

**RULES OF ORDER FOR THE BIENNIAL CONVENTION
OF THE LIBERAL PARTY OF CANADA
JANUARY 13 – 15, 2012
OTTAWA**

In accordance with subsection 66(5) of the Constitution of the Liberal Party of Canada, the following rules have been adopted by the National Management Committee as the rules of order governing the proceedings at the 2012 Biennial Convention.

1. PRELIMINARY

1.1 Definitions and interpretation. In these Rules:

- (a) “Candidate” has the meaning assigned in Rule 7.2;
- (b) “Chief Agent” means the chief agent appointed by a Candidate under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Party Officers;
- (c) “Chief Scrutineer” means the chief agent appointed by a Candidate under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Party Officers;
- (d) “Co-Chairs” mean the co-chairs of the Convention appointed by the National Board of Directors;
- (e) “Convention” means the 2012 Biennial Convention of the Liberal Party of Canada;
- (f) “Convention Organizing Committee” means the convention organizing committee established and appointed by the National Board of Directors;
- (g) “Convention Office” means the office established by the Convention Organizing Committee as the convention office;
- (h) “Convention Returning Officer” means the person appointed by the National Executive for the Convention under subsection 66(3) of the National Constitution;
- (i) “Delegate Handbook” means the document published by authority of the Convention Organizing Committee and distributed to registered delegates with details of the business to be conducted at the Convention;
- (j) “General Secretary” means the general secretary appointed by the National Board of Directors for the Convention under subsection 66(1) of the National Constitution;
- (k) “National Constitution” means the Constitution of the Liberal Party of Canada;
- (l) “National Returning Officer” means the person appointed by the National Executive under subsection 66(2) of the National Board of Directors with respect to the Convention;

- (m) A “registered delegate” is a person entitled to be a delegate in accordance with the National Constitution and the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates and who has paid the appropriate registration fee and (if applicable) upgrade fee, received and signed an official delegate badge and received a voting device before the registration of delegates and alternates closes, or in the case of an alternate entitled to promotion to delegate status, such alternate who has been promoted in accordance with these Rules;
- (n) “Resolution Handout” means the document published by authority of the National Policy and Election Platform Committee with additional priority resolutions;
- (o) “Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates” means the “Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates to the National Biennial Convention” enacted under section 63 of the National Constitution.

1.2 **Definitions in National Constitution.** Any terms that are not defined in these Rules but are defined in the National Constitution have the meaning assigned in the National Constitution.

1.3 **Plenary sessions.** The following are plenary sessions of the Convention:

- (a) the Convention Opening scheduled to be held on the first day of the Biennial Convention (Friday, January 13, 2012);
- (b) the Constitutional Plenary Sessions scheduled to be held on the second day of the Biennial Convention (Saturday, January 14, 2012);
- (c) the Policy Plenary Session scheduled to be held on the last day of the Biennial Convention (Sunday, January 15, 2012);
- (d) any plenary session convened by the Co-Chairs on their own motion.

1.4 **Supplementary rules of order.** The chair of any session may, except to the extent that it is inconsistent with the National Constitution and these Rules, rely on the *code Morin* or on the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order* for guidance in the conduct of the session and as a source of authority for their directions.

2. GENERAL RULES FOR PROCEEDINGS

2.1 **Application of general rules.** This Rule 2 applies to the plenary sessions of the Convention, the presentations by Candidates under Rule 7.3 and all other official proceedings of the Convention unless otherwise provided in these Rules.

2.2 **Amendment of rules and agenda.** These Rules and the official agenda of the Convention may not be amended and are not subject to suspension except by resolution at a plenary session of the Convention passed by not less than 90% of the votes cast.

2.3 **Official languages.** The official languages of Canada, English and French, are the official languages of the Convention. The Co-Chairs must ensure that substantially the same announcements are made in both official languages. Published proceedings and official releases

must be in both languages. The Convention Organizing Committee is responsible to provide facilities for the translation in the other official language of any oral announcements made by either of the Co-Chairs and other oral official proceedings of the Convention. The Convention Organizing Committee must also ensure that all written official proceedings and official releases of the Convention are in both official languages.

2.4 **Co-Chairs.** The Co-Chairs have the right to preside at all sessions and during all official proceedings of the Convention. They have the right to interpret and enforce these Rules and to decide all questions of order and any other matters, subject to an appeal without debate to a plenary session of the Convention. The Co-Chairs may delegate some or all of their authority.

2.5 **Chairs of other sessions.** Subject to these Rules, the Convention Organizing Committee may appoint the chairs of any sessions of the Convention and such chairs have the right to interpret and enforce these Rules and to decide all questions of order and any other matters which arise in the course of the sessions which they chair, subject to (a) in the case of a session which is not a plenary, an appeal to the Co-Chairs and (b) in the case of a plenary session, an appeal without debate to that plenary session.

2.6 **Responsibility for policy sessions.** The National Policy Chair is responsible for all proceedings at the Policy Plenary Session. This session will be conducted in accordance with Rule 5.

2.7 **Responsibility for constitutional amendments.** The Constitutional and Legal Advisers are responsible for all proceedings at the Constitutional Plenary Sessions. These sessions will be conducted in accordance with Rule 6.

2.8 **Voting.** Unless otherwise provided by these Rules, voting on all questions will be conducted with the appropriate voting device available at the Convention.

2.9 **Recount.** A recount of any vote (other than an election under Rules 7 and 8) must be taken at any session if 25 registered delegates request such a recount.

2.10 **Motion to reconsider.** A motion to reconsider is not permitted.

2.11 **Rights of participation.** Only registered delegates may vote or move resolutions or amendments or speak at sessions of the Convention.

2.12 **Debate.** After a motion is duly moved and seconded in any session, the chair of the session must ask the registered delegates at the session if the motion should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate that they wish a debate, the resolution will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

2.13 **Speeches.** A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, club, commission or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a resolution, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the resolution and two speakers opposed to the resolution and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. A

registered delegate may speak only once to any resolution. This process will be subject to the discretion of the chair.

2.14 **Quorum.** The quorum for the Policy Plenary Session is 100 registered delegates and for any other plenary session is 200 registered delegates.

3. REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES, ALTERNATES AND OBSERVERS

3.1 **Accreditation.** All delegates and alternates must be accredited in accordance with the procedures specified in the National Constitution and the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates.

3.2 **Disputes.** Any dispute over the accreditation of delegates will be decided by the Convention Returning Officer or his or her designate, and such decisions will be final and binding subject only to the rulings of the Permanent Appeal Committee.

3.3 **Appointment of assistants.** The Convention Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, delegate all or part of his or her authority to other individuals (including the Regional Returning Officers appointed under the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Delegates), and the Convention Returning Officer has the power to appoint persons who are not delegates as assistants to assist the Convention Returning Officer in his or her duties.

3.4 **Registration deadlines.** Registration of delegates and alternates closes at 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 14, 2012.

3.5 **Promotion of alternates.** The promotion of alternates to delegate status will begin at 10 a.m., Saturday, January 14, 2012 and close at 11 a.m., Saturday, January 14, 2012, at the place provided in the official agenda of the Convention. All alternates who wish to be promoted to delegate status must attend at that time and place; if an alternate is not present at that time and place, then that alternate will lose all rights to be promoted to delegate status.

3.6 **Access for persons with disabilities.** The Co-Chairs are responsible to ensure that there is reasonable access for registration and other Convention facilities for persons with disabilities.

4. POLICY RESOLUTIONS

4.1 **Types of policy resolutions.** There are only three types of policy resolutions that may be considered by delegates at the Convention:

- (a) the resolutions that are approved by the National Policy and Election Platform Committee as “emergency resolutions” for submission to the Policy Plenary Session;
- (b) the resolutions that appear in the Resolution Handout as priority resolutions that were designated as such by a provincial or territorial association or a Commission, as the case may be (referred to in these Rules as “original priority resolutions”);

- (c) the resolutions that appear in the Resolution Handout as priority resolutions that were designated as such in the pre-Convention online discussion and voting process (referred to in these Rules as “additional priority resolutions”).

4.2 **Emergency resolutions.** If a resolution is submitted to the General Secretary in writing before 8:00 p.m. on January 11, 2012, with written reasons substantiating the emergency character of the resolution and the resolution has been adopted by a PTA executive, by the executive of one of the Commissions or by the National Liberal Caucus and is signed by the senior officer or the policy officer of the sponsor as evidence of that adoption, then the National Policy and Election Platform Committee must consider whether to approve the resolution as an “emergency resolution” and, if it is approved as an emergency resolution, whether it will be submitted to the Policy Plenary Session. The National Policy and Election Platform Committee may also, on its own motion, approve any of its own resolutions as “emergency resolutions” and submit such resolutions to the Policy Plenary Session. All decisions of the National Policy and Election Platform Committee about emergency resolutions are final and are not subject to appeal.

4.3 **No other resolutions.** Other than resolutions referred to in Rule 4.1, no new policy resolutions may be introduced in any session of the Convention (including the Policy Plenary Session).

5. POLICY PLENARY

5.1 **Proposals properly moved.** Each resolution will be announced by the chair of the Policy Plenary Session and is deemed to be properly moved and seconded.

5.2 **Time for consideration.** The chair of the Policy Plenary Session may allocate at their discretion a time period for the disposition of any resolution and related amendments.

5.3 **Introductory presentation by sponsor.** The chair of the Policy Plenary Session may allow one registered delegate who is an authorized representative of the sponsor of a resolution up to two minutes to explain or clarify the resolution.

5.4 **Debate.** At the beginning of the Policy Plenary Session, the chair will go through all policy resolutions to be considered by the delegates to identify which ones require debate. Debate is required only if 25 registered delegates indicate that they wish a debate. Policy resolutions that do not require debate will be put to a vote immediately after that determination in accordance with Rule 5.10. Policy resolutions that do require debate will be set aside until the votes on the resolutions not requiring debate is completed. The resolutions that require debate will then be debated one by one in accordance with Rule 5.8 in the following order (subject to Rule 5.7):

- (a) first, the original priority resolutions;
- (b) next, the additional priority resolutions;
- (c) next, the emergency resolutions;

and will be put to a vote one by one in accordance with Rule 5.10. The process set out in this Rule 5.4 is subject to the discretion of the chair.

5.7 Changing order of resolutions. The order for considering resolutions may only be changed by the National Policy and Election Platform Committee or upon motion submitted in writing signed by 50 registered delegates and submitted to the chair of the Policy Plenary Session at the beginning of the plenary and approved by a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates present at the plenary.

5.8 Speakers in a debate. In the case of a debate, speakers may speak for up to one minute each. Only registered delegates will be recognized as speakers. A delegate (except the representative of the sponsor) may speak only once to any resolution. The representative of the sponsor who gave the introductory presentation on the resolution may close debate. A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, club, commission or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a resolution, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the resolution and two speakers opposed to the resolution and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. The process set out in this Rule 5.8 is subject to the discretion of the chair.

5.9 Amendments. A resolution that appears in the Resolution Handout as an “original priority resolution” or an “additional priority resolution” may be amended only by its sponsor. Such amendments must be approved by the Constituent Body that submitted the original resolution (such as PTA, Commission or National Caucus). Amendments to priority resolutions that comply with the requirements set forth in this Rule 5.9 must be submitted to the General Secretary at the Convention Office or by email to Ottawa2012@liberal.ca by 8:00 a.m. on Friday, January 13, 2012. Policy plenary resolutions may not be amended otherwise than as set out in this Rule 5.9.

5.10 Voting. After the conclusion of debate (if any), the resolution will be put to a vote. All votes will be conducted by using the appropriate voting device. If a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates are cast in favour of the resolution, then it will be adopted by the Policy Plenary Session.

5.11 Forwarding of resolutions to Leader. The National Policy and Platform Committee is responsible to forward to the Leader and to the Caucus Accountability Officer all resolutions adopted at the Policy Plenary Session.

6. CONSTITUTIONAL PLENARY SESSIONS

6.1 Order of proposals. Subject to the discretion of the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions, the proposed amendments to the National Constitution (the “Constitutional Proposals”) will be put to and dealt with in the Constitutional Plenary Sessions in the order in which they appear in the document posted on the public website of the Party.

6.2 Proposals properly moved. Each of the Constitutional Proposals will be announced by the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions and is deemed to be properly moved and seconded.

6.3 **Introductory presentation by sponsor.** The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions may allow one registered delegate who is an authorized representative of the sponsor of a Constitutional Proposal up to two minutes to explain or clarify the proposal.

6.4 **Presentation by Constitutional and Legal Adviser.** The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions may allow one of the Constitutional and Legal Advisers a reasonable time after the introductory presentation or during any debate to comment on technical aspects of a Constitutional Proposal.

6.5 **Debate.** After the presentation by a representative of the sponsor of a Constitutional Proposal and the presentation (if any) of a Constitutional and Legal Adviser, the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions must ask the registered delegates at the session if the proposal should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate that they wish a debate, the proposal will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

6.6 **Speakers in a debate.** In the case of a debate, speakers may speak for up to one minute each. Only registered delegates will be recognized as speakers. A delegate (except the representative of the sponsor) may speak only once to any proposal. A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, club, commission or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a proposal, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating resolutions to two speakers in favour of the proposal and two speakers opposed to the proposal and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. The process set out in this Rule 6.6 is subject to the discretion of the chair.

6.7 **Related but contradictory proposals.** If two or more Constitutional Proposals are, in the opinion of the Constitutional and Legal Advisers, related to substantially the same matter but are contradictory (“Contradictory Proposals”), then they must be considered and debated together. The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session will allow a presentation by a representative of the sponsor of each of the Contradictory Proposals and a presentation (if any) of one of the Constitutional and Legal Advisers before asking the registered delegates at the session if the proposal should be put to a vote without debate. In the case of a debate, the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may increase the number of speakers in proportion to the number of proposals being considered together.

6.8 **Voting on related but contradictory proposals.** Voting on related but contradictory proposals will be conducted as follows:

- (a) If there are two Contradictory Proposals under consideration, each delegate will be asked to vote for one (and only one) of them, and the one which receives the most votes will go forward to a full vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate, and which requires a two-thirds majority in order to be passed. If there are three or more Contradictory Proposals under consideration, each delegate will be asked to vote for one (and only one) of them, and the two which receive the most votes will go forward to a run-off vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate. On the run-off vote, the Contradictory Proposal which receives the most votes will go forward to a full vote, which will proceed

forthwith without further debate, and which requires a two-thirds majority in order to be passed.

- (b) If there are three or more Contradictory Proposals under consideration, each delegate will be asked to vote for one (and only one) of them, and the two which receive the most votes will go forward to a run-off vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate. On the run-off vote, the Contradictory Proposal which receives the most votes will go forward to a full vote, which will proceed forthwith without further debate, and which requires a two-thirds majority in order to be passed.

6.9 Withdrawal of proposal. If a sponsor of a Constitutional Proposal wishes to withdraw such proposal, an authorized representative of the sponsor may make a request to that effect to the chair of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions. The Chair of the sessions must ask the registered delegates at the session if the proposal may be withdrawn. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate they object to the withdrawal, the proposal will be withdrawn. If 25 registered delegates do so object, the question of withdrawal will be put to a vote without debate and the proposal will be withdrawn on a simple majority.

6.10 Sub-Amendments. An amendment to any of the Constitutional Proposals (which is referred to as a “Sub-Amendment”) is not permitted, except as follows:

- (a) if the amendment (i) does not, in the opinion of the Constitutional and Legal Advisers, make the proposed change to the National Constitution greater than that contained in the Constitutional Proposal, (ii) is made in writing by the sponsor of the Constitutional Proposal and (iii) is received by the General Secretary at the Convention Office or by email to Ottawa2012@liberal.ca by noon on Thursday, January 12, 2012;
- (b) if the amendment (i) does not, in the opinion of the Constitutional and Legal Advisers, make the proposed change to the National Constitution greater than that contained in the Constitutional Proposal, (ii) is made in writing signed by 25 registered delegates and (iii) is received by the General Secretary at the Convention Office or by email to Ottawa2012@liberal.ca by noon on Thursday, January 12, 2012;
- (c) the amendment is one which, in the opinion of the Chair or the Constitutional and Legal Advisers, corrects a drafting or typographical error or deficiency in a manner consistent with the original intention of the Constitutional Proposal.

A Sub-amendment is passed by a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates.

6.11 Consideration of Sub-amendments. If there are any Sub-amendments to a Constitutional Proposal, then those Sub-amendments will be dealt with, after the Constitutional Proposal has been announced, in the order determined by the Chair.

6.12 **Voting.** After the conclusion of debate (if any), the Constitutional Proposal will be put to a vote. The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may appoint one or more persons to assist with the counting of the vote.

6.13 **Effective date of proposals.** In the absence of an expressed provision to the contrary, any Constitutional Proposal adopted at the Constitutional Plenary Sessions become effective at the close of this Convention, except that any change to the number of, or qualifications of elected officers, only becomes effective with the election of such officers at the first convention after the Convention.

6.14 **Adjournment.** The chair of the Constitutional Plenary Session may adjourn and reconvene either of the Constitutional Plenary Sessions at her or his discretion. The session, if adjourned, may be reconvened at any time prior to the conclusion of the Convention considered by the co-chairs to be appropriate on not less than one hour's notice to delegates of the reconvening given in a manner approved by the Co-Chairs.

7. ELECTION OF NATIONAL OFFICERS

7.1 **Elections to be conducted.** Elections for the following offices will be conducted in accordance with this Rule 7 and Rule 8 under the supervision of the Convention Returning Officer:

National President
National Vice-President (French)
National Vice-President (English)
National Policy Chair
National Membership Secretary

7.2 **Definition of "Candidate".** In these Rules, those persons who have been nominated for Party office in accordance with the Rules of Procedure for the Election of Party Officers are referred to collectively as the "Candidates" and individually as a "Candidate".

7.3 **Presentations of Candidates.** The Co-Chairs are responsible for presenting the Candidates to the Convention at the session of the Convention scheduled for the speeches by Candidates in the reverse of the order of the list of offices found in paragraph 22(1)(a) of the National Constitution, as follows:

- (a) if there is only one Candidate for an office, the Candidate will not be entitled to address the Convention and the Co-Chairs will declare such Candidate elected by acclamation;
- (b) if there is more than one Candidate for an office, then before the speeches, the Co-Chairs will draw lots to determine the order of presentation and during the speeches:
 - (i) the Co-Chairs will announce the names of all the Candidates for the office in the alphabetical order of the family names of the Candidates;

- (ii) in the order determined by the drawing of lots, the Co-Chairs will call upon the Candidates to come to the podium to make a presentation;
- (iii) the presentation of each Candidate will be timed from the moment that the Co-Chairs call upon them to come to the podium to make their presentation, and the length of the presentation will include the time used in coming to the podium and the speech of the Candidate.

7.4 **Withdrawal.** Any Candidate wishing to withdraw may do so up to 5:00 p.m., on Thursday, January 12, 2012. Withdrawals by Candidates must be in writing, signed by the Candidate and submitted to one of the Co-Chairs with a copy to the Convention Returning Officer. The Co-Chairs will make a simple announcement of the withdrawal, but no withdrawal speech is permitted, and the contents of the Candidate's withdrawal notice will not otherwise be announced publicly.

7.5 **Eligibility to vote for Party Officers.** All delegates accredited at a Convention of the Party have the right to cast a vote in the election of Party Officers.

7.6 **Ballots for delegates.** A registered delegate will be issued only with ballots for offices for which they are entitled to vote.

7.7 **Secret ballot.** Voting for the election of officers will be by secret ballot.

7.8 **Voting procedure.** For each office, there will be only one ballot and the Candidate who receives a plurality of the votes cast in that ballot will be elected. In the case of a tie vote, the winner will be decided in a manner determined by the Convention Returning Officer.

7.9 **Chief Scrutineer.** Each Candidate or their Chief Agent may designate, by notice in writing to the Convention Returning Officer, a delegate to act as a Chief Scrutineer for the Candidate and, in the absence of a notification to the contrary, the Chief Agent for each Candidate is the Chief Scrutineer for that Candidate.

7.10 **Scrutineers.** Each Candidate may appoint one scrutineer to be present in the voting area immediately before and during voting and to observe the counting of the ballots for that office. Additional scrutineers may be permitted at the counting of the ballots subject to the discretion of the Convention Returning Officer.

8. GENERAL CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS

8.1 **Meaning of "Returning Officer".** In this Rule 8, in relation to voting for the election of officers, "Returning Officer" means the Convention Returning Officer.

8.2 **Authority of Returning Officer.** All matters pertaining to the conduct of the voting and the counting of votes is within the sole jurisdiction of the Returning Officer whose decisions are final and binding subject only to the rulings of the Permanent Appeals Committee.

8.3 **Appointment of assistants.** The Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, delegate all or part of his or her authority to other individuals, and the Returning Officer has the power to appoint persons (including delegates) as associate returning officers, deputy returning officers

and poll clerks and may appoint any other assistants to assist the Returning Officer in his or her duties. Any such individuals may act only if they have signed a non-disclosure agreement in a form specified by the Returning Officer.

8.4 **Qualifications to vote.** All registered delegates wishing to vote must wear their official delegate badge, and any person not wearing such a delegate badge may only vote upon the specific determination of the Returning Officer that the person is a properly registered and accredited delegate and has not previously voted.

8.5 **Time and place of voting.** Voting will take place at the time and in the place provided in the official agenda of the Convention. The Returning Officer may, in his or her discretion, determine that voting opens at a different time than that provided in the official agenda of the Convention and closes later than the time provided in the official agenda of the Convention. The Returning Officer, in his or her discretion, may suspend voting at any time. Each registered delegate within the voting area at the close of voting is entitled to vote.

8.6 **Conduct of scrutineers.** Each scrutineer must wear a badge provided by the Returning Officer, indicating only the name of the Candidate on whose behalf he or she acts. While in the voting area during voting, a scrutineer must not wear any badge (other than that provided by the Returning Officer) or garment or act in any manner that indicates support for a particular Candidate and must not interfere in any way with the voting and counting procedures. The Returning Officer has complete authority to control the activities of scrutineers to ensure there is no interference and no breach of these Rules.

8.7 **Control over voting areas.** The Returning Officer may designate an area as the “voting area” for all purposes of this Rule 8. Only the Returning Officer, the associate returning officers, deputy returning officers, poll clerks, scrutineers, registered delegates in the process of voting and those so authorized by the Returning Officer may enter the voting area. No campaigning is allowed at any time in the voting area. The Returning Officer has full authority over such areas and any other area designated by her or him as necessary for the voting procedure. Access may be restricted accordingly. Throughout the voting process the Returning Officer may take all steps necessary to maintain order in the voting stations and voting and counting areas.

8.8 **Assistance in voting.** Any registered delegate requiring assistance to vote may be accompanied by another registered delegate of his or her own choosing to the appropriate voting station under the supervision of the Returning Officer or may request the assistance of the Returning Officer.

8.9 **After polls close.** Once the counting of ballots has begun and until the result of a ballot has been announced officially, no person in the voting or counting areas, except for the Returning Officer, her or his assistants and anyone authorized by her or him, may leave the voting or counting areas or communicate in any way whether verbally, visually, electronically or otherwise with anyone outside the voting or counting areas or carry or use any communications device including, without limitation, a cell phone or any type of mobile device.

8.10 **Challenges.** If a scrutineer wishes to challenge the actions of a designate or appointee of the Convention Returning Officer, such a challenge must be presented to the Convention Returning Officer by the Chief Scrutineer for the Candidate.

8.11 **Announcement of results for election of officers.** In respect of each position to be elected, the Convention Returning Officer must report to the Co-Chairs the total number of delegates eligible to vote, the number of ballots cast for each Candidate, the number of ballots spoiled and the name of the successful Candidate. The Co-Chairs must then announce the name of the successful Candidate and may announce any of the other information provided by the Convention Returning Officer. The Convention Returning Officer must not otherwise disclose any portion of the results.

8.12 **Challenges following the announcement of results.** If, following the announcement of the results, a Chief Scrutineer wishes to challenge the results of the election on behalf of the Candidate they represent, she or he must submit a written request to the Convention Returning Officer no later than two hours following the later of (a) the announcement of the results and (b) the close of the period provided in the official agenda of the Convention for the announcement of the results in respect to the election of Party and Commission Officers.

8.13 **Destruction of ballots.** Upon the adjournment of the Convention and in the absence of instructions to the contrary from the Co-Chairs, following the period provided under Rule 8.13, the Returning Officer may destroy the ballots.

9. CONFIRMATION OF PARTY BYLAWS

9.1 **Bylaws submitted to Convention by the National President.** In accordance with subsection 26(4) of the National Constitution, the National President must submit each Party Bylaw and each amendment or repeal of a Party Bylaw not previously submitted to a convention of the Party to the Convention, and the Party, by ordinary resolution, must confirm, amend, or reject it.

9.2 **Time and place.** The National President is responsible to submit each such Party Bylaw to the Convention at the Convention Opening, in the place specified in the official agenda of the Convention.

9.3 **Deemed submission of Party Bylaws.** Each Party Bylaw, effective from the date that a copy of the resolution of the National Executive regarding the adoption of such Party Bylaw is first published on the public website of the Party, is deemed to have been submitted to the Convention.

9.4 **Introductory presentation by sponsor.** The chair of the Convention Opening may allow an authorized representative of the National Board of Directors up to two minutes to explain or clarify the each Party Bylaw and each amendment or repeal of a Party Bylaw.

9.5 **Debate.** With respect to each Party Bylaw submitted to the Convention, the chair of the Convention Opening must ask the registered delegates at the plenary if such Party Bylaw (or amendment or repeal of a Party Bylaw, as the case may be) should be put to a vote without debate. Unless 25 registered delegates indicate they wish a debate, the resolution will immediately be put to a vote and there will be no debate.

9.6 **Speakers in a debate.** In the case of a debate, speakers may speak for up to one minute each. Only registered delegates will be recognized as speakers. A delegate may speak only once to each Party Bylaw. A registered delegate wishing to address the session must approach the

appropriate microphone and must give his or her name and electoral district, club, commission or other affiliation or status. The chair of the session must recognize speakers debating a Party Bylaw, alternating between those in favour and those opposed. The chair of the session may, at any time, limit the number of speakers debating Party Bylaws to two speakers in favour of the bylaw and two speakers opposed to the bylaw and may limit the time for each speaker to one minute. The process set out in this Rule 9.6 is subject to the discretion of the chair.

9.7 **Amendments.** A Party Bylaw (or amendment of a Party Bylaw) that is deemed to have been submitted to the Convention in accordance with Rule 9.3 may be amended only if an amendment is submitted in writing to the General Secretary at the Convention Office or by email to Ottawa2012@liberal.ca by noon on Thursday, January 12, 2012.

9.8 **Voting.** After the conclusion of debate (if any), each Party Bylaw (or amendment or repeal of a Party Bylaw, as the case may be) will be put to a vote. All votes will be conducted by using the appropriate voting device. If a simple majority of the votes cast by registered delegates are cast in favour of the confirmation of the Party Bylaw (or amendment or repeal of a Party Bylaw, as the case may be), then it will be confirmed by the Party.