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INTRODUCTION

This document guides the process of selecting a new leader for the BC Green Party. It is more than a set of regulations – it represents a modern leadership contest based on the principle of Participatory Democracy.

We believe those who seek to form government should lead by example. In 2016, we banned corporate and union donations to our own party, long before laws were updated, and the other parties were required to follow suit. We have designed our 2020 leadership contest on the same foundation of leading with our values.

That is why these leadership contest rules extend the vote beyond formal party membership to any British Columbian of 16 years or older who wants to support a leadership candidate (and does not actively support another political party).

It is our hope that the 2020 B.C. Green leadership contest can be an opportunity to participate in an important democratic process for those who would otherwise be uninterested, disadvantaged or excluded.

We have a long way to go before our public institutions are truly inclusive and accessible to everyone. Most people are not particularly interested in political parties. Politics is frequently uninspiring. But we believe all of this can change, and we are willing to innovate and take risks to stand for our vision.

For more information about the leadership contest and how you can get involved, please visit bcgreens.ca/leadership_2020.

Sincerely,

Sat Harwood
Chair, Provincial Council
BC Green Party
December 2019
DEFINITIONS

“Basic Contact Information” means an individual’s (1) name, (2) mailing address, (3) landline phone number, (4) mobile phone number, and (5) email address.

“BC Green Party” means the Green Party Political Association of British Columbia.

“Candidate Application” means the application package that a Leadership Applicant must complete and submit to enter the Leadership Contest.

“Compliance” means adherence to the Leadership Contest Rules.

“Compliance Deposit” means the refundable fee as defined in Section 7.a.ii as a guarantee of adherence to the Leadership Contest Rules.

“Electorate” means the body of individuals who are eligible to vote in the Leadership Vote; the Party Members and Party Supporters.

“Internal Party Position” means any official role, whether elected, hired or appointed by the BC Green Party, which contributes to the party’s internal functions. These roles include, but are not limited to: Deputy Leader, member of the Provincial Council, staff member, contractor, or any position on a Riding Association Executive. “Internal Party Position” does not include Member of the Legislative Assembly or caucus roles.

“Leadership Applicant” means an individual who has submitted their Candidate Application to the Leadership Committee, but whose application has not yet been accepted or declined.

“Leadership Campaign” means all activities, staff members, contractors and volunteers associated with a Leadership Candidate.

“Leadership Candidate” means an individual whose application has been accepted by the Leadership Committee.

“Leadership Committee” means the committee responsible for the design, administration and implementation of the Leadership Contest. See Section 3 for more information.

“Leadership Contest” means all activities associated with the 2020 process of electing a new leader of the BC Green Party.

“Leadership Contest Rules” means the rules and regulations set forth in this document.

“Leadership Prospect” means an individual who is giving consideration to running as a Leadership Candidate or who has requested a Candidate Application but has not yet submitted it.

“Leadership Vote” means the casting of ballots in the Leadership Contest.

“Party Member” means a member of the BC Green Party in good standing (as defined in Sections 2 and 3 of the BC Green Party by-laws) as of the date(s) of the Leadership Vote.
DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)

“Party Supporter” means an individual who is not a Party Member, or a member or supporter of another provincial political party in BC, but who has registered with the BC Green Party to participate in the Leadership Vote as defined in Section 13.b of the Leadership Contest Rules.

“Personal Information” means any Information about an identifiable individual, which means a person can be identified by the information, either directly (e.g. name, image, job title) or in combination with other information, excluding business contact information or work product information as defined by the BC Personal Information Protection Act.

“Provincial Council” means the member-elected governance body of the BC Green Party.

“Registered” means a Leadership Candidate who is eligible to participate in the Leadership Contest as defined in Section 6.e.

“Voters List” means a list of current Party Members and Party Supporters for the purpose of voter outreach as defined in Section 11.a.
PART ONE
Rules and decision-making

1. THE BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTION ACT
   a. All Leadership Prospects, Applicants, Candidates and their Financial Agents are:
      i. Subject to any and all regulations put forth in the BC Election Act;
      ii. Responsible for ensuring that their Leadership campaigns adhere to any and all regulations put forth in the BC Election Act.
   b. In cases of discrepancy between any documents related to the Leadership Contest and the BC Election Act, the BC Election Act prevails.

2. BC GREEN PARTY CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
   a. All Leadership Prospects, Applicants, Candidates and their Financial Agents are:
      i. Subject to any and all regulations put forth in the BC Green Party Constitution and By-laws;
      ii. Responsible for ensuring that their Leadership campaigns adhere to any and all regulations put forth in the BC Green Party Constitution and By-laws.
   b. In cases of discrepancy between this document related to the Leadership Contest and the BC Green Party Constitution and By-laws, the BC Green Party Constitution and By-laws prevail.

3. LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
   a. The Leadership Committee is:
      i. A committee appointed by the Provincial Council and chaired by the Executive Director;
      ii. Responsible for the design, administration and implementation of the Leadership Contest, including all forms and documents.
   b. The Chair of the Leadership Committee, or their designate, will meet with each Leadership Candidate and their Financial Agent within fourteen (14) days of the acceptance of their Candidate Application to review rules and regulations associated with the Leadership Contest, including, but not limited to Leadership Contest Rules, BC Green Party privacy regulations and policies, financial reporting, and other logistical details.
      i. The Leadership Candidate is responsible for ensuring all relevant information is communicated to their Leadership Campaign.
   c. The Leadership Committee has the power to enforce the Leadership Contest Rules as needed. These powers include but are not limited to expelling Leadership Candidates from the contest, fining Leadership Candidates for non-compliance, and limiting the participation of Leadership Candidates in official events.
      i. Enforcement decisions will be communicated to the Leadership Candidate in writing.
   d. Leadership Candidates may appeal a decision or ruling of the Leadership Committee in writing to the Chair of the Provincial Council within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notice of the decision or ruling.
      i. Decisions on appeals will be issued within seven (7) days of receipt of the appeal and may be made without the need for a formal meeting of the Provincial Council.
      ii. Decisions on appeals shall be made by a majority vote of the Provincial Council. Votes may be held via email.
      iii. All decisions on appeals or rulings of the Provincial Council in response to an appeal are final.

4. INSTANCES NOT COVERED BY THE LEADERSHIP CONTEST RULES
   a. In all circumstances which are not covered by the Leadership Contest Rules, the Leadership Committee will have jurisdiction to issue adjustments or rulings.
PART TWO
Candidacy

5. LEADERSHIP CANDIDATES

a. Leadership Prospects holding an Internal Party Position must recuse themselves from any discussion related to the Leadership Contest.

b. Leadership Prospects, Leadership Applicants and Leadership Candidates must inform the Leadership Committee of their candidacy announcement at least five (5) business days prior to the event.

c. An individual may stand as a Leadership Candidate for the Leadership Contest if they:
   i. Complete the Candidate Application to the satisfaction of the Leadership Committee, as outlined in Section 6;
   ii. Are a Party Member in good standing as of the date of application;
   iii. Are eligible for election to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia under the BC Election Act as of the date of application;
   iv. Uphold the Six Core Principles of the BC Green Party.

d. A Leadership Candidate must resign from any and all Internal Party Positions within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notice of the acceptance of their Leadership Application.

e. A Leadership Candidate may withdraw from the contest by informing the Chair of the Leadership Committee in writing.
   i. All fees that are due on the date of withdrawal remain due.
   ii. The Compliance Deposit will be returned fourteen (14) days after the completion of the Leadership Contest.
PART THREE
Application and registration

6. APPLICATION
a. Leadership Applications may be submitted to the Leadership Committee from January 6, 2020 to April 15, 2020.
b. To apply to be a Leadership Candidate, an individual must submit the following to the Leadership Committee:
   i. A fully completed nomination application package as approved by the Leadership Committee.
   ii. A written nomination signed by at least one hundred (100) Party Members representing not less than five (5) electoral districts. Signatories must be Party Members in good standing when the application is submitted to the Leadership Committee.
   iii. A cheque or money transfer for the full amount of the Non-Refundable Application Fee as outlined in Section 7.a.i.
c. Acceptance of a Leadership Application will be based on the Leadership Applicant’s eligibility for candidacy as described in Section 5.c and compliance with the Leadership Contest Rules.
   i. The Leadership Committee will accept or decline a Leadership Application within fifteen (15) business days of receipt.
d. Upon acceptance by the Leadership Committee, Leadership Candidates must begin payment of remaining Fees as outlined in Section 7.
e. A Leadership Candidate is considered Registered when:
   i. Their Leadership Application has been accepted by the Leadership Committee;
   ii. They have resigned from any and all Internal Party Positions;
   iii. They have paid the Non-Refundable Application Fee (see Section 7.a.i);
   iv. All additional fees due at the time have been paid.

7. FEES
a. The following Fees are non-negotiable for Leadership Candidates and must be paid to the BC Green Party:
   i. Non-Refundable Application Fee: $1,000;
   ii. Compliance Deposit: $5,000 due within ten (10) days of the Leadership Application being accepted;
      1. Fines issued by the Leadership Committee for non-compliance with the Leadership Contest Rules will be deducted from the Leadership Candidate’s Compliance Deposit.
      2. The Compliance Deposit less any Fines issued by the Leadership Committee will be returned to a Leadership Candidate fourteen (14) days after the completion of the Leadership Contest.
   iii. Non-Refundable Campaign Fee of $15,000, divided into three payments:
      1. $5,000 due within twenty-eight (28) days of the Leadership Application being accepted;
      2. $5,000 due no later than April 15, 2020;
      3. $5,000 due no later than May 15, 2020.
   iv. Fundraising Fee: 25% of all funds raised by a Leadership Campaign.
      1. Financial contributions raised by a Leadership Campaign to pay the Fees outlined in Sections 7.a.i, 7.a.ii, and 7.a.iii are exempt from the Fundraising Fee.
b. In the case that a Leadership Candidate falls into arrears on any Fee, the Leadership Committee may suspend or prohibit their participation in the Leadership Contest.
   i. The Leadership Committee will issue any and all warnings as it deems necessary.
PART FOUR
Campaigns

8. CAMPAIGN FINANCES
a. The Leadership Campaign Spending Limit is $300,000 for the duration of the Leadership Contest.
   i. The Fees set out in Section 7.a are exempt from the Spending Limit.
b. All expenses must be recorded in accordance with Elections BC regulations and must be reported to the BC Green Party and Elections BC as set out in the BC Election Act.
c. Each Leadership Candidate must have a Financial Agent who is a Party Member. The Financial Agent is responsible for ensuring the Leadership Candidate and their Leadership Campaign follows all financial regulations set out in this document.
d. On the first Tuesday of every month, the Leadership Candidate or Financial Agent must:
   i. Report to the Leadership Committee a list of contributions and the contributors’ Basic Contact Information received by the Leadership Campaign in the preceding calendar month;
   ii. Pay the Fundraising Fee as outlined in Section 7.a.iv for all financial contributions received in the preceding calendar month.
e. Leadership Candidates must deliver a copy of their Leadership Campaign finance report as required by the BC Election Act in writing to the Leadership Committee within 60 days of the completion of the Leadership Contest.
f. Funds remaining in a Leadership Candidate’s bank account after all their Leadership Campaign liabilities have been paid must be transferred to the BC Green Party.

9. CANDIDATE PROTOCOL
a. All Leadership Candidates must, as part of their application package, commit to:
   i. Abide by the Six Core Principles of the BC Green Party;
   ii. Run a respectful campaign that engages other candidates on issues but does not use personal attacks;
   iii. Always conduct themselves in a manner that positively portrays the BC Green Party;
   iv. Adhere to the BC Green Party privacy policies, Code of Ethics, Code of Representative Conduct, and all other BC Green Party policies;
   v. Ensure their Leadership Campaigns adhere to the BC Green Party’s:
      1. Code of Ethics;
      2. Respectful Workplace Policy;
      3. Team Pledge;
      4. Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure Agreement.
10. COLLECTION, USE AND DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

a. In the collection, use and disclosure of Personal Information, Leadership Candidates and Leadership Campaigns are bound by:
   i. The BC Personal Information Protection Act;
   ii. Any and all recommendations made by the Information and Privacy Commissioner of BC in his report entitled Full Disclosure: Political parties, campaign data, and voter consent;
   iii. Any and all privacy policies of the BC Green Party.

b. Leadership Candidates must transfer all Personal Information collected for the purposes of their Leadership Campaign to the BC Green Party within twenty-eight (28) days of the completion of the Leadership Contest.

c. Leadership Candidates must destroy any and all Personal Information collected by their Leadership Campaign within thirty-five (35) days of the completion of the Leadership Contest, except where retaining Personal Information is required by law.

11. MEMBER AND SUPPORTER LISTS

a. The Leadership Committee will supply Registered Leadership Candidates with up-to-date Voters Lists.
   i. The Voters List will be provided as a Microsoft Excel file (.xlsx) and contain the following for each voter as available:
      1. Basic Contact Information;
      2. Party Member or Supporter, including expiry date if appropriate;
      3. Riding.

   ii. An up-to-date Voters Lists will be provided to Leadership Candidates on the following dates:
      1. Upon confirmation that a Leadership Candidate is Registered;
      2. The first Tuesday of every month for the duration of the Leadership Contest.

b. Leadership Candidates and Leadership Campaigns are encouraged to register new Party Members and Party Supporters.
   i. All Party-Member and Party-Supporter registrations including applicable fees must be processed directly by the BC Green Party provincial office.

   ii. Leadership Campaigns may retain a copy of the registration information of new Party Members or Party Supporters.
12. LEADERSHIP EVENTS

a. The Leadership Committee will hold three official Leadership Contest debates.
   i. One debate will be held in each of the following locations:
      1. Vancouver Island
      2. The Lower Mainland
      3. A location that is not covered by 12.a.i.1 or 12.a.i.2.
   ii. Dates for these debates are to be determined but will not take place before May 1, 2020.
   iii. All official Leadership Contest events will be broadcast online so that Party Members, Party Supporters and the general public can participate and learn about Leadership Candidates.

b. The Leadership Committee may hold additional official Leadership Contest events as deemed necessary.

c. All approved Leadership Candidates must make every effort to attend official Leadership Contest events and must do so at their own expense.

d. Leadership Candidates are encouraged, but not required, to attend events organized by BC Green Party riding associations (RAs) and other external groups.
   i. RAs must give equal notice, consideration and opportunity to all Leadership Candidates.

e. Official Leadership Contest events and events organized by RAs may not occur on days when the Legislative Assembly of BC is sitting.
PART FIVE
Leadership Vote

13. ELECTORATE
a. All Party Members in good standing and Party Supporters as of May 31, 2020 are eligible to participate in the Leadership Vote.

b. A Party Supporter is any individual who:
   i. Is 16 years or older and meets all other eligibility requirements to vote under the BC Election Act;
   ii. Has registered with the BC Green Party as a Party Supporter;
   iii. Strives to uphold the BC Green Party Constitution and must comply with the Bylaws, Rules, Codes of Conduct and Policies;
   iv. Is not a member or supporter of any other provincial political party in BC.

14. VOTING
a. The Leadership Vote will begin at 1:00 PM (Pacific time) on June 15, 2020 and end at 11:59 PM (Pacific time) on June 26, 2020.
   i. The results of the Leadership Vote will be announced on June 27, 2020.

b. The election of the Leader will use a one-voter, one-vote system.
   i. In the case of there being two Leadership Candidates, the Leadership Vote will be conducted by first-past-the-post.
   ii. In the case that there are more than two Leadership Candidates, the Leadership Vote will be conducted by ranked ballot.

c. In the case of only one Leadership Candidate by the deadline for Leadership Applications, then that Leadership Candidate is acclaimed Leader and no further election process will be held.
   i. In the case of acclamation, all Fees must be paid before the acclamation is announced.

d. Voting will be primarily conducted by online ballot, but a telephone ballot option will also be available in the case that a Party Member or Supporter is not able to vote online.

e. The Leadership Committee must appoint an impartial Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) who is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the Leadership Vote.
   i. The CEO may not be a sitting member of the Provincial Council.
   ii. The CEO will be barred from sitting on the Leadership Committee.
APPENDIX I:
Members of the Legislative Assembly

In the case that a Leadership Candidate is a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) of BC, they must adhere to the following rules:

1. MLAs must remember that although they are running for leadership of the party, they are foremost MLAs with obligations to their constituents and to upholding the Confidence and Supply Agreement (CASA).
   a. Leadership Candidates must prioritize sittings of the Legislative Assembly over Leadership Campaign events.

2. Leadership Candidates who hold official Caucus roles (House Leader/Whip/Caucus Chair, etc.) may not let their Leadership Campaign interfere with their caucus roles.

3. Leadership Candidates are prohibited from using any legislative resources for their Leadership Campaign. This includes but is not limited to staff time, office space, IT equipment, video footage, and travel funding.
   a. Leadership Candidates are prohibited from using MLA or legislative resources to advantage them in the leadership contest.

4. The BC Green Caucus may develop additional rules for MLAs.

5. In the case that a Leadership Candidate is elected to office in another jurisdiction or at another level of government, the spirit of the above rules applies.
   a. In cases of uncertainty, the Leadership Committee will provide clarity.
APPENDIX II:
Internal Party Positions

1. Provincial Council, Leadership Committee, staff and contractors
   a. Members of the Provincial Council, members of the Leadership Committee, and employees and contractors of the BC Green Party must remain impartial during the Leadership Contest and may not actively support a Leadership Candidate or Leadership Campaign.

2. Riding associations and their Executives
   a. Riding Associations (RAs) or RA Executives must remain impartial during the Leadership Contest and may not actively support a Leadership Candidate or Leadership Campaign.
   b. Members of the Executive of a Riding Association may support a Leadership Candidate or Leadership Campaign as an individual Party Member.

   1. RA Executive Members supporting a Leadership Candidate or Leadership Campaign may not use their RA, RA Executive or their position on the RA Executive to influence the Electorate.
APPENDIX III:
Important dates

All Sections cited in this appendix refer the Leadership Contest Rules.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 20, 2019</td>
<td>Leadership Contest rules released and applicant inquiry form online at bcgreens.ca/leadership_2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 6, 2020</td>
<td>Leadership Contest begins; Leadership Applications may be requested and submitted (as per Section 6.a).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 15, 2020</td>
<td>Deadline to submit a Leadership Application (as per Section 6.a).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 31, 2020</td>
<td>Deadline to become a Party Member or Party Supporter and be eligible to participate in the Leadership Vote (as per Section 13.a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 15, 2020 1:00 PM (Pacific time)</td>
<td>Voting in the Leadership Contest opens (as per Section 14.a).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 26, 2020 11:59 PM (Pacific time)</td>
<td>Voting in the leadership contest closes (as per Section 14.a).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 27, 2020</td>
<td>Results of the leadership contest announced (as per Section 14.a.1).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 11, 2020</td>
<td>Compliance deposits returned to Leadership Candidates (as per Section 7.a.ii.2).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25, 2020</td>
<td>Deadline to transfer all Personal Information collected by a Leadership Campaign to the BC Green Party (as per Section 10.b).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1, 2020</td>
<td>Deadline to destroy all Personal Information collected by a Leadership Campaign (as per Section 10.c).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 25, 2020</td>
<td>Financial reports due to the BC Green Party (as per Section 8.e).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25, 2020</td>
<td>Financial reports due to Elections BC.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>