention or the Board. Council consists of the following:

- a. Board of Directors;
- b. Party Leader;

- c. Members of Caucus;
- d. An executive officer or other delegate from each duly-constituted territorial Riding Association;
- e. A Member from each riding ("representatives") where there is no active Riding Association, at the invitation of the Board;
- f. The president or a designated executive member of the Yukon Federal NDP Riding Association; and
- g. The NDP Member of Parliament for Yukon.

Quorum for the conduct of meetings of the Council shall consist of a normal quorum of the Board and at least five Riding Association delegates or other representatives.

5.4 Territorial Riding Associations

Members of the Party who are registered within a territorial riding may form a Riding Association to govern the activities of the Party at the riding level, including the selection of a candidate to represent the Party in a territorial general election or by-election.

The membership within two or more ridings may choose to form or dissolve a Joint Riding Association, subject to Board approval, to promote the interests of the Party in a broader geographic area. However, only members who reside in a specific riding may vote for a candidate in that riding.

5.4.1 Purpose

The purpose of a Riding Association shall be to:

- a) Plan and work for the YNDP candidates in the riding;
- b) Increase membership;
- c) Raise funds for election campaigns and outreach;
- d) Organize within the electoral district;
- e) Educate the electorate about the Party; and
- f) Participate in territorial affairs.

5.4.2 Residency

Each Member shall be a member of the Riding Association for the area in which s/he lives, except for provisions under Article 4.11.

5.4.3 Executive

The Riding Association executive shall consist of at least a President and a Secretary/Treasurer, and such other members as the association chooses. Their terms of office shall be one year.

The New Democratic Party MLA for the riding shall also be a member of the Riding Association executive. Where a candidate has been nominated that candidate will be seated as a member of the Riding executive until the day of the election.

The Riding Association President shall be responsible for chairing meetings, organizing Riding Association activities and corresponding with the Board.

The Riding Association Secretary shall maintain minutes of meetings and records of membership.

The Riding Association Treasurer shall be responsible for chairing meetings in the absence of the president and shall maintain financial

records for the riding association.

5.4.4 Meetings

Every Riding Association shall hold an annual general meeting to elect the executive for that constituency, receive reports, and to conduct association business.

The association president may call general meetings from time to time for other purposes and shall inform all members in the association with adequate advance notice.

Five members of a riding association may petition the Riding Association and Board for a special meeting of the association to be held within twenty eight (28) days calendar days. Should the Riding Association fail to do so, the Board may do so.

5.4.5 Bylaws

Each Riding Association shall adopt bylaws for the conduct of Riding Association business. Such bylaws shall be approved by the Board and shall not be in conflict with the Constitution.

Where a Riding Association fails to adopt bylaws for the regulation of its affairs, the Board may impose provisional bylaws until such time as the Riding Association establishes its own.

5.4.6 Creation of an Association

In the event that no active Riding Association operates for a particular electoral district, five (5) members of the electoral district may petition the Board to call a Riding Association general meeting. The Board will notify all Members in the electoral district of the date, time and location of the Riding Association meeting.

Following the Riding Association general meeting, the newly formed Riding Association must communicate the names and contact

information of its officers and provide a copy of its bylaws for approval to the Board.

Once a Riding Association has been approved by the Board, it may request a copy of the membership list for that particular riding.

5.4.7 Reporting

Each Riding Association shall file financial statements and reports with the Board on an annual basis.

5.5 Territorial Party Leader

The Leader is elected by Members to serve as chief political spokesperson of the Party. Subject to the authority of Convention, the Leader shall interpret to the public the policies of the Party. The President or designated spokesperson for the Board may comment publicly on matters of Party policy, in consultation with the Leader. The Leader also serves as leader and chief political spokesperson for the elected members of the Party in the Yukon Legislative Assembly (“Caucus”).

The Leader and Caucus shall be guided by the policies of the Party in decisions they make, or positions they advocate, in their role as MLAs, either while in opposition or while in government.

If the position of Leader becomes vacant for any reason the Board in consultation with the Caucus shall choose an interim Leader to serve until a Leadership Election is held.

5.5.1 Leadership Review

5.5.1.1 Initiating a Leadership Review
A vote regarding support for the current Leader shall be conducted at the Convention in the event of one or more of these conditions:

5.5.1.1.1 The incumbent Leader requests a vote,

5.5.1.1.2 A territorial election was held since the last Convention, or

5.5.1.1.3 If a request for a vote, supported by at least 25 Members from at least five ridings, is received by the Board at least 45 days in advance of the Convention.

5.5.2 Leadership Election

5.5.2.1 Pre-Conditions

The Board shall call a Leadership Election in the following circumstances:

5.5.2.1.1 The Leader receives 50% or less support from Members voting in a Leadership Review;

5.5.2.1.2 The position of Leader becomes vacant; or

5.5.2.1.3 The Leader informs the Board of an intention to resign on a given date or as soon as a new Leader is selected

5.5.2.2 Interim Leader

5.5.2.2.1 If the position of Leader is vacant the Board in consultation with the Caucus shall choose an Interim Leader.

5.5.2.2.2 If there is no elected Caucus the Board shall appoint an Interim Leader.

5.5.2.3 Timeline

5.5.2.3.1 A Leadership Election date shall be announced by the Board within 30 days of a pre-condition being realized or the Leadership Review causes a call for a new Leader and Members shall be notified.

5.5.2.3.2 The Leadership Election shall be held at least 60 days and no more than 6 months from the date it is announced.

5.5.2.3.3 If at the close of nominations a Leader is declared by acclamation the Leadership Election shall be cancelled.

5.5.3 Leadership Candidates

5.5.3.1 Eligibility

Any Member of the Yukon New Democratic Party who is in good standing and who is or will be eligible to be nominated as a candidate under the Yukon Elections Act on the date of the Leadership Election is eligible to be nominated to serve as Leader.

5.5.3.2 Nomination Process

The Board shall notify Members of the opportunity to seek nomination and the attendant rules. The deadline for nominations shall be in advance of the Leadership Election at a date and time established by the Board.

5.5.4 Leadership Campaign

5.5.4.1 Financing

5.5.4.1.1 Candidates for Leader are responsible for their own campaign costs.

5.5.4.1.2 The Board may establish processes for Party financial assistance, fees and oversight, and require a pledge to abide by such rules, as part of the nomination process.

5.5.4.2 Communication with Members

The Board shall provide all nominated candidates with the Members' contact information held by the Membership Secretary.

Nominated candidates shall provide written assurance to the Membership Secretary that the membership contact information is not used by or via them for purposes outside of Party operations.

5.5.5 Leadership Selection

5.5.5.1 Voting

5.5.5.1.1 All Members in good standing as of 5:00 PM in the Yukon on the 15th day before the Leadership Election shall be entitled to vote in the leadership selection.

5.5.5.1.2 Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Votes may be received via telephone or other electronic means if verified by the Returning Officer. The Returning Officer shall notify the Leadership Election attendees of who has voted electronically, but shall not disclose how that Member voted to any person. Proxy voting shall not be permitted in the leadership selection.

5.5.5.1.3 If there are more than two candidates for Leader a preferential ballot system will be used for voting.

5.5.5.1.4 There shall be provision for Members who cannot attend the Leadership Election to cast their ballot in advance or to participate in the Leadership Election electronically. The Board shall establish the process for voting prior to the Leadership Election and shall provide the information to Members.

5.5.5.1.5 To be elected Leader a candidate must receive 50% +1 of the valid votes cast in the final round of ballot counting. Once declared elected the Leader takes office immediately.

5.5.5.2 Returning Officer

The Board shall appoint a Party member to serve as Returning Officer and conduct the leadership selection vote. Such appointment must be made sufficiently early in the process to ensure fairness and transparency.

5.5.5.3 Appeal Adjudication

5.5.5.3.1 Appeals of matters of membership

denial or erroneous approval shall be handled by the established processes of the Membership Secretary in accordance with the constitution.

5.5.5.3.2 The Board shall, prior to Leadership Vote, appoint as an Appeal Adjudicator one person with elections experience to serve as an arbitrator, in matters of alleged corrupt practices or violation of the established rules of leadership selection. Such appointment must be made sufficiently early in the process to ensure fairness and transparency.

5.5.5.3.3 The Appeal Adjudicator may uphold or vary a decision of the Returning Officer and, if the Adjudicator determines a degree of corruption or violation which could have affected the outcome of the election, may declare the election void. Decisions of the Appeal Adjudicator are final.

5.5.6 Delegated Authority

5.5.6.1 The Board shall establish rules and procedures for the leadership selection. Such provisions may include, but are not limited to:

- a) nomination process and timelines
- b) voting process and timelines
- c) financing
- d) communication with members
- e) development of forms
- f) reporting and distribution mechanisms
- g) final report and records

6.0 PARTY FINANCES

Responsibility for the financial affairs of the

Party resides with the Board.

6.1 Financial Administration

The Board may designate day-to-day responsibility for managing its financial affairs to the Treasurer, but is still required to maintain appropriate financial oversight. The Treasurer shall be considered the Chief Financial Officer of the Party for the purposes of the Yukon Elections Act.

6.2 Financial Year

The financial year of the Party shall end at December 31 of each year.

6.3 Riding Association Financing

The Board may assist Riding Associations in financial matters, but neither the Party nor its Board members shall be responsible for any debt incurred by a Riding Association.

6.4 Spending Authority

Subject to specific limits set by Convention the Board has authority to spend Party funds as required to meet the objectives of the Party. This includes the authority to enter into contracts with individuals or organizations for the provision of goods or services, including rent, lease and purchase agreements.

6.5 Borrowing Power

For the purpose of carrying out the objectives

of the Party, the Board may borrow or raise or secure funds in such manner as it sees fit, subject to any specific limits that may be set by Convention or Council.

6.6 Assets

Upon dissolution of the Yukon New Democratic Party, all its assets shall be sold to the New Democratic Party of Canada for one dollar.

7.0 DISCIPLINE

The Party has a right to protect itself and the membership from actions that are contrary to the best interests of the Party, or that cause discord among Members. When such situations arise, disciplinary measures may be taken.

7.1 Oath

Each Member of the Party has covenanted that:

“I accept and will abide by the Constitution, principles and policies of the New Democratic Party.”

Breach of this covenant is a violation of the Constitution.

7.2 Literature

No Member or Riding Association shall publish or circulate literature purporting to express the views of the Party without the same having been approved by the Board.

7.3 Complaints against a Member

7.3.1 A complaint may be lodged with the

President by any Member or constituted body of the Party alleging a violation of the Constitution or a statement or action resulting in severe and evident injustice to a Member or constituted body of the Party.

7.3.2 Such a complaint must be in writing, must set out the details of the action or statement which gave rise to the complaint, and such evidence as may be pertinent.

7.3.3 The President shall endeavor to achieve an amicable settlement. Failing such settlement, the complainant may lodge a complaint with the Board.

7.3.4 It shall be the responsibility of the Board to serve, by registered mail, copies of the complaint to those against whom the complaint is laid and those directly involved with the matter.

7.3.5 The Board may appoint a committee, to be chaired by the Vice President Policy, or another Member of the Board should the complaint be directed at that individual, to examine such evidence as it deems relevant, to hear arguments and to report to the Board on its findings.

7.3.6 The Board shall, as soon as practicable, rule by motion on the complaint and shall communicate within seven (7) days, its ruling by registered mail, to those directly involved with the matter.

7.3.7 At any hearing the complainant(s) and the defendant(s) shall each be entitled to one representative to speak on their behalf.

7.3.8 By motion, the Board may direct the disputants as to the steps necessary to settle the matter, and may reprimand and/or invoke the penalty of suspend or revoke membership.

7.4 Appeals

7.4.1 Those affected by a ruling by motion of

the Board may appeal the matter to Council. Notice of the appeal must be lodged with the Secretary within sixty (60) days of the ruling and no later than fourteen (14) days before Council is set to convene.

7.4.2 It shall be the responsibility of the appellant to serve, by registered mail upon all those directly involved copies of the appeal to Council no later than ten (10) days prior to Council.

7.4.3 In consideration of such appeal the Council shall hear arguments from only one representative chosen by each party to dispute and one representative of the Board. Any request for clarification of a representative's argument from the floor shall be directed to the chairperson who in turn may seek clarification from the representative.

7.4.4 Council shall render its ruling by motion prior to adjournment.

8.0 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

Amendments to this Constitution may be made at Convention by a resolution submitted in accordance with the provisions regarding Convention resolutions. A vote to amend the Constitution requires a two-thirds majority of votes cast, either by standing count or by secret ballot.