

Inaugural Election of the Young Liberals of Canada in Alberta

Official Rules

ARTICLE 1 Definitions

1. In these rules, the following words shall have the following meaning:
 - a. “Candidate” means a person who has been approved by the Returning Officer to seek election to a position with the Young Liberals of Canada in Alberta;
 - b. “Form” or “Forms” means those forms prescribed under Bylaw 5 of the Liberal Party of Canada;
 - c. “National Director” means the National Director of the Liberal Party of Canada;
 - d. “Official Agent” means a person appointed to be a representative of a Candidate;
 - e. “Returning Officer” means a person appointed to oversee the election of persons to positions with the Young Liberals of Canada in Alberta and adjudicate disputes arising therefrom; and
 - f. “Young Liberal” has the same meaning as it does in the Young Liberals of Canada Constitution.

ARTICLE 2 Qualifications

1. To be eligible for election as an Executive Officer for the Young Liberals of Canada in Alberta, a person must satisfy the following requirements:
 - (a) Candidates must Registered Liberal of the Liberal Party of Canada as per the Young Liberals of Canada and the Liberal Party of Canada’s Constitutions and Bylaws.
 - (b) To honour the spirit of Subsections 62 (1), 65 (1), 89 (1), and 92 (1) of the Parliament of Canada Members Bylaw adopted by the Board of Internal Economy in the 41st Session of Parliament, a candidate employed or on contract with an Office of Parliament, including a Parliamentary Hill Office, Constituency Office, or the Caucus Research Office, shall resign their employment or contract to contest the position of President, or Executive

Vice President by the close of nominations, 10 days prior to the opening of the, or be considered to have withdrawn their candidacy.

(c) Candidates must deliver to the Returning Officer, no later than August 16, 2016 at 5:00 PM Mountain time:

- a. a nomination form, in Form 1, signed by a nominator and a seconder, both of whom must be Registered Liberals and signed by the Candidate consenting to their nomination; and
 - b. a declaration of compliance, in Form 4, indicating that the Candidate agrees to abide by the Liberal Party of Canada Code of Conduct;
2. Review of nomination. The Convention Returning Officer is responsible to review all documents delivered as contemplated by Subsection 3.2 for compliance with the requirements of this Bylaw
 3. Withdrawal: Candidates may withdraw from the race before August 16, 2016 at 11:59 PM MST. Withdrawal must be in writing to the Returning Officer's official email.

ARTICLE 3 General Conduct of Election

1. Voting will occur on Sunday, August 21, 2016. Voting will take place between the hours of 12:00 PM Mountain time and 2:00 PM Mountain time.
2. Voting Procedure. Voting will be conducted by electronic ballot. For each office for which there are two or more Candidates, voting must be by a first-past-the-post ballot on which voters may indicate a choice for only one Candidate.
3. Counting of Ballots will be conducted in a manner determined by the Returning Officer in collaboration with the electronic balloting software.
4. Integrity of Ballots. The Returning Officer must at all times guarantee the integrity of the ballots and ballot boxes.
5. Qualifications to Vote: in order to be eligible to vote a person must:
 - a. Be a Registered Liberal on or before the cut off date, in accordance with the Liberal Party of Canada Constitution
 - b. Be between the ages of 14 and 25 (inclusive) on the cut off date

6. Cur off Date: The cut off date is August 3rd, 2-16. For greater clarity, to be eligible to vote a person must be a Registered Liberal as of 11:59 PM Mountain Time on August 3rd, 2016..
7. Challenges: If a scrutineer or candidate wishes to challenge the process, or results, this challenge must be made in writing to the Returning Officer within 2 hours of the announcement of the results.

ARTICLE 4 Conduct during the Election

1. The Election of Executive Officers shall be on an individual basis to a given position. As such, no one person shall contest more than one position. Further, to ensure a fair and unbiased adjudication of individual candidate's merits for a position, all references to coordinated teams, 'slates' and specifically 'slate names' are strictly prohibited.
2. Without limiting the foregoing, individual candidates may work together to share professional services and resources, however financial records must be reported separately, and any conduct of non-compliance with the prohibition of 'slates' shall be subject to the penalties outlined below or in the Young Liberals of Canada's Bylaws.
3. Candidates are required to operate with due respect for one another, members of the Young Liberals of Canada, members of the Liberal Party of Canada also known as Registered Liberals, members of Caucus, Party and Parliamentary staff, and fellow citizens. Abusive language such as sexism, homophobia, ableism, transphobia, racism or other forms of discrimination, as well as speech judged by the Returning Officer, to cross the boundary between fair comment and unnecessary or abusive comments shall be subject to the penalties outlined in the Young Liberals of Canada Bylaws and herein at the discretion of the Returning Officer.
4. Harassment in all its forms shall be subject to the penalties outlined herein or in the Young Liberals of Canada's Bylaws, at the discretion of the Returning Officer
5. Candidates may designate an Official Agent to act on their behalf, who shall likewise be bound by the aforementioned rules related to conduct, by filing Form 6.
6. Candidates are encouraged to strive to ensure equality of the official languages of Canada in their campaign materials.

ARTICLE 5 Campaign Financing

1. No candidate shall accept any goods, services or financial contributions from unions, corporations/businesses, provincial/territorial associations, riding associations, campus clubs or riding clubs.
2. No candidate shall accept more than \$1,525.00 or the equivalent in goods and services from any individual. All donations greater than \$20.00 must be receipted and no amount greater than \$20.00 can be donated by cash. In addition, candidates cannot donate more than the limit of \$1,525.00 for their own contest to an Executive Officer position.
3. All funds raised prior to the open of nominations shall be reported to the Returning Officer as part of nomination papers filed.
4. No funds raised in excess of the donation limit before the open of nominations on July 18, 2016 at 5p.m. may be spent during the campaign period, and should be returned to the donor. Products purchased prior to the open of nominations may be used, including those financed by such funds, such that they be reported to the Returning Officer and such that their fair market value shall not exceed the donation or spending limit.
5. For the purposes of the above, "goods and services" shall include, but not be limited to, such things as merchandise given in kind, or professional services including graphic design services, donated at fair market value.
6. No candidate shall spend more than \$350.00 for the purposes of the election to an Executive Officer position, excluding translation services, and candidate air and train travel expenses. All expenses, including translations, and travel expenses must be reported to the appointed Returning Officer along with the donation report.
7. It is strictly prohibited for a Young Liberal Provincial/Territorial Association, Campus Club or Riding Club to use its lists or communications platforms to promote or endorse exclusively a particular candidate. Candidates that are involved in accepting these endorsements will receive penalties, in addition penalties will be applied to the provincial/territorial association, campus or riding club, including but not limited to financial penalties.
8. Candidates, or their official agents shall report to the Returning Officer all contributions greater than \$20 to their campaign. Penalties for late reporting are outlined below.

9. Non-compliance of financial rules shall be subject to the below penalties at the discretion of the Returning Officer.

ARTICLE 6 Penalties

1. Non-compliance related to harassment or abuse shall result in the non-compliance being made public, and the forfeiture of the candidate's deposit, or disqualification from the race or both, depending on the severity of the non-compliance, and at the discretion of the Returning Officer.
2. Non-compliances for financial requirements shall result in one or a combination of the following: disqualification from the race, depending on the severity of the non-compliance at the discretion of the Returning Officer.
3. Decisions of the Returning Officer are considered final such that they may be appealed to the Permanent Appeals Committee of the Liberal Party of Canada constituted under Chapter 11 of the Liberal Party of Canada Constitution.

ARTICLE 7 Conclusion

1. All matters not dealt by this document shall be adjudicated at the discretion of the Returning Officer in keeping with the Constitution of the Young Liberals of Canada, the constitution of the Liberal Party of Canada, their Bylaws, and basic principles of natural justice.