

**New Brunswick Liberal Association
Rules for Nominations**

Online voting with registration period

**Approved by the Nomination and
Appeals Committee March 3, 2023**

CANDIDATES FOR NOMINATION

1.1 Minimum eligibility for potential candidates for nomination requires the person to be:

a Member of the NBLA as of the application and until the results of the nomination are announced;

eligible sit as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick in accordance with the New Brunswick *Elections Act*; and

approved by the “Green Light” committee.

1.2 All potential candidates shall complete and file the Candidate Nomination Form prescribed by the Nomination and Appeals Committee (the “Committee”) with the NBLA Executive Director by 4:30 pm at 715 Brunswick Street Fredericton, NB, E3B 1H8 or at info@nliberal.ca on the prescribed date, not less than twenty-one (21) days before the Convention Day. For clarity, these twenty-one (21) days are to be counted by including the date of the cut-off but not including the day of the convention.

1.3 Any deficiencies in a completed Candidate Nomination Form will be disclosed to the potential candidate within twenty-four (24) hours of its receipt and the potential candidate will be provided twenty-four (24) hours to remedy all deficiencies.

NOMINATION RULES AND APPEALS COMMITTEE (the “Committee”)

2.1 The NBLA Executive shall appoint a Committee comprised of the:

NBLA President or a designate;
 NBLA Vice-President (Provincial) or a designate;
 Leader of the NBLA or a designate;
 Appointee of the Leader of the NBLA; and
 NBLA Executive Director.

2.2 The Committee shall sit as the final authority to deal with disputes regarding nominations, to interpret the rules, to issue directives when the rules are silent on a specific point or to issue interpretation bulletins as it deems necessary. The members of the Committee shall elect, by majority vote, one of its members to serve as the Chair. Three (3) Members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. Questions arising at any meeting of the Committee shall be decided by a majority of votes cast. In the case of an equality of votes, the Chair shall, in addition to the Chair’s original vote, have a second or casting vote.

2.3 Any appeal from the result of a Nomination shall be filed in writing with the Committee at NBLA, 715 Brunswick Street Fredericton, NB, E3B 1H8 or at info@nliberal.ca, within 48 hours of the announcement of the results of the Nomination.

- 2.4 The Committee will determine its process and rule on the appeal in an expeditious manner with all decisions being final without any further right of appeal as expressly agreed by all candidates in their Candidate Nomination Form.
- 2.5 The Committee shall appoint a “Green Light Committee” consisting of not less than three (3) NBLA Members for the purpose of receiving and reviewing Candidate Nomination Forms and such other documents as the Green Light Committee considers necessary in order to thoroughly vet prospective candidates. The Green Light Committee may determine its own procedures and its decisions are final without any further right of appeal as expressly agreed by all candidates in their Candidate Nomination Form.

PROVINCIAL RETURNING OFFICER (PRO)

- 3.1 The NBLA Executive shall appoint a PRO to monitor Nominations and ensure the integrity of the voting process.
- 3.2 The PRO shall be the authority on questions of eligibility for voting in nominations and processes for voting.
- 3.3 The PRO may appoint a Deputy Provincial Returning Officer (DPRO) to assist with the responsibilities of the PRO.
- 3.4 The PRO and DPRO shall liaise with NBLA and the Riding Association to ensure all deadlines and notice requirements are observed in scheduling a nomination.
- 3.5 The PRO or DPRO shall convene a meeting of all green light candidates to provide a briefing on the rules for the Nomination and to discuss such other matters.
- 3.6 On recommendation of the PRO, the President of the NBLA may appoint a person to Chair a Nominating Convention.

RULES FOR NOMINATIONS

- 4.1 The Executive of the Riding Association shall, with the consent of the Leader and the President of the New Brunswick Liberal Association, establish a Nomination Committee and set a nomination date for the purpose of choosing a candidate.
- 4.2 At least twenty-five (25) days prior, Members of the Riding Association shall be given Notice of the nomination date (the “Notice”) by public advertisement or other appropriate electronic means. For clarity, these twenty-five (25) days are to be counted by including the date the notice is given but not including the day of the convention.

- 4.3 On issuing the Notice, existing and new Members of the Riding Association have a minimum of fourteen (14) days to complete an “Intention to Vote form”. For new Members the Intention to Vote form is equivalent to a Membership Form.
- 4.4 A completed Intention to Vote Form must be filed and received by the NBLA at 715 Brunswick Street Fredericton, NB, E3B 1H8 or at info@nliberal.ca by 4:30 pm on the designated cut-off date (minimally fourteen (14) days following the issuance of the Notice).
- 4.5 Within forty-eight (48) hours after voter cut-off, each Candidate will be provided the names of all Members who have submitted an Intention to Vote Form (the “Eligible Voters List”).
- 4.6 Within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the Eligible Voters List, Candidates must file any challenges in writing, including reasons therefore, to the PRO at NBLA, 715 Brunswick Street Fredericton, NB, E3B 1H8 or at info@nliberal.ca.
- 4.7 Within twenty-four (24) hours of the deadline in section 4.6, the PRO will advise all candidates and the individual(s) named in the challenges of the ruling.
- 4.8 The process for determining challenges will be at the discretion of the PRO and final with no right of appeal.
- 4.9 Within seventy-two (72) hours of any rulings on challenges, the PRO will issue a Final Eligible Voters List.
- 4.10 Within forty-eight (48) hours of issuance of the Final Eligible Voters List, voting shall commence and continue for a minimum of three (3) days.

BALLOTING:

- 5.1 Ballots shall be preferential one member, one vote.
- 5.2 Ballots shall be cast electronically as determined by the PRO.
- 5.3 Members must cast their own Ballot.
- 5.4 The PRO and the DPRO shall receive the results.

IN PERSON EVENTS:

- 6.1 Should a Riding Association hold an in-person event to reveal the results of the nomination or permit in-person electronic voting, DRO and the DPRO shall be responsible to oversee the set-up and monitoring of the voting station(s).
- 6.2 Riding Associations assume all costs for nominations, including the costs for electronic voting and related expenses for in-person events.
- 6.3 The Committee shall provide the Riding Association with agendas and scripts for nominations and determine matters regarding the communication of results.

ELECTORAL URGENCY RULES

- 7.1 In the event that the Leader of the New Brunswick Liberal Association declares that a state of electoral urgency exists, the Leader may, dispense with nomination conventions, appoint candidates, and / or reduce any notice provisions as deemed appropriate in the circumstances.

FOR THE PROMOTION OF FEMALE CANDIDATES

- 8.1 The Leader of the NBLA, in consultation with the President, may directly appoint up to three (3) female candidates, in three (3) ridings. When the Leader makes an appointment under this provision there may be no further candidates for nomination in the relevant ridings.

PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS

- 9.1 The committee may, in response to a public health emergency, modify or suspend any ordinary rule or procedure and specify an alternative rule or procedure and give notice of same to all nomination contestants.
- 9.2 The DPRO shall have the final authority on how any modifications to the nomination process are implemented for a specific nominating convention.