

## **Memorandum**

**DATE:** September 25, 2013

**TO:** Members of the Conservative Party of Canada

**FROM:** Michael Lauer, Secretary of National Council

**RE:** EDA Constitution

This memo replaces the November 8, 2011 memo dealing with proposed Electoral District Association (EDA) Constitutional Amendments. National Council published the current EDA Constitution of September 2013 (which was a revision of the original September 2006 version of the EDA Constitution). It is posted at [www.conservative.ca](http://www.conservative.ca) under the Documents for Members section on the main home page.

Article 14 of the EDA Constitution (reprinted below) provides that, under certain circumstances and subject to prior approval of the National Council, an EDA may amend its constitution. The intent of this provision was to allow EDAs to modify their constitution to better reflect local circumstances, thereby making local organizational efforts easier. National Council has designated the Secretariat Committee of National Council to oversee the EDA constitutional amendment process.

The most common requests from EDAs for amendments are in Article 7.5 to request a reduction from thirty (30) elected directors as well as Article 7.6 to allow for two-year terms of office.

National Council has reviewed the suggested changes that were submitted to the Secretariat Committee in the latest review of the EDA Constitution and has implemented a number of those suggestions. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of those EDAs that have provided suggestions on how to improve this document.

**Secretariat Committee will consider amendments to Article 7 (Board of Directors) and Article 8 (Executive Committee) of the EDA Constitution. Secretariat Committee will also entertain amendment requests to Article 1 from EDAs whose Elections Canada registered name does not match Article 1.**

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**Michael Lauer**

**Conservative Party of Canada/ Parti conservateur du Canada**  
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**The other articles of the EDA Constitution are not open to modification due to (1) the requirements of the Canada Elections Act, (2) the need for consistency with the Party Constitution, and (3) the need for consistency with clauses which are of national scope.**

I want to remind EDAs that all requests should include a brief rational for the proposed amendment. Also that once the amendment has been approved by the Secretariat Committee, it must go before your EDA's Annual General Meeting for approval or rejection by your membership. Once that has taken place, you also need to update the Secretariat Committee of the outcome of the proposed amendment to complete this process.

Regards,

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Michael Lauer, Chair - Secretariat Committee

## **14. AMENDMENTS**

14.1 Amendments to the Association Constitution made by National Council under Article 8.7.1 of the Party constitution are deemed to be in effect the day they are passed by National Council and are not subject to the remainder of Article 14 of the Association Constitution.

14.2 A motion to amend the Association Constitution may only be brought by the Board of Directors, or twenty-five (25) members of the Association and may only involve Articles, 1, 7 or 8.

14.3 The Board of Directors shall submit any proposed amendment satisfying the criteria in Article 14.2 of the Association Constitution to National Council or its designate at least forty-five (45) days prior to an Annual General Meeting.

14.4 The submission shall include the wording of the proposed amendment; a brief rationale for the amendment; and the time, date and location of the Annual General Meeting.

14.5 National Council or its designate may approve, disallow or alter a proposed amendment. A proposed amendment which is approved or altered may be moved, as approved or altered, at the next Annual General Meeting.

14.6 The motion to amend the Association Constitution, including the proposed wording of the amendment, shall be included in the notice sent pursuant to Article 12 of the Association Constitution.

14.7 A motion to amend the Association Constitution must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting.

14.8 Not more than fourteen (14) days after voting on a motion to amend the Association Constitution, the Association shall deliver to National Council or its designate the result of the motion and, if applicable, a copy of the Association Constitution, as amended.

14.9 No amendment to the Association Constitution is effective unless it complies with all the provisions of this Article.

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**Michael Lauer**

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