



**Ontario Liberal Party
2021 Annual General Meeting**

October 15-17, 2021, Virtual

Report of the Constitution Committee

Presented to the 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Liberal Party

Table of Contents

- Report of the Constitution Committee 3
- 1. Updating Membership Provisions to Reflect Current Practice
Proposed by the Constitution Committee 4
- 2. Clarifying authority to subdivide a Region into Areas
Proposed by the Constitution Committee 13
- 3. Appeal of Trusteeship
Proposed by the Constitution Committee 14
- 4. Six Month Minimum
Proposed by Glenn Brown 15
- 5. Nomination of Candidates
*Proposed by Glenn Brown, Layla Sharif, Richard Boire, Gerald Stuart,
Raymond Chandler, Brian Ashton* 18
- 6. Policy Development Process
*Proposed by Glenn Brown, Layla Sharif, Richard Boire, Gerald Stuart,
Raymond Chandler, and Brian Ashton* 27
- 7. Preamble to the Constitution
*Proposed by Glenn Brown, Layla Sharif, Richard Boire, Gerald Stuart,
Raymond Chandler and Brian Ashton* 31

Report of the Constitution Committee

September 28, 2021

As required under Section 16 of the Ontario Liberal Party Constitution, members who wished to propose amendments to the Constitution had until 30 days prior to the commencement of the forthcoming Annual General Meeting (i.e. September 15, 2021) to submit them to the Secretary, and the Constitution Committee is then to report on those amendments and those it proposes on its own initiative at least 15 days prior to the commencement of the forthcoming Annual Meeting (i.e. by September 30, 2021).

A number of proposed amendments were received in accordance with that deadline from several party members, and they are included within this report. As well, the Committee is proposing a number of additional amendments on its own initiative, and these are, as well, set out herein.

This is my first AGM as chair of the Constitution Committee. I want to take a moment to note Jack Siegel's GIGANTIC shoes that I will not be adequately filling for a long time to come. Our party specifically, and our Liberal family generally, owe Jack a huge debt of gratitude for his decades of wise legal and political counsel. I am personally grateful for the continual mentorship he has so generously offered.

I also want to thank my fellow members of the Constitution Committee (Eric Davis, Delia Greco, Jennifer Hodgins, Kate Julien and Aaron Rousseau) for their contributions and thoughtful feedback during the production of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Milton Chan
Constitution Committee Chair

1. Updating Membership Provisions to Reflect Current Practice

Proposed by the Constitution Committee

Explanatory Note

The following amendment proposal update the membership provisions to reflect/clarify existing membership practices and common understanding of membership, namely:

- memberships of Ontario Liberal Party and its affiliated associations are free
- standardizing all membership period to up to two years
- all members are automatically voting member of the constituency association of the constituency in which they currently reside
- membership applications are only accepted through the Ontario Liberal Party Website
- Physical membership cards are no longer being issued

Current Text

Proposed Amendment

2 DEFINITIONS	2 DEFINITIONS
<p>2.9 “Immediate Past Member”, during the period from January 1 to March 31 of a particular year, and only during that period, means a person whose membership expired on December 31 of the immediately preceding year;</p> <p>2.10 “Member” means a member in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party, and in respect of an Affiliated Association that is a constituency association, is a person whose residence is within the boundaries of the corresponding electoral district;</p>	<p>2.9 “Immediate Past Member”, during the period from January 1 to March 31 of a particular year, and only during that period, means a person who is a member of a constituency association or a Women's Liberal Club and whose membership expired on December 31 of the immediately preceding year;</p> <p>2.10 “Member” means a member in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party, and in respect of an Affiliated Association that is a constituency association, is a person whose residence is within the boundaries of the corresponding electoral district;</p>

3 MEMBERSHIP

Members

3.1 A person is a member in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party if he or she has paid his or her annual membership dues and is in compliance with all other requirements of this Constitution and the constitution of the Affiliated Association to which he or she has applied for, or in which he or she has renewed, a membership.

Membership periods

3.2 The Ontario Liberal Party membership period shall be January 1 to December 31, inclusive, unless this Constitution provides otherwise.

3.3 Subject to section 3.5, membership shall expire at midnight on December 31 of the year in which the membership is granted, provided that, where an applicant becomes a member on or after October 1 of a given year, the membership will expire at midnight on December 31 of the following year.

3.4 There shall be no limitation upon the number of constituency associations in respect of which a person may become an Associate Member.

3 MEMBERSHIP

Members

3.1 A person is a member in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party if he or she ~~has paid his or her annual membership dues and is~~ have submitted their membership application and is in compliance with all ~~other~~ requirements of this Constitution ~~and the constitution of the Affiliated Association to which he or she has applied for, or in which he or she has renewed, a membership.~~

Membership periods

3.2 The Ontario Liberal Party membership period shall be ~~January 1~~ the date of the membership application being submitted, to December 31 ~~of the following year,~~ inclusive, unless this Constitution provides otherwise.

3.3 ~~Subject to section 3.5, membership~~ Membership shall expire at midnight on December 31 of the year ~~in~~ which ~~after~~ the membership is granted, provided that, where an applicant becomes a member on or after October 1 of a given year, the membership will expire at midnight on December 31 of the ~~following second~~ year following the year in which membership was granted.

3.4 There shall be no limitation upon the number of constituency associations in respect of which a person may become an Associate Member.

<p>3.5 Multiple year membership, of up to 5 years in duration may be obtained only in respect of a constituency association, and on the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The fee for a multiple year membership shall equal the annual membership fee for the class of membership obtained, multiplied by the number of years for which the membership is to be in effect; b) A multiple year membership is not transferable from one association to another; c) A multiple year membership expires on December 31st of the last year of membership; and d) If a multiple year membership is granted on or after October 1 of a particular year, then despite the fact that it becomes effective upon being granted, the year in which it is purchased shall not be considered in determining its duration. <p>3.6 An Ontario Young Liberal Student Club may adopt a special membership period of September 1 to August 31, inclusive.</p> <p>3.7 If an Ontario Young Liberal Student Club has adopted a special membership period, then every membership in it shall expire at midnight on August 31 of the year in which the membership is granted, provided that, where an applicant becomes a member on or after April 1 of a given year, the membership will expire at midnight on August 31 of the following year.</p> <p>3.8 A member in good standing may renew his or her membership at the end of each membership period by paying the required dues and submitting a</p>	<p>3.5 Multiple year membership, of up to 5 years in duration may be obtained only in respect of a constituency association, and on the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The fee for a multiple year membership shall equal the annual membership fee for the class of membership obtained, multiplied by the number of years for which the membership is to be in effect; b) A multiple year membership is not transferable from one association to another; c) A multiple year membership expires on December 31st of the last year of membership; and d) If a multiple year membership is granted on or after October 1 of a particular year, then despite the fact that it becomes effective upon being granted, the year in which it is purchased shall not be considered in determining its duration. <p>3.6 An Ontario Young Liberal Student Club may adopt a special <u>one-year</u> membership period of September 1 to August 31, inclusive.</p> <p>3.7 If an Ontario Young Liberal Student Club has adopted a special membership period, then every membership in it shall expire at midnight on August 31 of the year in which the membership is granted, provided that, where an applicant becomes a member on or after April 1 of a given year, the membership will expire at midnight on August 31 of the following year.</p> <p>3.8 A member in good standing may renew his or her membership at the end of each membership period by paying the required dues and submitting a</p>
---	---

<p>membership renewal form in accordance with the requirements of this Constitution.</p> <p>3.9 A member in good standing who is participating in the Ontario Liberal Party Automatic Bank Cheque ("ABC") Plan or such other pre-authorized or similar giving plan as designated by the Executive Council shall automatically have his or her membership renewed without the need to submit a membership renewal form.</p> <p>3.10 The Executive Council may determine to extend membership to the family members of ABC Plan participants.</p> <p>Applications for membership</p> <p>3.11 Any individual may apply for a new or renewal membership in the Ontario Liberal Party if he or she:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) has attained the age of 14; b) is resident in Ontario; c) supports the objects of the Ontario Liberal Party; and, d) is not a member of any other provincial political party in Ontario. <p>3.12 In order to become a member of the Ontario Liberal Party, a new applicant shall submit a completed membership application form and the applicable annual membership dues to the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party.</p>	<p>membership renewal form application in accordance with the requirements of this Constitution.</p> <p>3.9 A member in good standing who is participating in the Ontario Liberal Party Automatic Bank Cheque ("ABC") Plan or such other any pre-authorized or similar monthly giving plan as designated by the Executive Council shall automatically have his or her membership renewed on the October 1 prior to the expiry date without the need to submit a membership renewal form application.</p> <p>3.10 The Executive Council may determine to extend membership to the family members of ABC Plan participants.</p> <p>Applications for membership</p> <p>3.11 Any individual may apply for a new or renewal membership in the Ontario Liberal Party if he or she:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) has attained the age of 14; b) is resident in Ontario; c) supports the objects of the Ontario Liberal Party; and, d) is not a member of any other provincial political party in Ontario. <p>3.12 In order to become a member of the Ontario Liberal Party, a new applicant shall submit a completed membership application form and the applicable annual membership dues to the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party through the Ontario Liberal Party's website.</p>
--	---

<p>3.13 In order to renew a membership in the Ontario Liberal Party, a member in good standing or an immediate past member shall submit a completed membership renewal form (or membership application form) and the applicable annual membership dues to the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party.</p> <p>3.14 An Immediate Past Member who renews his or her membership on or prior to March 31 of a particular year shall be deemed for all purposes to have been a current member of the Association throughout that year.</p> <p>3.15 Upon receiving a membership application or renewal form, the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party shall forward a copy of the form to the Secretary of the appropriate Affiliated Association as soon as practicable.</p> <p>3.16 A new membership in an Association is effective on the earliest of:</p>	<p>3.13 In order to renew a membership in the Ontario Liberal Party, a member in good standing or an Immediate Past Member shall submit a completed membership renewal form (or membership application form) and the applicable annual membership dues to the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party through the Ontario Liberal Party's website.</p> <p>3.14 An Immediate Past Member who renews his or her membership on or prior to March 31 of a particular year shall be deemed for all purposes to have been a current member of the Association throughout that year.</p> <p>3.15 Upon receiving a membership application or renewal form, the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party shall forward a copy of the form application to the Secretary of the appropriate Affiliated Association as soon as practicable.</p> <p>3.16 All members in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party are automatically voting members of the constituency association in which they currently reside.</p> <p>3.16.1 If a member's residency changes during the membership period, the member shall notify the Ontario Liberal Party of any such change in residency. Their membership shall automatically transfer to the constituency association in which they reside as of the date of the notification.</p> <p>3.17 A new membership in an Association is effective on the earliest of:</p>
--	---

- a) the date the completed application form and prescribed dues or proof of payment and deposit in accordance with Section 3.12.1 hereof is received by the Ontario Liberal Party;
- b) the verifiable date and time of a legible postmark on an envelope in which the completed application form and prescribed dues or proof of payment and deposit in accordance with Section 3.12.1 hereof were sent to the Ontario Liberal Party at its correct address, and if no time is shown or legible, it shall be deemed to be 4:59 p.m. Eastern Time;
- c) the verifiable date and time a courier picked up the envelope in which the completed application form and prescribed dues or proof of payment and deposit in accordance with Section 3.12.1 hereof were sent to the Ontario Liberal Party at its correct address, in which case no presumption as to time shall apply; or
- d) the date of electronic submission of an on-line membership application, including payment therefor.

Membership and renewal forms

- 3.17 The Ontario Liberal Party shall determine, from time to time, the form of the membership application to be used by the Ontario Liberal Party and Affiliated Associations except for those to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs and the Ontario Women’s Liberal Commission.
- 3.18 The Executive Council may determine, from time to time, the form of the membership application to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs and the Ontario Women’s Liberal Commission.

- ~~a) the date the completed application form and prescribed dues or proof of payment and deposit in accordance with Section 3.12.1 hereof is received by the Ontario Liberal Party;~~
- ~~b) the verifiable date and time of a legible postmark on an envelope in which the completed application form and prescribed dues or proof of payment and deposit in accordance with Section 3.12.1 hereof were sent to the Ontario Liberal Party at its correct address, and if no time is shown or legible, it shall be deemed to be 4:59 p.m. Eastern Time;~~
- ~~e)a) the verifiable date and time a courier picked up the envelope in which the completed application form and prescribed dues or proof of payment and deposit in accordance with Section 3.12.1 hereof were sent to the Ontario Liberal Party at its correct address, in which case no presumption as to time shall apply; or~~
- ~~e)b) the date of electronic submission of an on-line membership application, including payment therefor.~~

Membership Applications and renewal forms

- 3.18 The Ontario Liberal Party shall determine, from time to time, the form of the membership application to be used by the Ontario Liberal Party and Affiliated Associations ~~except for those to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs and the Ontario Women’s Liberal Commission.~~
- ~~3.18 The Executive Council may determine, from time to time, the form of the membership application to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs and the Ontario Women’s Liberal Commission.~~

- 3.19 The Executive Council may determine, from time to time, rules and procedures for the processing and distribution of application forms to Affiliated Associations.
- 3.20 The Ontario Liberal Party shall determine, from time to time, the form of the membership renewal form to be used by the Ontario Liberal Party and Affiliated Associations, except for those to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs.
- 3.21 The Executive Council of the Ontario Liberal Party may determine, from time to time, the form of the membership renewal form to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs and the Ontario Women's Liberal Commission.
- 3.22 The Executive Council of the Ontario Liberal Party may determine, from time to time, rules and procedures for the processing and distribution of membership renewal forms to Affiliated Associations.

Membership card

- 3.23 An Affiliated Association may issue a membership card to members of the Affiliated Association in a form determined by the Executive Council.
- 3.24 The cost of issuing a membership card shall be borne the Affiliated Association that issues it.

- 3.19 The Executive Council may determine, from time to time, rules and procedures for the processing ~~and distribution of~~ membership applications ~~forms to~~ Affiliated Associations.
- ~~3.20 The Ontario Liberal Party shall determine, from time to time, the form of the membership renewal form to be used by the Ontario Liberal Party and Affiliated Associations, except for those to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs.~~
- ~~3.21 The Executive Council of the Ontario Liberal Party may determine, from time to time, the form of the membership renewal form to be used by Ontario Young Liberal Student Clubs and the Ontario Women's Liberal Commission.~~
- ~~3.20 The Executive Council of the Ontario Liberal Party may determine, from time to time, rules and procedures for the processing and distribution of membership renewal forms to Affiliated Associations.~~

Membership card

- ~~3.23 An Affiliated Association may issue a membership card to members of the Affiliated Association in a form determined by the Executive Council.~~
- ~~3.24 The cost of issuing a membership card shall be borne the Affiliated Association that issues it.~~

Membership dues

- 3.25 No dues or fees shall be payable by a member except the annual membership dues levied by the Ontario Liberal Party.
- 3.26 The Executive Council shall have the exclusive authority, to be exercised not more than once in any calendar year, to set the membership dues for all Affiliated Associations.
- 3.27 The membership dues payable by each applicant or member shall be paid by the applicant or on his or her behalf by an immediate member of the applicant's or member's family.

List of members

- 3.28 The Ontario Liberal Party shall maintain a current list of all members indicating the name of each member, his or her membership status and the Affiliated Association in which each membership is held.

Associate Members

- 3.29 An Associate Member of a constituency association shall have all of the rights and privileges of a Member of that constituency association, except that he or she shall not be entitled to vote at a general meeting of the association, including but not limited to, its annual meetings, nomination meetings and leadership votes.
- 3.30 Despite the foregoing, a person who was, on November 18, 2016, a Member of a constituency association but whose residence is not within the

Free Membership dues

- 3.20 Membership in the Ontario Liberal Party and its Affiliated Associations is free. No dues or fees shall be payable by a member except the annual membership dues levied by the Ontario Liberal Party.
- ~~3.26 The Executive Council shall have the exclusive authority, to be exercised not more than once in any calendar year, to set the membership dues for all Affiliated Associations.~~
- ~~3.27 The membership dues payable by each applicant or member shall be paid by the applicant or on his or her behalf by an immediate member of the applicant's or member's family.~~

List of members

- 3.21 The Ontario Liberal Party shall maintain a current list of all members indicating the name of each member, his or her membership status and the Affiliated Association in which each membership is held.

Associate Members

- 3.22 An Associate Member of a constituency association shall have all of the rights and privileges of a Member of that constituency association, except that he or she shall not be entitled to vote at a general meeting of the association, including but not limited to, its annual meetings, nomination meetings and leadership votes.
- 3.22.1 Despite the foregoing, a person who was, on November 18, 2016, a Member of a constituency association but whose residence is not within the

boundaries of the corresponding electoral district shall have the right to vote at such general meetings of the association, but only as long as the person remains an Associate Member of the association without interruption subsequent to November 18, 2016. For greater certainty, in determining continuity of membership, section 3.14 shall apply.

3.31 An Associate Member may hold any office on the Executive Committee of the constituency association with all voting rights attached to the position, and may be elected as a full voting delegate representing the Association to an Annual Meeting, Policy Conference or Leadership Convention.

boundaries of the corresponding electoral district shall have the right to vote at such general meetings of the association, but only as long as the person remains an Associate Member of the association without interruption subsequent to November 18, 2016. For greater certainty, in determining continuity of membership, section 3.14 shall apply.

3.23 An Associate Member may hold any office on the Executive Committee of the constituency association with all voting rights attached to the position, and may be elected as a full voting delegate representing the Association to an Annual Meeting, Policy Conference or Leadership Convention.

[3.24 In order to become an Associate Member of a constituency association, a member shall submit a separate membership application to the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party through the Ontario Liberal Party's website specifically for the constituency association.](#)

2. Clarifying authority to subdivide a Region into Areas

Proposed by the Constitution Committee

Explanatory Note

Currently the constitution authorized a Region to be subdivided into areas without stating who may make such decision. The following amendment proposal clarify who may make such decision.

Current Text

Proposed Amendment

14 REGIONS	14 REGIONS
14.4 A Region may choose to subdivide itself into Areas, and may appoint individuals to act as Area Coordinators to assist with organization and with communications between constituency associations within an Area and the Region and the Party itself.	14.4 A Region may choose to <u>The Executive Council may</u> subdivide itself any Regions into areas, and may appoint individuals to act as Area Coordinators to assist with organization and with communications between constituency associations within an Area and the Region and the Party itself. <u>14.4.1 The Executive Council may delegate the powers in 14.4 to the Regional Vice-President for that region.</u>

3. Appeal of Trusteeship

Proposed by the Constitution Committee

Explanatory Note

Currently the constitution provides that a decision by the Executive Council to place a constituency association in trusteeship may be appeal to the Provincial Council. Given the size of the Provincial Council and the likely sensitive nature of the issues in dispute, such an appeal would be costly and impractical. The following amendment proposal redirect such appeals to the Arbitration Committee, the usual forum dedicated for considering appeal of party matters, without allowing further appeals to be returned to the Executive Council.

Current Text

Proposed Amendment

15 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS	15 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS
<p>15.47 A Constituency Association placed in Trusteeship may appeal the decision of the Executive Council to the Provincial Council through the following process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The Constituency Association shall provide written notice of such appeal, to the President of the Ontario Liberal Party within seven (7) days after the declaration of Trusteeship;b) The President shall direct the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party to call a meeting of the Provincial Council to consider the appeal;c) The decision of the Provincial Council by a simple majority shall be final.	<p>15.47 A Constituency Association placed in Trusteeship may appeal the decision of the Executive Council to the <u>Provincial Council</u>Arbitration Committee through the following process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The <u>President of the</u> Constituency Association shall provide written notice of such appeal, to the President of the Ontario Liberal Party <u>and the Chair of the Arbitration Committee</u> within seven (7) days after the declaration of Trusteeship;b) The <u>Chair of the Arbitration Committee</u> President shall direct the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party to call a meeting of the Provincial Council to <u>shall assemble a panel of the committee</u> consider the appeal;c) <u>Notwithstanding section 7.12 of this Constitution and the Rules of Procedures of the Arbitration Committee,</u> the decision of the Provincial Council <u>Arbitration Committee</u> by a simple majority shall be final.

4. Six Month Minimum

Proposed by Glenn Brown

Explanatory Note:

This proposed amendment is based on the ideas that the current provisions of the OLP constitution encourage participation in the political process primarily in the short term prior to elections, and that this encourages people to participate primarily to support individuals rather than the principles of the OLP. Based on the view that participation in the OLP should be primarily about the party and its policies, it proposes to prohibit a member of the Party from voting for, or standing for election as a Constituency Association officer, a candidate to a convention, a candidate for other party office (including Leader), or as a nominated candidate until such person has been a member of OLP for at least six months.

Current Text

Proposed Amendment

3 MEMBERSHIP	3 MEMBERSHIP
<p>Members</p> <p>3.1 A person is a member in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party if he or she has paid his or her annual membership dues and is in compliance with all other requirements of this Constitution and the constitution of the Affiliated Association to which he or she has applied for, or in which he or she has renewed, a membership.</p>	<p>Members</p> <p>3.1 A person is a member in good standing of the Ontario Liberal Party if he or she has paid his or her annual membership dues and is in compliance with all other requirements of this Constitution and the constitution of the Affiliated Association to which he or she has applied for, or in which he or she has renewed, a membership. <u>Until a person has been a member of OLP for a continuous period of at least six months, he or she may not vote in an election of, or stand for election as:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>(a) an officer of a Constituency Association;</u><u>(b) a delegate to an Annual Meeting or Leadership Convention;</u><u>(c) a candidate for any office in the OLP including Leader; or</u><u>(d) a candidate in a general election or by-election.</u>

9 LEADERSHIP REVIEW AND LEADERSHIP CONVENTIONS

9.9 For the purposes of Section 9.9, the term "Qualifying Date" shall refer to a time fixed as 6:00 p.m. local time on the first Monday that is at least thirty (30) days following the date of the call of the convention.

- 9.9.1 Persons who meet the following requirements shall be eligible to vote at a Leadership Election Meeting:
- a) Members in good standing of a constituency association or of the recognized affiliated Ontario Young Liberal Riding Club who are resident in the constituency as of the Qualifying Date.
 - b) Immediate Past Members of a constituency association or of the recognized affiliated Ontario Young Liberal Riding Club who are resident in the constituency and who renew their memberships at or prior to the Leadership Election Meeting.

11 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

11.6 The Draft Nomination Plan

11.6.1 Upon the general request of the Leader or the Nomination Commissioner, each Constituency Association shall prepare and submit to the Nomination Commissioner a Draft Nomination Plan

9 LEADERSHIP REVIEW AND LEADERSHIP CONVENTIONS

9.9 For the purposes of Section 9.9, the term "Qualifying Date" shall refer to a time fixed as 6:00 p.m. local time on the day that is six months prior to the date upon which the Leadership Convention is scheduled to commence, first Monday that is at least thirty (30) days following the date of the call of the convention.

- 9.9.1 Persons who meet the following requirements shall be eligible to vote at a Leadership Election Meeting:
- a) Members in good standing of a constituency association or of the recognized affiliated Ontario Young Liberal Riding Club who are resident in the constituency as of the Qualifying Date.
 - b) Immediate Past Members of a constituency association or of the recognized affiliated Ontario Young Liberal Riding Club who are resident in the constituency and who renew their memberships at or prior to the Leadership Election Meeting.

11 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

11.6 The Draft Nomination Plan

11.6.1 Upon the general request of the Leader or the Nomination Commissioner, each Constituency Association shall prepare and submit to the Nomination Commissioner a Draft Nomination Plan

which shall be consistent with the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the Ontario Liberal Party and the Constitution of the Constituency Association. The Draft Nomination Plan shall indicate, but is not limited to, the following:

...

- b) the date on which persons must be members in good standing of the Constituency Association in order to be entitled to vote, which shall be not earlier than 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time, on the seventh (7th) day subsequent to the date of adoption of the Nomination Plan, and not later than 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time on the fourteenth (14th) day prior to the date of the Nomination Meeting;

15 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

Voting eligibility

15.35 A Member of a constituency association shall be entitled to vote at an annual meeting of the constituency association, a meeting to elect delegates to an annual meeting of the Ontario Liberal Party, or a meeting to elect delegates to a policy rally if the member is a member in good standing of the constituency association seven (7) days prior to the meeting

which shall be consistent with the Constitution and the Rules of Procedure of the Ontario Liberal Party and the Constitution of the Constituency Association. The Draft Nomination Plan shall indicate, but is not limited to, the following:

...

- b) the date on which persons must be members in good standing of the Constituency Association in order to be entitled to vote, which shall be not ~~earlier than 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time, on the seventh (7th) day subsequent to the date of adoption of the Nomination Plan, and not~~ later than 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time on the day that is six months-fourteenth (14th) day prior to the date of the Nomination Meeting;

15 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

Voting eligibility

15.35 A Member of a constituency association shall be entitled to vote at an annual meeting of the constituency association, a meeting to elect delegates to an annual meeting of the Ontario Liberal Party, or a meeting to elect delegates to a policy rally only if the member has been is a member in good standing of the constituency association for a period of at least six (6) months, as of the date of seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

5. Nomination of Candidates

Proposed by Glenn Brown, Layla Sharif, Richard Boire, Gerald Stuart, Raymond Chandler, Brian Ashton

Explanatory Note:

This proposal would remove the appointment of the Nomination Commissioner from the cycle of being appointed for each general election.

It would, further, require Draft Nomination Plans to conform to a new Schedule “B” to the Constitution, which appears at the end of the amendment, and remove certain powers of the Nomination Commissioner. Criteria for the evaluation of prospective candidates for election would be set from time to time by Annual Meetings of OLP (initial criteria being set out in Schedule “B”), and then be applied by the Nomination Commissioner. No freeze on Nominations would occur after a general election.

Constituency Associations would assume all responsibility for the raising of funds for an election campaign, to the exclusion of the candidates.

Immediate past candidates would be barred from serving as Constituency Association President or Vice-President, and the holders of such positions would be barred from becoming candidates for two years after ceasing to hold office.

Annual Meetings of Constituency Associations would review the quality of service and suitability to hold public office of sitting MPPs or candidates in terms both of the Schedule “B” criteria described above, and other factors, including service and accountability to constituents, cooperation with other MPPs and relations with officials in other levels of government. Unsatisfactory evaluations could result in the the cancellation of a candidacy.

Under Schedule “B”, large nomination meetings would be replaced by a process whereby the nomination contestants are narrowed down in each riding to a group of not more than three, with the nominated candidate being chosen by a body of 16 to 19 individuals.

Current Text

Proposed Amendment

11 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES	11 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES
11.3 The Nomination Commissioner	11.3 The Nomination Commissioner

11.3.1

- a) In respect of each general election, the Leader shall appoint the Nomination Commissioner in consultation with the Executive Council, to serve until the date of the next general election. In the event of the incapacity, resignation or death of the Nomination Commissioner, the Leader may appoint an interim replacement to serve until the Nomination Commissioner is able to again fulfil the role, or until such time as the Leader has had an opportunity to consult with the Executive Council and appoint a replacement to serve the balance of the term.
- b) In the event that a by-election or general election is called prior to the appointment of a Nomination Commissioner for the next forthcoming general election, the previous Nomination Commissioner shall act until such time as an appointment is made. If this person is unable or unwilling to act in that capacity, the President of OLP shall be the Acting Nomination Commissioner until such time as an appointment is made. In either case, the appointment may be for the limited purpose of one or more by-elections or for the next general election.

11.3.4 Role and Responsibilities of the Nomination Commissioner

In addition to any other authority granted to him or her by virtue of this Constitution, the Rules of Procedure or a resolution of the Executive Council or Provincial Council, the Nomination Commissioner or his or her designate shall:

11.3.1

- a) ~~In respect of each general election, t~~The Leader shall appoint the a standing Nomination Commissioner in consultation with the Executive Council, to serve until the date of the next general election. In the event of the incapacity, resignation or death of the Nomination Commissioner, the Leader may appoint an interim replacement to serve until the Nomination Commissioner is able to again fulfil the role, or until such time as the Leader has had an opportunity to consult with the Executive Council and appoint a replacement to serve the balance of the term.
- ~~b) In the event that a by election or general election is called prior to the appointment of a Nomination Commissioner for the next forthcoming general election, the previous Nomination Commissioner shall act until such time as an appointment is made. If this person is unable or unwilling to act in that capacity, the President of OLP shall be the Acting Nomination Commissioner until such time as an appointment is made. In either case, the appointment may be for the limited purpose of one or more by elections or for the next general election.~~

11.3.4 Role and Responsibilities of the Nomination Commissioner

In addition to any other authority granted to him or her by virtue of this Constitution, the Rules of Procedure or a resolution of the Executive Council or Provincial Council, the Nomination Commissioner or his or her designate shall:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) regulate the timing of Nomination Meetings in the best overall interest of the Ontario Liberal Party; b) receive the Draft Nomination Plan from each Riding Association; c) have the right to require that any Constituency Association submit a Draft Nomination Plan; d) have the right to resolve specific issues or terms within the Draft Nomination Plan consistent with fairness and common practice; e) have the right to withhold approval of any proposed Draft Nomination Plan if the Constituency Association: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) has not met its financial commitments to the Ontario Liberal Party; ii) has not completed and/or had approved all filings required by Elections Ontario; iii) has a membership lower than the membership threshold fixed for that Association in the Rules of Procedure; iv) has not held, or called, an Annual General Meeting in the twelve (12) months preceding the submission of the Draft Nomination Plan; v) has not held a minimum of four (4) Riding Executive meetings within the twelve (12) months preceding the submission of the Draft Nomination Plan. f) receive Nomination Papers from all prospective candidates; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) regulate the timing of Nomination Meetings in the best overall interest of the Ontario Liberal Party; b) receive the Draft Nomination Plan from each Riding Association, <u>which shall conform to the provisions of Schedule "B"</u>; c) have the right to require that any Constituency Association submit a Draft Nomination Plan; d) have the right to resolve specific issues or terms within the Draft Nomination Plan consistent with fairness and common practice; e) have the right to withhold approval of any proposed Draft Nomination Plan if the Constituency Association: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) has not met its financial commitments to the Ontario Liberal Party; ii) has not completed and/or had approved all filings required by Elections Ontario; iii) has a membership lower than the membership threshold fixed for that Association in the Rules of Procedure; iv) has not held, or called, an Annual General Meeting in the twelve (12) months preceding the submission of the Draft Nomination Plan; v) has not held a minimum of four (4) Riding Executive meetings within the twelve (12) months preceding the submission of the Draft Nomination Plan. f) receive Nomination Papers from all prospective candidates;
--	---

- g) on appropriate grounds, have the ability to impose sanctions on candidates, up to and including disqualification;
- h) have the discretion to waive or postpone the time requirements for the filing of Nomination Papers, if it is expedient and in the best interest of the Ontario Liberal Party, and
- i) where requested by a Constituency Association, to assist that Association in the identification and recruitment of potential candidates.

11.3.5 Without limiting the authority of the Nomination Commissioner to disqualify a candidate on other appropriate grounds in accordance with Section 11.3.4 (g), the following constitute grounds for the disqualification of a candidate for nomination or of a nominated candidate:

- a) the person is not qualified to be a candidate or sit as a member of the Legislative Assembly under the Ontario Elections Act, the Legislative Assembly Act or any other applicable legislation;
- b) the person has been convicted of a non-regulatory federal or provincial offence or has been removed from elected office pursuant to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act and the nature of the offence and its date are such that, in his or her best judgement, it is not in the best interest of the Ontario Liberal Party that the person be entitled to be a candidate, notwithstanding any other penalty to which he or she has been subject pursuant to law.

- ~~g) on appropriate grounds, have the ability to impose sanctions on candidates, up to and including disqualification;~~
- ~~h) have the discretion to waive or postpone the time requirements for the filing of Nomination Papers, if it is expedient and in the best interest of the Ontario Liberal Party, and~~
- ~~if) only where requested by a Constituency Association, to assist that Association in the identification and recruitment of potential candidates.~~

11.3.5 The Annual Meeting of OLP shall consider proposed standards and qualifications for candidates which may be submitted by any member or group of members of the party since the previous Annual Meeting, and may adopt such proposals as it sees fit (See Schedule "B"). These standards will be applied by the Nominations Commissioner in the vetting process, and guide the constituency associations in their evaluations of candidates and sitting Members of the Legislature. Without limiting the authority of the Nomination Commissioner to disqualify a candidate on other appropriate grounds ~~in accordance with Section 11.3.4 (g)~~, the following constitute grounds for the disqualification of a candidate for nomination or of a nominated candidate:

- a) the person is not qualified to be a candidate or sit as a member of the Legislative Assembly under the Ontario Elections Act, the Legislative Assembly Act or any other applicable legislation;
- b) the person has been convicted of a non-regulatory federal or provincial offence or has been removed from elected office pursuant

- c) the person has made a material misrepresentation to the Panel;
- d) the person has made a material misrepresentation in his or her Nomination Papers or campaign literature;
- e) the person engages in conduct or a pattern of conduct which shows lack of respect for the rule of law, for the rights, dignity and worth of other people, or for fairness in electoral competition, including the nomination process, or which shows breach of trust.
- f) the person has become unable or unwilling to continue to be the candidate for a constituency.

11.4 Freeze on Nominations
 Except where necessitated by a vacancy in the Legislative Assembly and the anticipated issuance of a writ for a by-election, no Nomination Meeting shall be held in respect of any electoral district until such time as the Leader announces the appointment of the Nomination Commissioner for meetings in anticipation of the next general election.

to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act and the nature of the offence and its date are such that, in his or her best judgement, it is not in the best interest of the Ontario Liberal Party that the person be entitled to be a candidate, notwithstanding any other penalty to which he or she has been subject pursuant to law.

- c) the person has made a material misrepresentation to the Panel;
- d) the person has made a material misrepresentation in his or her Nomination Papers or campaign literature;
- e) the person engages in conduct or a pattern of conduct which shows lack of respect for the rule of law, for the rights, dignity and worth of other people, or for fairness in electoral competition, including the nomination process, or which shows breach of trust.
- f) the person has become unable or unwilling to continue to be the candidate for a constituency.

~~11.4 Freeze on Nominations~~

~~Except where necessitated by a vacancy in the Legislative Assembly and the anticipated issuance of a writ for a by-election, no Nomination Meeting shall be held in respect of any electoral district until such time as the Leader announces the appointment of the Nomination Commissioner for meetings in anticipation of the next general election.~~

NEW:

15.2.1 Each constituency association shall have as one of its purposes raising funds for any future campaign.

Annual meetings

15.23 In each year, a constituency association shall hold an annual meeting, at which it shall elect Members and Associate Members of the Association to serve as the members of its Executive Committee until the end of its next annual meeting. No person shall be eligible to be nominated as a candidate for election to a position on the Executive Committee of the association unless he or she has filed with the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party or his or her designate, at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the annual meeting at which the election is to be held, a notice in writing of that person's intention to be a candidate for the specific position. In the event that no such notice is received in respect of a position on the Executive Committee of the Association to which a single person is to be elected, nominations may be accepted without prior notice at the annual meeting. In the event that fewer notices are received in respect of a position on the Executive Committee of the Association than there are persons to be elected to that position, the persons who submitted such notices shall be acclaimed to the position, and nominations in respect of the remaining vacancy or vacancies may be accepted without prior notice at the annual meeting. In the event that a position on the Executive Committee of the association is unfilled after the conclusion of the annual meeting, the Executive Committee of the Association may appoint members of the association to fill such positions, to serve until the next annual meeting.

This shall be the exclusive responsibility of the association and not of the candidate.

Annual meetings

15.23 In each year, a constituency association shall hold an annual meeting, at which it shall:

- (a) elect Members and Associate Members of the Association to serve as the members of its Executive Committee until the end of its next annual meeting. Neither the president nor vice-president positions may be held by an immediate past candidate, nor may the holder of such a position become a candidate within two years of serving in either office;
- (b) review, in accordance with 11.3.5 the current MPP's or candidate's quality of service to the constituency and their suitability to hold public office. This will be based on demonstrated accomplishment showing service and accountability to the constituents, and an appropriate level of support to the party, including cooperation with other MPP's. It should also evaluate relations with officials in other levels of government. Unsatisfactory evaluations could result in a refusal to renew the candidacy in the next election. Complaints about candidate/official behaviour, either professional or personal, aside from those already described in the OLP Code of Conduct and the Workplace Harassment Policy should be evaluated by joint effort of the constituency association and party officials, following permanent, on-going (i.e.,

not adjusted for particular campaign periods) guidelines adopted by Annual Meetings of OLP. An unsatisfactory evaluation should result in stopping a candidacy, and removal of a sitting official.

15.23.1 No person shall be eligible to be nominated as a candidate for election to a position on the Executive Committee of the association unless he or she has filed with the Secretary of the Ontario Liberal Party or his or her designate, at least 7 days prior to the commencement of the annual meeting at which the election is to be held, a notice in writing of that person's intention to be a candidate for the specific position. In the event that no such notice is received in respect of a position on the Executive Committee of the Association to which a single person is to be elected, nominations may be accepted without prior notice at the annual meeting. In the event that fewer notices are received in respect of a position on the Executive Committee of the Association than there are persons to be elected to that position, the persons who submitted such notices shall be acclaimed to the position, and nominations in respect of the remaining vacancy or vacancies may be accepted without prior notice at the annual meeting. In the event that a position on the Executive Committee of the association is unfilled after the conclusion of the annual meeting, the Executive Committee of the Association may appoint members of the association to fill such positions, to serve until the next annual meeting.

NEW – ADD AT END OF CONSTITUTION

Schedule “B”

A panel of three individuals of the nominations commission shall be selected by the Provincial Council in order to pre-screen these candidates down to three based on the following:

1. Evaluating their official resume and cover letter which should reflect the following characteristics:
 - a) Demonstrated leadership skills both in the riding and the broader community.
 - b) Education and job experience
 - c) Volunteer experience and demonstrable public commitment both within riding and beyond.
 - history of contribution to the community and/or participation in public life;
 - whether the Potential Nomination Contestant has a demonstrated history of commitment to the Party;
 - d) Local residency for last 3 years

2. Interviewing the candidate

Do a pre-approval background and security check. The riding should have a questionnaire.

Examine:

- a) public statements made by the Potential Nomination Contestant on social media, in publications, or otherwise;
- b) any claim, dispute or litigation in which the Potential Nomination Contestant is involved or in which the Potential Nomination Contestant has previously been involved;
- c) any ethical questions or concerns
- d) whether the Potential Nomination Contestant subscribes to the policies and values of the Party; and
- e) any other political considerations.

Prior to the candidate selection meeting, each of the three candidates shall select three members as electors from the riding/constituency association and the riding/constituency association shall select ten other members who had become members at least six months prior to the candidate selection meeting. Note this situation is always consistent in that the candidate can select 3 members and the riding/constituency selects 10 members. (Total would be 19 if there are three candidates- 3 candidates for a total of 9 and the riding/constituency for a total of 10)

They will vote on the candidates.

Candidates shall be required to give a 3-5 minute speech about themselves in front of the riding association members, who must have been members of the Association for at least 6 months) and be prepared to answer questions. Candidates must have residency in the local community for at least 3 years.

Then they vote.

Using the drop-out system, the first vote eliminates the candidate with the fewest votes unless the candidate with the most votes has a majority (50% +1). If there is no majority, a second vote will be held to determine the final nominee. This process is iterative until one candidate has a majority (50%+1)

6. Policy Development Process

Proposed by Glenn Brown, Layla Sharif, Richard Boire, Gerald Stuart, Raymond Chandler, and Brian Ashton

Explanatory Note:

The existing policy development process would be replaced by one that is grass roots based at the riding level. Ridings would submit their top 5 policy recommendations which would then be grouped by subject matter and then voted upon by all riding association members, with the results then being communicated back to the ridings.

MPPs would be bound by the top five policy priorities and required to resign their seats or the leadership of the party, if they disagree with them.

Current Text

Proposed Amendment

<u>Current Text</u>	<u>Proposed Amendment</u>
<p>10 POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS</p> <p>10.1 The Ontario Liberal Party Annual Policy Development Conference shall include at least one day dedicated to the deliberation and development of Ontario Liberal Party policy.</p> <p><i>Policy Delegates</i></p> <p>10.2 The following shall be policy delegates and shall be entitled to vote on any question under consideration at the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) every member of Provincial Council; b) every member of the Standing Committee on Policy Development; c) five (5) members elected to be policy representatives by each constituency association; 	<p>10 POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS</p> <p>10.1 <u>Development of party policy must occur at the grass-roots level which is at the electoral riding area. The Executive Council shall establish an annual conference development period. The Ontario Liberal Party Annual Policy Development Conference shall include at least one day dedicated to the deliberation and development of Ontario Liberal Party policy.</u></p> <p><i>Policy Delegates</i></p> <p>10.2 <u>Each riding will submit its top 5 policy recommendations. The OLP Constitution Committee will then review and categorize all electoral riding policy recommendations. Each riding member will then vote on these grouped</u></p>

- d) every Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario;
- e) every past Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario who was a member of the Liberal Caucus at the time he or she ceased to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario;
- f) the Liberal candidate in each electoral district or, if there is no Liberal candidate, the immediate past Liberal candidate;
- g) five (5) members elected to be policy representatives by each Affiliated Association recognized by Executive Council; and,
- h) every Past President of:
 - i) the Ontario Liberal Association;
 - ii) the Liberal Party in Ontario; and,
 - iii) the Ontario Liberal Party.

- policy categories and determine their top five policy recommendations. The results will be communicated to all ridings. The Constitution Committee will then evaluate the voting results to determine the top 5 policy priorities.
- ~~The following shall be policy delegates and shall be entitled to vote on any question under consideration at the conference:~~
- ~~a) — every member of Provincial Council;~~
 - ~~b) — every member of the Standing Committee on Policy Development;~~
 - ~~c) — five (5) members elected to be policy representatives by each constituency association;~~
 - ~~d) — every Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario;~~
 - ~~e) — every past Liberal Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario who was a member of the Liberal Caucus at the time he or she ceased to be a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario;~~
 - ~~f) — the Liberal candidate in each electoral district or, if there is no Liberal candidate, the immediate past Liberal candidate;~~
 - ~~g) — five (5) members elected to be policy representatives by each Affiliated Association recognized by Executive Council; and,~~
 - ~~h) every Past President of:~~
 - ~~i) — the Ontario Liberal Association;~~
 - ~~ii) — the Liberal Party in Ontario; and,~~
 - ~~iii) — the Ontario Liberal Party.~~

Form of Conference

- 10.3 For each Annual Policy Development Conference, the Executive Council shall determine the form of the Conference, not later than one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to the day on which it is to commence. In general terms, the form of the Conference shall be one of the following:
- a) an ideas generation conference comprised of any or all of:
 - i) presentations by knowledgeable individuals or groups;
 - ii) workshops;
 - iii) resolution development sessions, with or without subsequent adoption procedures; and
 - iv) such other process as may be adopted by the Executive Council in order to facilitate the inception, development or implementation of policy initiatives designed to further the best interests of the people of Ontario and advance the objects of the Ontario Liberal Party.
 - b) a resolution-based process focused upon one or more compelling sets of issues or themes, and in accordance with the policy resolution process set out in sections 10.4, 10.5 and 10.6 of this Constitution.
 - c) a hybridization of subsections (a) and (b), above.

Form of Conference

- 10.3 The elected MPP (in government or opposition) will always be bound by these sets of policy priorities. An elected member (including the cabinet and/or premier) who disagrees with these priorities must resign with a by-election to fill the vacant seat and/or a leadership convention to replace the premier. The above process will occur on an annual basis and existing policies if unfinished may be repeated from year to year. For each Annual Policy Development Conference, the Executive Council shall determine the form of the Conference, not later than one hundred and twenty (120) days prior to the day on which it is to commence. In general terms, the form of the Conference shall be one of the following:
- a) ~~an ideas generation conference comprised of any or all of:~~
 - i) ~~presentations by knowledgeable individuals or groups;~~
 - ii) ~~workshops;~~
 - iii) ~~resolution development sessions, with or without subsequent adoption procedures; and~~
 - iv) ~~such other process as may be adopted by the Executive Council in order to facilitate the inception, development or implementation of policy initiatives designed to further the best interests of the people of Ontario and advance the objects of the Ontario Liberal Party.~~
 - b) ~~a resolution-based process focused upon one or more compelling sets of issues or themes, and in accordance with the policy~~

Policy Resolutions

- 10.4 Where the form of an Annual Policy Development Conference is as described in subsection 10.3(b), above:
- a) the Secretary shall issue an invitation to all members of the Ontario Liberal Party to submit policy resolutions at least ninety (90) days before the first day of the conference.
 - b) The Executive Council shall establish procedures or by-laws regarding:
 - i) the manner and form for submitting policy resolutions; and,
 - ii) the procedure for considering policy resolutions that have been submitted.
 - c) A policy resolution that is adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of policy delegates present at the conference shall be Ontario Liberal Party policy.

~~resolution process set out in sections 10.4, 10.5 and 10.6 of this Constitution.~~

- ~~e) a hybridization of subsections (a) and (b), above.~~

Policy Resolutions

~~10.4 Where the form of an Annual Policy Development Conference is as described in subsection 10.3(b), above:~~

- ~~a) the Secretary shall issue an invitation to all members of the Ontario Liberal Party to submit policy resolutions at least ninety (90) days before the first day of the conference.~~
- ~~b) The Executive Council shall establish procedures or by-laws regarding:
 - ~~i) the manner and form for submitting policy resolutions; and,~~
 - ~~ii) the procedure for considering policy resolutions that have been submitted.~~~~
- ~~e) A policy resolution that is adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of policy delegates present at the conference shall be Ontario Liberal Party policy.~~

7. Preamble to the Constitution

Proposed by Glenn Brown, Layla Sharif, Richard Boire, Gerald Stuart, Raymond Chandler and Brian Ashton

Explanatory Note:

The Proposers suggest that a Preamble be added to the Constitution, prior to section 1, as set out below.

The Constitution does not presently have a Preamble

IT IS PROPOSED TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION AS FOLLOWS:

Preamble

Balancing the need for individual rights versus collective rights is the cornerstone principle of the Ontario Liberal Party. We advocate for government that not only recognizes the needs of the individual along with evidence-based ideas and proposals, but empowers that same individual to fully realize their unique potential. We want a more compassionate government that recognizes its responsibility to build hope and a more promising future for people of the province. We want a government which understands that these above challenges can be overcome only with a collective will that establishes the right socio-economic infrastructure to best serve the collective interests of all Ontarians.