

SASKATCHEWAN
NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY

1122 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 0C4

CONSTITUTION

As Revised November 2019

ARTICLE 1

NAME AND PURPOSE

- 1.1 The name of the organization shall be the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party, hereinafter referred to as "the Party".
- 1.2 The Party shall constitute a section of the New Democratic Party of Canada.
- 1.3 The purpose of the Party shall be to promote through political action and other appropriate means the establishment of a co-operative commonwealth in which the principle regulating production and exchange will be the supplying of human needs and not the making of profits.
- 1.4 The Party shall be controlled and directed by its members.
- 1.5 In any matter not dealt with by this Constitution, the Constitution of the New Democratic Party of Canada shall prevail.
- 1.6 Words in this Constitution denoting the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine gender; words in the singular shall be deemed to include the plural and words in the plural shall be deemed to include the singular unless the contrary intention appears.

ARTICLE 2

MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Membership shall be available to individuals and organizations.
- 2.2 Any person who undertakes to abide by the constitution and principles of the Party and who is not a member or supporter of any other political party may be accepted as an individual member of the Party.
- 2.3 All applications for new membership or renewed membership, along with the prescribed fee shall be sent to either the Provincial Office or Federal Office of the New Democratic Party. The Provincial Office shall issue a membership card. In order to be accepted as a member in good standing of the Saskatchewan Section, all membership applications submitted to the Federal Office must meet the criteria for membership in the Saskatchewan section.
- 2.4 Applications for new membership and renewed membership shall be accepted by the Provincial Office unless the Constituency Executive or the Provincial Executive requests, in writing, that the Chief Executive Officer withhold the membership. Any person denied membership under this section shall have the right to appeal as provided for by Article 19.

- 2.5 Every individual member shall be a member of the Constituency Association in the provincial or federal constituency where they reside. A Member of the Legislative Assembly or nominated candidate may request their membership and those of their immediate family be held in the constituency which they represent. Should the nominated candidate or MLA be defeated in a provincial election they may continue to hold their transferred membership until such time as a new candidate is nominated to represent that constituency; at which time, transferred memberships will revert to the constituency of residence. A Constituency Assistant hired by the Member to work in their Constituency Office may request their membership and those of their immediate family be held in the constituency in which they work.
- 2.6 Members in good standing shall have the right:
- (a) to be a member of the Constituency Association in their constituency of residence, subject to Article 2.5;
 - (b) to speak freely and openly and vote at the general meetings of their constituency association and any other New Democratic Party clubs or organizations in which they may be a member;
 - (c) to stand for election as a delegate to any Party Convention or Council representing their Constituency Association;
 - (d) to vote at a meeting held for the purpose of nominating a candidate for their Constituency Association;
 - (e) to stand for election as a member of the Executive of their Constituency Association;
 - (f) to seek nomination as a candidate for a Federal or Provincial Constituency Association;
 - (g) to stand for election as an Officer of the Party; and
 - (h) to propose amendments to the program of the Party and amendments to the Constitution.
- 2.7 No person shall be eligible to act as an Officer of the Party, or as a member of the Provincial Council, or Constituency Executive, or as a delegate to any convention unless that person is an individual member of the Party whose membership is in good standing.
- 2.8 Membership fees shall be fixed by the Provincial Convention.
- 2.9 Affiliated membership shall be open to trade unions, farm groups, co-operatives and other appropriate organizations which by official act undertake to accept and abide by the constitution and principles of the Party, and are not affiliated with any other political party.
- 2.10 An application for affiliated membership may be received from a local, regional or provincial organization in Saskatchewan or from the Saskatchewan section of a national or international organization in respect of its membership in Saskatchewan, or from a local, lodge or branch in Saskatchewan of any such organization.

- 2.11 Application for affiliation shall be made to the Provincial Council and shall not be accepted until approved by Provincial Council.
- 2.12 The per capita fee for affiliated organizations shall be twenty-five cents per member per month.
- 2.13 Any member of an affiliated organization may, at any time, notify their organization in writing that they do not wish a per capita payment to be made on their behalf, and the organization shall forthwith cease to make such payment.
- 2.14 Any individual eligible for membership in the Party may purchase a Lifetime Membership, which provides the full rights of regular membership in the Party. The fee for Lifetime Memberships shall be set by Provincial Council. See Lifetime Election Fund, article 17.

ARTICLE 3 PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

- 3.1 The Annual Provincial Convention shall be the governing body of the Party and shall have the power to alter or amend the Constitution and program.
- 3.2 The Provincial Convention shall be held annually at the call of the Provincial Executive. In a calendar year where a provincial election occurs, Provincial Council may elect not to hold Provincial Convention until the following calendar year, provided that no more than 24 months elapses between Provincial Conventions.
- 3.3 At least 60 days notice of the date and place of the Convention shall be given to each Provincial Constituency Association and each organization entitled to representation.
- 3.4 The following members shall be seated as delegates:
 - (a) the members of the Provincial Council;
 - (b) the Members of Parliament from Saskatchewan;
 - (c) the Members of the Legislative Assembly for Saskatchewan;
 - (d) those candidates who are nominated for provincial or federal constituencies;
 - (e) twelve delegates from each Provincial Constituency, elected pursuant to the by-laws appended hereto; and when membership in a constituency exceeds 500 members, an additional delegate for each 50 members or major portion thereof above 500 members. For the purpose of representation, membership in good standing shall be calculated as at the end of the previous membership year, or as at 60 days prior to the Convention, whichever is greater;
 - (f) one delegate for each affiliated organization for the first 100 affiliated members or less, and one delegate for each additional 100 members or major portion thereof;

- (g) one delegate for each regional body and two from each provincial body composed of affiliated organizations, and not eligible for direct affiliation to the Party, providing such bodies officially undertake to abide by the constitution and principles of the Party and have been recognized by the Provincial Council pursuant to Article 2.11;
- (h) the members of the executive of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats to a maximum of ten;
- (i) one delegate for every fifty members or less, and an additional delegate for each additional fifty members or major fraction thereof of each chartered youth club in Saskatchewan, chartered at least 30 days prior to Convention;
- (j) the members of the executive of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Women to a maximum of ten; and
- (k) the members of the executive of the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan to a maximum of ten; and
- (l) the members of the Executive of the Rainbow Pride Committee to a maximum of ten;
- (m) the members of the Executive of the Cultural Diversity Committee to a maximum of ten; and
- (n) all past Leaders of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party.

3.5 In the election of delegates pursuant to Article 3.4 (e), the Provincial Constituency Associations shall ensure gender parity and that two of the delegates elected be youth delegates. Should the Annual Meeting of the Constituency Association or the Convention delegate selection meeting of the Constituency Association fail to meet this provision, the Constituency Association President shall apply to the President for an exemption from this Article.

3.6 Resolutions, except those submitted by the Provincial Council, must be received by the Chief Executive Officer not less than 30 days prior to the Convention and may be submitted by:

- (a) a Provincial Constituency Association, an affiliated organization, any organization entitled to representation; and
- (b) the Provincial Council.

3.7 Emergency resolutions may be submitted to the Convention Resolutions Committee for presentation to the Convention. An emergency resolution shall be presented to the Convention Resolutions Committee no less than 24 hours before the time set on the agenda for emergency resolutions. An emergency resolution shall be defined as a resolution of an urgent or pressing nature on an issue that emerged after the convention resolution deadline. The Convention shall rule by 75% vote on whether the resolution is an emergency and only those resolutions deemed emergency resolutions may be placed before the Convention.

3.8 The Convention shall be called to order by the President, and the Convention shall then appoint a Convention Chair and Vice-Chair, a Credentials Committee, a Resolutions Committee and such other committees as the Convention may decide to elect or appoint.

- 3.9 The business of the Provincial Convention shall be:
- (a) to receive and pass upon the audited financial statement of the Party;
 - (b) to hold a review vote of the current leader;
 - (c) to elect a President and six Vice-Presidents subject to Article 5.3;
 - (d) to elect a Treasurer subject to Article 5.3;
 - (e) to receive and pass upon resolutions pertaining to the organization and program of the Party; and
 - (f) to receive and pass upon amendments to this Constitution.
- 3.10 Any person may register as a visitor to the Provincial Convention. Visitors shall have no vote, but on approval of Convention, shall have voice.
- 3.11 Convention fees shall be set by the Provincial Council.
- 3.12 One-third of the registered delegates shall constitute a quorum.
- 3.13 The Convention shall be governed by the Convention Standing Rules of Order and in the matters not there ordered, by Bourinot's Rules of Order.

ARTICLE 4 THE LEADER

- 4.1 The Leader of the Party shall be elected by a vote of all members of the party in good standing.
- 4.2 At every Convention that is not a Leadership Convention a secret ballot vote (the review vote) will be held among Convention delegates to determine whether or not a leadership election should be called. If 50% plus one delegate supports the calling of a leadership election, such an election will be held within one year of the Convention vote.
- 4.3 If a leadership contest is requested by convention, an Interim Leader shall be elected at a joint meeting of the Members of the Legislature and the Provincial Council immediately following the Convention where the leadership review vote was held.
- 4.4 Should the permanent Leader resign from the position, or the position of Leader otherwise become vacant, an Interim Leader shall be elected at a joint meeting of the Members of the Legislature and the Provincial Council.
- 4.5 Should the permanent Leader resign from the position, or the position of Leader otherwise become vacant, a majority of the eligible voting members of Provincial Council shall set the rules for a Leadership Convention. All members of the party in good standing will be eligible to vote in that Leadership Convention for the purpose of electing a permanent Leader.

- 4.6 Any person serving as Interim Leader shall exercise the powers and responsibilities of the Leader until a new permanent Leader has been selected by the results of a Leadership Convention.
- 4.7 Any member of the party in good standing is eligible to be a candidate for permanent Leader subject to the rules of the Leadership Convention as determined by the Provincial Council.

ARTICLE 5 PROVINCIAL EXECUTIVE

- 5.1 The Officers of the Party shall be elected pursuant to this Constitution and shall be:
- (a) the Leader;
 - (b) the President;
 - (c) the six Vice-Presidents, who shall be elected in accordance with Article 5.3(b);
 - (d) the Treasurer.
- 5.2 The Provincial Executive shall be composed of:
- (a) the Officers pursuant to Article 5.1;
 - (b) the Past President for one year after s/he ceases to be President;
 - (c) five members elected at large from constituencies outside the major urban centres of Regina and Saskatoon;
 - (d) one member elected by and from the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats;
 - (e) one of the three Members of the Legislative Assembly serving on the Provincial Council pursuant to Article 6.1 (j) shall also be designated to be a member of the Provincial Executive by the Caucus;
 - (f) one member elected by and from the S.N.D.W. who shall be one of the members of the Provincial Council as provided in Article 6.1 (e) and (f);
 - (g) one member elected by and from the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan who shall be one of the members of the Provincial Council as provided in Article 6.1 (g) and (h);
 - (h) one member elected by and from the Rainbow Pride Committee, who shall be one of the members of the Provincial Council as provided in Article 6.1 (i) and (j);
 - (i) one member elected by and from the Cultural Diversity Committee, who shall be one of the members of the Provincial Council as provided in Article 6.1(m);
 - (j) the President of the New Democratic Party of Canada where he or she is a member of the Saskatchewan Section; and
 - (k) one member elected by and from the Saskatchewan Members of Parliament.
- 5.3 (a) In the election of all Officers, due regard shall be paid to the principles of gender parity and regional representation, and this provision shall be brought to the attention of delegates at the time of balloting.

- (b) In the election of the six Vice-Presidents, four will be elected for two year alternating terms, where two vice presidents will be each elected in alternating years by all of the delegates present and voting at Provincial Convention. One shall be elected by and from members of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats in a Caucus Meeting held during Provincial Convention. One shall be elected by and from convention delegates who are members of the Labour Caucus in a Caucus meeting held during Provincial Convention.
 - (c) In the election of the President and Treasurer, they will be elected for two year alternating terms, where each will be elected in alternating years by all of the delegates present and voting at Provincial Convention.
 - (d) In the election of Five Members at Large, they will be elected for two-year alternating terms, where three Members are elected in one year and two are elected in the following year by all of the delegates present and voting at Provincial Convention.
- 5.4 A Member of Parliament or a Member of the Legislative Assembly may not stand for election for any Executive position elected at Convention. A member of the Provincial Executive elected as a Member of Parliament or as a Member of the Legislature during their term may complete their Executive term.
- 5.5 The Chief Executive Officer shall be the chief administrative officer of the Party appointed by the Provincial Executive.
- 5.6 The Provincial Executive shall meet at least bi-monthly at the call of the President.
- 5.7 Special meetings of the Provincial Executive may be held at the call of the President and shall be held upon the request in writing of three members of the Provincial Executive.
- 5.8 The quorum for the Provincial Executive shall be one-third of its members.
- 5.9 The Provincial Executive shall conduct the affairs of the Party in accordance with the policies of the Provincial Convention and the Provincial Council.
- 5.10 The Provincial Executive may establish such administrative and executive committees as it sees fit to carry out its duties.
- 5.11 Should the office of President become vacant between Conventions, the Provincial Council shall elect one of the Vice-Presidents to fill the vacancy until the end of the term.
- 5.12 Should any other office become vacant between Conventions, such vacancies shall be filled by the Provincial Council.
- 5.13 The term of any member of the Provincial Executive shall be terminated when such member ceases to be a resident of Saskatchewan except for a member that is elected as a Member of Parliament during their term of office.

- 5.14 The Executive shall concern itself primarily with setting the annual goals and targets of the party and ensuring that those goals and targets are met. The Executive shall also ensure that a permanent election planning committee is always functioning and continuously monitor the election readiness of the party. The Executive shall be responsible to Provincial Council and Provincial Convention and is charged with implementing Convention and Provincial Council decisions. The Executive must provide a report, through the President, to each annual Convention.
- 5.15 The President shall oversee the affairs of the Party, sign official documents, provide advice to the Leader, liaise with the Provincial Secretary, and convene and preside over meetings of the Provincial Council and Provincial Executive.
- 5.16 The Treasurer shall act as a signing officer for the Party, ensure financial records of the Party are maintained, and present an annual budget to be approved by the Provincial Council.
- 5.17 The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President the supervision of the affairs of the party. Specific duties can be assigned to Vice-Presidents, in consultation with the entire Executive.
- 5.18 In the event that the President resigns or cannot fulfill their duties, one Vice-President will be elected to temporarily fulfill the President's role by the Provincial Executive until the next Provincial Council meeting is held.
- 5.19 Members of the Executive are expected not to miss any more than two meetings during a calendar year, unless there are extenuating circumstances.

ARTICLE 6 PROVINCIAL COUNCIL

- 6.1 The Provincial Council shall be composed of:
- (a) the Provincial Executive;
 - (b) two Provincial Council Delegates elected by and from each Provincial Constituency Association, no more than one of whom shall identify as a man, and who shall be elected for two-year terms with the terms overlapping so that one new councillor is elected each year;
 - (c) those members of the Federal Council resident in Saskatchewan who are not otherwise members of the Provincial Council;
 - (d) three members elected by and from the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats;
 - (e) two members elected by and from the S.N.D.W.;
 - (f) the Chair of the S.N.D.W.;
 - (g) two members elected by and from the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan;
 - (h) the Chair of the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan;

- (i) the Chair of the Rainbow Pride Committee;
 - (j) two members elected by and from the Rainbow Pride Committee;
 - (j) three members elected by and from the Members of the Legislative Assembly;
 - (k) one member elected by and from the Saskatchewan Members of Parliament;
 - (l) the Treasurer of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats;
 - (m) three members of the Cultural Diversity Committee.
- 6.2 The Provincial Council shall be the governing body of the Party between Provincial Conventions. At its meetings, the Provincial Council will approve the annual budget of the Party; provide advice to the Leader on matters of party policy and party organization; provide training opportunities; review the activities of the Executive and give direction to the Executive; and conduct business referred to it by the Executive or Convention.
- 6.3 The Provincial Council shall meet at least three times a year.
- 6.4 The Provincial Council may approve an Advisory Committee of three of its members to work in conjunction with the executive of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats.
- 6.5 Special meetings of the Provincial Council may be called by the Provincial Executive.
- 6.6 The President shall call a special meeting of the Provincial Council on the request in writing of one-third of the members of the Provincial Council.
- 6.7 A Member of Parliament or a Member of the Legislative Assembly shall not be a member of the Provincial Council except as provided under Articles 6.1 (c), (d), (j), and (k). A member of the Provincial Council elected as a Member of Parliament or as a Member of the Legislature during their term may complete their Council term.
- 6.8 The term of office for any member of the Provincial Council shall cease when such a member ceases to be a resident of Saskatchewan except if such a member has been elected as a Member of Parliament.
- 6.9 The quorum for the Provincial Council shall be one-third of its members.

ARTICLE 7

PROVINCIAL CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

- 7.1 Every provincial electoral district in Saskatchewan shall have a Provincial Constituency Association.
- 7.2 All individual members of the Party in good standing who reside within the boundaries of a provincial electoral district shall be members in good standing of that Provincial Constituency Association except as provided under Article 2.5 of this Constitution.

- 7.3 Only members in good standing of the Provincial Constituency Association, as set out in Article 7.2, may serve as Executive Officers of that Association or represent the Association at the Provincial Convention or meetings of the Provincial Council.
- 7.4 All Provincial Constituency Associations shall be deemed to have adopted and shall abide by the by-laws which are appended as Appendix A of this Constitution. These by-laws may be amended by the Executive of a Provincial Constituency Association to reflect local conditions or traditional practice at any time prior to the 1989 Provincial Convention of the Party provided such amendments are approved by the Provincial Executive and ratified by the next Annual Meeting of the Constituency Association. Following the 1989 Provincial Convention of the Party, these by-laws can only be amended by the Annual Meeting of the Provincial Constituency Association. All such amendments are subject to approval of the Provincial Executive.
- 7.5 All constituency by-laws shall include the following:
- (a) At least fourteen days written or, at a member's election, notice of the date and location of the Annual or Nominating Meeting shall be provided to all members of the Association. Rules 5 (c), (d), and (e) of the By-laws shall be clearly stated in any Meeting Notice. The Provincial Executive shall have the authority to shorten the two week notice upon application from the Constituency Executive;
 - (b) New memberships may be accepted at any time up to a time designated by the Executive Officers which shall not be more than fourteen days before, and not less than seven days before the Annual Meeting.
- 7.6 Should a Provincial Constituency Association Executive fail to call an Annual Meeting or a Nominating Meeting, or should no Executive exist within a constituency, the Provincial Executive shall call such meetings.
- 7.7 Constituency Nominating Conventions may be called by the Constituency Executive only with the approval of the Provincial Executive. With the exception of ridings where the NDP incumbent MLA is a declared candidate, the Provincial Executive will only give approval once there is at least one approved candidate from an equity seeking group or the Provincial Executive is satisfied that there has been a reasonable effort to find a candidate from an equity seeking group.

ARTICLE 8

REGIONAL OR METRO ORGANIZATIONS

- 8.1 The executives of any two or more Provincial Constituency Associations which are adjacent to each other may set up a regional or metro organization which shall be composed of representatives of each constituency association participating appointed by their executives.

- 8.2 The object and purpose of such regional or metro organizations shall be to co-ordinate the efforts of the constituencies involved to make education, publicity and election campaigns more effective, or plan any other activities it deems worthwhile.
- 8.3 The constituency associations involved may delegate to the organization such powers as deemed advisable.
- 8.4 A regional or metro organization shall elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary and a treasurer and may appoint such committees as it deems necessary.
- 8.5 A metro or regional organization shall enact by-laws which shall not be inconsistent with this Constitution nor with the by-laws of any of the constituency associations which it may represent. Such by-laws shall be subject to approval by the Provincial Executive.

ARTICLE 9 CANDIDATES

- 9.1 Any individual member may place the name of a prospective provincial candidate in nomination prior to the Nomination Convention of a Constituency Association by forwarding the name, in writing, with the written consent of the nominee, to the Constituency Secretary.
- 9.2 The Constituency Secretary shall prepare a list of all names placed in nomination prior to the mailing of the Convention Call, and notify, or arrange to notify all individual members of such names.
- 9.3 No person shall be eligible to seek or accept nomination unless:
- (a) they are a member in good standing of the Party; and
 - (b) they are eligible to be a candidate as defined by the Saskatchewan Elections Act.
 - (c) they have submitted to Provincial Office the following:
 - (i) a completed Candidate Screening Questionnaire, in the form set out by the Provincial Executive; and,
 - (ii) a criminal records check from the relevant police force; and,
 - (iii) the nominal administration fee specified by the Provincial Executive; and,
 - (iv) any other documents deemed necessary by the Provincial Executive.
 - (d) they have been approved as a candidate by the Provincial Executive, after a review of the documents specified in 9.3(c) and any other information it deems relevant, such review to be completed in a timely manner and will take no longer than 45 days.
- 9.4 Rules 5 (b), (c), (d) and (e) of Appendix A attached hereto shall also apply to Nominating Conventions.

- 9.5 No candidate nor any Constituency Association shall change either the provincial or federal program of the Party.
- 9.6 On request of the executive of a constituency association, the Provincial Executive may authorize a Nominating Convention at more than one site.

ARTICLE 10 CLUBS AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

- 10.1 The executive of any Provincial Constituency Association may set up, within their boundaries, local clubs or organizations.
- 10.2 Such clubs or organizations shall be founded for social, political or educational purposes or to further the work of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats, the Saskatchewan New Democratic Women, or the Indigenous People's Section.
- 10.3 Such clubs or organizations may elect officers, hold meetings and raise the funds necessary to carry on their activities, providing that for the purpose of election campaigns such clubs or organizations shall act through their constituency associations.
- 10.4 Each club or organization formed pursuant to Article 10.1 shall draft by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution nor with the by-laws of the Constituency Association. Such by-laws shall be approved by the Constituency Executive and filed with the Provincial Executive.
- 10.5 Each club or organization formed pursuant to Article 10.1 shall submit an annual report of its activities and a financial statement to the Constituency Association Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE 11 LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- 11.1 A legislative advisory committee composed of five members elected by the Provincial Council for two-year alternating terms and a member of the Saskatchewan NDP MLAs elected from their number. One of the members of the committee who is elected by Provincial Council must self-identify as an Indigenous person.
- 11.2 The legislative advisory committee shall from time to time assist the Saskatchewan NDP Caucus in preparing legislation in conformity with Saskatchewan NDP policies.
- 11.3 This advisory committee shall choose a secretary and a chair.

- 11.4 This committee will meet with the full caucus at least twice per-year to discuss the implementation of party policy, and this committee will report back to the Provincial Council as to the outcome of those meetings. These joint meetings between the Legislative Advisory Committee and the Saskatchewan NDP caucus shall be called by the Leader. The Chairs of each of these bodies shall be jointly responsible for preparing the agenda for this meeting.

ARTICLE 12

SASKATCHEWAN YOUNG NEW DEMOCRATS

- 12.1 The Saskatchewan Young New Democrats shall be autonomous with respect to its program and constitution provided that there is no conflict with the program and constitution of the Party.
- 12.2 The constitution of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Provincial Executive, which shall approve these said amendments provided that there is no conflict with the program and Constitution of the Party.
- 12.3 The Saskatchewan Young New Democrats shall present an audited financial report to the Provincial Executive, Provincial Council and Provincial Convention annually.

ARTICLE 13

SASKATCHEWAN NEW DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

- 13.1 There shall be established a special women's committee of the Party called the Saskatchewan New Democratic Women (SNDW), whose purpose shall be to study and take action on matters of special concern to women and to involve women at all levels of political activity in the province.
- 13.2 The Executive of the SNDW shall consist of no less than eleven women who shall be elected by and from women members of the Party at a meeting held at the same time and place as each Provincial Convention.
- 13.3 The SNDW shall draft by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution. Such by-laws and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Provincial Executive, which shall approve same provided there is no conflicts with the program and Constitution of the Party.
- 13.4 The SNDW shall present an audited financial report to the Provincial Executive and Provincial Council annually.

ARTICLE 14 INDIGENOUS NEW DEMOCRATS OF SASKATCHEWAN

- 14.1 There shall be established an indigenous people's committee called the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan, whose purpose shall be to study and take action on issues of special concern to indigenous people's in Saskatchewan.
- 14.2 The Executive of the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan shall consist of no less than eleven and no more than fifteen indigenous people who shall be elected by and from indigenous members of the Party at a meeting held at the same time and place as each provincial convention.
- 14.3 The Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan shall draft by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution. Such by-laws and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Provincial Executive, which shall approve same provided there is no conflict with the program and Constitution of the Party.
- 14.4 The Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan shall present an audited financial statement to the Provincial Executive, Provincial Council and Provincial Convention annually.

ARTICLE 15 RAINBOW PRIDE COMMITTEE OF SASKATCHEWAN

- 15.1 There shall be established a committee of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and two-spirited members of the New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan as well as members who are allies, called the Rainbow Pride Committee, whose purpose shall be to conduct outreach to individuals and organizations within the LGBT2 community, propose solutions to issues of concern to the community, and promote the involvement of LGBT2 people in political activity, both within the party and throughout the province.
- 15.2 The Rainbow Pride Committee will elect officers and hold meetings in a manner consistent with this constitution.
- 15.3 The Rainbow Pride Committee shall draft by-laws not inconsistent with this constitution. Such by-laws and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Provincial Executive, which shall approve same provided that there is no conflict with the program and Constitution of the party.
- 15.4 The Rainbow Pride Committee shall present an audited financial statement to the Provincial Council annually.

ARTICLE 16

CULTURAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE OF SASKATCHEWAN

- 16.1 There shall be established a committee of visible minority and new Canadian members of the New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan, whose purpose shall be to conduct outreach to individuals and organizations within the visible minority and newcomer communities of our province, propose solutions to issues of concern to those communities, and promote the involvement of racially and culturally diverse people in political activity, both within the party and throughout the province.
- 16.2 The Cultural Diversity Committee will elect officers and hold meetings in a manner consistent with this constitution.
- 16.3 The Cultural Diversity Committee shall draft by-laws not inconsistent with this constitution. Such by-laws and any amendments thereto shall be submitted to the Provincial Executive, which shall approve same provided that there is no conflict with the program and Constitution of the party.
- 16.4 The Cultural Diversity Committee shall present an audited financial statement to the Provincial Council annually.

ARTICLE 17

FINANCE AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

- 17.1 There shall be a finance and fundraising committee that shall:
- (a) oversee the fundraising strategy of the party;
 - (b) determine the investment strategy for the restricted funds;
 - (c) act as the audit committee of the party;
 - (d) advise the treasurer;
 - (e) oversee the financial management and performance of the party; and,
 - (f) report regularly to the Provincial Council and Provincial Executive.
- 17.2 The finance and fundraising committee shall be:
- (a) appointed by the Provincial Executive;
 - (b) chaired by the treasurer;
 - (c) representative of the diverse membership of the party; and,
 - (d) composed of five members who individually and collectively possess the skills in finance and fundraising necessary to conduct its responsibilities.
- 17.3 The restricted funds of the party are governed by the finance and fundraising committee in order to guarantee the long-term financial sustainability of the party and to support the election campaigns of the party. The earnings of the funds may be expended in accordance with 17.4, as directed by the Provincial Executive, but the contributed amounts may not be expended for any reason.

- 17.4 The restricted funds are:
- (a) The Co-operative Commonwealth Fund
 - (i) Source: directed donations and bequests received prior to the establishment of the Planned Giving Fund.
 - (ii) Authorized expenditures: political, economic, and social research and education; and the Party's eligible election expenses as defined by the Elections Act.
 - (b) Lifetime Election Fund
 - (i) Source: entire proceeds of lifetime memberships as established by Article 2.14.
 - (ii) Authorized expenditures: Party's eligible election expenses as defined by the Elections Act.
 - (c) Capital Election Fund
 - (i) Source: proceeds from the sale of the Crystal Lake property and other land gifted or bequeathed to the Party prior to the establishment of the Planned Giving Fund.
 - (ii) Authorized expenditures: Party's eligible election expenses as defined by the Elections Act.
 - (d) Planned Giving Fund
 - (i) Source: except as otherwise directed by a donor, not less than 50% of the proceeds of all planned gifts directed to the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party. The remainder shall be allocated to restricted, operational or other funds.
 - (ii) Authorized expenditures: Party's eligible election expenses as defined by the Elections Act; and as directed by the provincial executive.

ARTICLE 18

THE ACCOUNTABILITY OF PARTY MLA'S

- 18.1 Each Member of the Legislative Assembly shall hold a meeting before each session of the Legislature to hear the opinions and concerns of constituents.
- 18.2 Each Member of the Legislature shall hold a meeting after each session of the Legislature to report to constituents on the general business and major legislation of the previous session.

ARTICLE 19 DISCIPLINE

- 19.1 Each member of the Party has covenanted that they will accept and abide by the Constitution and principles of the Party. Breach of this covenant is a violation of this Constitution and liable to discipline under this article.
- 19.2 A complaint may be lodged with the President by any five members or constituted body of the Party alleging:
- (a) a violation of the Constitution;
 - (b) conduct which would serve to bring the Party, one of its bodies, and/or a member into disrepute; or
 - (c) a membership in the Party has been wrongfully denied or should be denied.
- 19.3 Notwithstanding 19.2, an applicant for membership may lodge a complaint alleging that his/her membership has been wrongfully denied.
- 19.4 Any complaint lodged pursuant to 19.2 or 19.3 must be in writing and signed by the complainant or complainants as applicable and must set out the details of the actions or statements of the respondent which caused the complaint, evidence which might be pertinent to the complaint, and the remedy sought.
- 19.5 The President shall attempt to achieve an amicable settlement of the complaint. Should the President be personally involved in the complaint, the Provincial Executive shall appoint one of its members to act in the President's place.
- 19.6 If no suitable settlement can be achieved pursuant to 19.5, the matter shall be referred to the Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee is composed of five individuals elected by and from the Provincial Executive for a one-year term.
- 19.7 The Discipline Committee is responsible to examine, investigate, hear, and determine all matters arising out of the complaint, and shall be free to determine its own process. Any member shall provide prompt and accurate responses to questions or requests from the Discipline Committee or any person acting on its behalf. If the Discipline Committee finds that a complaint is substantiated, it may prescribe remedies up to and including revocation of any right of membership contained in the Constitution of the Saskatchewan NDP, and/or other order it deems fit. Except as otherwise ordered by the Discipline Committee, any remedy shall remain in effect until an appeal has been conducted as described in 19.8.
- 19.8 A complainant or respondent may appeal the decision of the Discipline Committee to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee is composed of five individuals elected by and from the Provincial Executive for a one-year term, and shall not include any members of the Discipline Committee.

- 19.9 In the course of an appeal, the complainant or complainants and the respondent shall respectively have the right to present evidence and argument. The Appeals Committee shall otherwise be free to determine its own process. The Appeals Committee may uphold, amend, or reverse any or all of the findings made and/or remedies prescribed by the Discipline Committee. A decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and shall not be subject to further appeal or review.
- 19.10 Article 19 is generally not to be used for harassment, discrimination, and safety issues. Those issues are dealt with through reference to Article 20.

ARTICLE 20 ANTI-HARASSMENT

- 20.1 The New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan is committed to ensuring that all party activities be conducted in an environment that is free from harassment, bullying and/or discrimination and that all members treat each other with dignity and respect.
- 20.2 The Anti-Harassment policy shall apply to all circumstances that have a real and substantial connection to the New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan, and all members of the New Democratic Party shall be bound by this policy as a condition of membership.
- 20.3 If a person or persons feel they have been subjected to bullying, harassment or discrimination, the information should be reported immediately to the Anti-Harassment Officers of the Party. The process of investigation is detailed in the Anti-Harassment Policy approved by the Provincial Executive.

ARTICLE 21 FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PUBLIC LIABILITY

- 21.1 The Party and its Officers shall not be responsible for any debt incurred by any Constituency Association, Candidate or any body constituted pursuant to this Constitution.
- 21.2 The Party and its Officers shall not assume any public liability for any Constituency, Candidate or any body constituted pursuant to this Constitution.

ARTICLE 22 FINANCIAL YEAR

- 22.1 The financial year of the Party shall end on December 31st of each year.

ARTICLE 23 AMENDMENTS

- 23.1 Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any Provincial Convention by two-thirds of the delegates present and voting.
- 23.2 Any such amendments shall take effect at the adjournment of the Provincial Convention at which it is so passed.

ARTICLE 24 POLICY COMMITTEE

- 24.1 A policy committee composed of five members elected by the provincial council for alternating two-year terms, a member elected by and from the provincial executive for a one-year term, and an MLA chosen by the New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan caucus in the provincial Legislature. One of the members of the committee who is elected by Provincial Council must self-identify as an Indigenous person.
- 24.2 The purpose of the policy committee shall not be to make party policy, it shall be to ensure proper documentation and record-keeping of convention resolutions and to facilitate policy discussion and policy-making processes within the party.
- 24.3 The policy committee shall elect a secretary and a chair from its membership.
- 24.4 This committee will work throughout the year to facilitate debate on political issues and public policy among Saskatchewan NDP members and to identify gaps in existing party policies.
- 24.5 The committee is charged with the creation and maintenance of a resolutions manual that will consist of a record of all of the resolutions passed by the annual Conventions of the New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan over the previous ten years. The Saskatchewan NDP resolutions manual shall always be publicly available.
- 24.6 This committee will report on the results of the policy deliberations and debates within the Saskatchewan NDP to the annual Convention.
- 24.7 The policy committee will be consulted by the election planning committee on the election platform of the New Democratic Party of Saskatchewan.

APPENDIX A

CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS

1. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Constituency Association shall be defined by Article 7.2 of the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party.

2. PURPOSE

(a) The purpose of a Provincial Constituency Association shall be to further the goals and objectives of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party. The Association may establish such committees and organizational structures as it sees fit to further the educational, social and political goals of the Association except that, in the case of such organizations that are entitled to delegate status at the Provincial Conventions of the Party, only one such organization can be established in any constituency.

3. CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE

- (a) Each Constituency Association shall have an Executive consisting of not less than 7 members of the Association. Members of the Executive shall be members in good standing and reside within the boundaries of the Constituency Association except as provided under Article 2.5 of the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party.
- (b) Where there are chartered youth clubs within a Provincial Constituency, each club shall appoint, from their club, one of their members to the Constituency Association Executive.
- (c) The Executive shall be constituted at each Annual Meeting of the Constituency Association.
- (d) The Executive shall manage the business and affairs of the Constituency Association. The powers of the Executive may be exercised by a meeting at which a quorum is present.
- (e) The Executive shall designate three Executive Officers as signing officers of the Constituency Association, any two of whom may sign.
- (f) At all meetings of the Executive, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the Executive members present and, in case of a tie, the chair of the meeting shall be entitled to cast the deciding vote.
- (g) A quorum of all meetings of the Executive shall be either (i) 25% of all Executive members, or (ii) not less than 5 members provided at least 3 of such members are Executive Officers.
- (h) Meetings of the Executive may be called by either the President, any 2 Executive Officers, or by any 5 members of the Executive.
- (i) Unless all Executive members waive the requirement or there is an emergency that requires immediate attention, at least 48 hours advance notice of all Executive meetings shall be provided to all Executive members, with such notice to include reasonable details of the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.

- (j) All meetings of the Executive shall be open to any member of the Constituency Association.
- (k) Minutes of all meetings of the Executive shall be kept and open to inspection by any member of the Constituency Association upon request.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

- (a) Executive Officers shall be elected by and from the Executive at the Annual Meeting of the Constituency Association, or elected at the first meeting of the Executive subsequent to the Annual Meeting.
- (b) The Executive Officers shall be:
 - (i) The President, who, subject to other direction by the Executive, shall have general responsibility for supervising the business and affairs of the Constituency Association. In addition, the President shall preside at the Annual Meeting, as well as at all meetings of the Executive and the Executive Officers, and shall be ex officio a member of all committees of the Executive and Executive Officers.
 - (ii) At least one Vice-President, who, subject to other direction by the Executive, shall act in the absence or inability or refusal of the President to carry out his or her duties.
 - (iii) The Secretary, who, subject to other direction by the Executive, shall:
 - (a) keep records of the Constituency Association, including records of all meetings of the Constituency Association, the Executive and Executive Officers;
 - (b) provide or arrange for notice to all Constituency members, Executive members and Executive Officers as the case may require from time to time; and
 - (c) keep a membership roll of all members of the Constituency Association.
 - (iv) The Treasurer, who, subject to other direction by the Executive, shall be responsible to oversee the finances of the Constituency Association; to keep proper accounting records; to make financial reports as may be required from time to time; and to arrange for the auditing of the Constituency Association's financial records as required.
 - (v) The Provincial Councillors elected pursuant to Section 5(f)(viii) of these by-laws.
 - (vi) The MLA or nominated candidate as the case may be.
 - (vii) Such other Officers as the Executive may deem appropriate, as long as the minimum requirements of Section 3(a) of these by-laws are met.
- (c) The Executive Officers of the Association shall uphold the rights of all members as outlined in Article 2.6 of the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party.
- (d) Subject to any specific directions from time to time by the Executive, the Executive Officers shall manage the day to day business of the Constituency Association.

- (e) The Executive Officers of the Association shall ensure that the Constituency Association is represented at all meetings of the Provincial Council and Provincial Convention and that full reports of the proceedings of these bodies are received by the Executive.
- (f) The Executive shall fix the date and location of the Annual Meeting of the Association and, with approval of the Provincial Executive, shall fix the date and location of a Nominating Convention when required.
- (g) The Executive shall appoint a Nomination Rules Committee that shall prepare a set of rules, which may include:
 - (i) Nominees holding elected positions;
 - (ii) Registration procedures;
 - (iii) Balloting rules;
 - (iv) Any other items.
 These rules shall be subject to the approval of the Executive of the Constituency Association.
- (h) At meetings of the Executive Officers, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the Executive Officers present and, in case of a tie, the chair of the meeting shall be entitled to cast the deciding vote.
- (i) The quorum for all meetings of the Executive Officers shall be a majority of the Officers.
- (j) The date, time and location of meetings of the Executive Officers may be determined by either the President or by any other 2 Executive Officers.
- (k) Unless all Executive Officers waive the requirement or there is an emergency that requires immediate attention, at least 24 hours advance notice of all Executive Officer meetings shall be provided to all Executive Officers, with such notice to include reasonable details of the nature of the business to be transacted at the meeting.

5. ANNUAL MEETING

- (a) Each Constituency Association shall hold an Annual Meeting on a date and at a location selected by the Executive Officers.
- (b) As provided in the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party, at least fourteen days written or, at a member's election, notice of the date and location of the Annual Meeting shall be provided to all members of the Association. By-laws 5(c), (d) and (e) herein shall be clearly stated in any Annual Meeting notice.
- (c) Each member of the Constituency Association and each member of the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats residing within the constituency, and whose membership is in good standing, shall be eligible to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting.
- (d) Memberships may be renewed at any time up to the end of the time set aside for registration and memberships so renewed will be deemed to be in good standing.

- (e) As provided in of the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party, new memberships may be accepted at any time up to a time designated by the Executive Officers which shall not be more than fourteen days before, and not less than seven days before the Annual Meeting.
- (f) The business of the Annual Meeting shall be:
 - (i) To receive and pass upon the report of the President;
 - (ii) To receive and pass upon the report of the Treasurer, including the auditor's report required pursuant to these by-laws;
 - (iii) To receive and pass upon the reports of the Provincial Council delegates;
 - (iv) To receive and pass upon the report of the MLA or nominated candidates as the case may be;
 - (v) To review and propose amendments to the program and Constitution of the Party for presentation to the next Provincial Convention;
 - (vi) To elect delegates to the Provincial Convention or Federal Convention, as the case may be;
 - (vii) To elect the Executive Officers of the Constituency Association as per section 4(a) of these by-laws, or alternatively decide to defer the election of such Officers to the first meeting of the Executive following the Annual Meeting;
 - (viii) To elect two delegates to the Provincial Council of the Party, pursuant to article 6.1(b) of the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party. The two councillors shall be elected for two-year terms in such a way that one councillor is elected every year. The term for a new councillor shall begin immediately following the next Provincial Convention;
 - (ix) To elect two members as alternate delegates to the Provincial Council, pursuant to article 6.1(b) of the Constitution of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party;
 - (x) To elect one female to act as liaison with the Saskatchewan New Democratic Women, one person to act as liaison with the Saskatchewan Young New Democrats, and one person to act as liaison with the Indigenous New Democrats of Saskatchewan;
 - (xi) To receive and pass upon reports from such clubs or organizations as may be organized in the constituency;
 - (xii) To appoint the auditor for the Constituency Association; and
 - (xiii) To plan activities to further the political, educational and social goals of the Association.
- (g) Due regard shall be paid to gender parity and the importance of involving indigenous people in the election of Officers.

6. FINANCIAL RECORD

- (a) The financial records of the Constituency Association shall be kept by the Treasurer.

- (b) The financial records of the Constituency Association shall be audited annually and after each election campaign and a copy of the auditor's report shall be filed with the Chief Executive Officer of the Party.
- (c) The financial year shall end on December 31st of each year.

7. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

Every Executive member and Executive Officer, in exercising their powers and discharging their duties, shall act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Constituency Association and the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party, and exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances. Subject to the foregoing, no Executive member or Executive Officer shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other Executive member or Executive Officer; or for any loss occasioned by any error of judgment or oversight on their part; or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of their office or in relation thereto.

8. INDEMNITY

The Constituency Association shall indemnify an Executive member or Executive Officer, a former Executive member or Executive Officer, against all costs, charges and expenses, including any amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, reasonably incurred by them in respect of any civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding to which they are made a party by reason of being or having been an Executive member or Executive Officer of the Constituency Association, if:

- (a) they acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Constituency Association and the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party; and
- (b) in the case of a criminal or administrative action or proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, they had reasonable grounds for believing that their conduct was lawful.

9. INSURANCE

The Constituency Association may purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of any person referred to in section 9 against such liabilities and in such amounts as the Constituency Association may from time to time determine are appropriate.

10. AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by the Annual Meeting of the Constituency Association by two-thirds of the members present and voting, but shall be subject to the approval of the Provincial Executive before becoming binding and enforceable.

APPENDIX B DEFINITIONS

1. Members of the Legislature (MLA) means a member of the Party who has been nominated by a Provincial Constituency Association, elected as a member of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan and is a member in good standing of the Party as provided in Article 2 of this Constitution.
2. Member of Parliament (MP) means a member of the Party who has been nominated by a Federal Constituency Association, elected as a member of the House of Commons and is a member in good standing of the Party as provided in Article 2 of this Constitution.
3. Program of the Party means those resolutions passed by the Provincial Council, Provincial Convention, Federal Council or Federal Convention which becomes the basis for public policy.
4. Immediate family in Article 2.5 means the spouse and dependent children of the MLA or candidate.
5. Provincial Office of the Party means the central office of the Party maintained under the supervision of the Chief Executive Officer.
6. Participation of Women Federal Council Member means that person elected to fulfill the requirements of Article VIII, Section 1 (e) of the Constitution of the New Democratic Party of Canada.
7. Youth Federal Council Member means that person elected to fulfill the requirements of Article VIII, Section 1 (g) of the Constitution of the New Democratic Party of Canada.
8. Regional body means those bodies composed of organizations affiliated to the Party but not itself eligible for affiliation such as union councils or labour councils.
9. Provincial body means the Saskatchewan Federation of Labour or any other provincial body that is composed of organizations affiliated to the Party but not itself eligible for affiliation.
10. The Chief Executive Officer of the Party means that person who is the chief administrative officer and fulfills the function previously ascribed to the "Provincial Secretary".