



**CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF
CANADA**

**Rules and Procedures for the
2022 Leadership**

March 8, 2022

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Definitions

1.1.1 Wherever capitalized, the following words or phrases are defined as follows:

- (a) “CRO” means the Chief Returning Officer appointed pursuant to these Rules;
- (b) “DRAC” means the dispute resolution appeals committee appointed pursuant to these Rules;
- (c) “DRO” means any Deputy Returning Officer appointed pursuant to these Rules;
- (d) “EDRO” means any Electoral District Returning Officer appointed pursuant to these Rules;
- (e) “Fund” or “the Fund” means Conservative Fund Canada;
- (f) “LCQ” means leadership candidate questionnaire as published pursuant to these Rules;
- (g) “LDC” means the leadership debate committee;
- (h) “LEOC” means the leadership election organizing committee appointed pursuant to these Rules;
- (i) “LCNC” means the Leadership Candidate Nominating Committee appointed pursuant to these Rules;
- (j) “National Voters List” means the list of members of the Conservative Party of Canada who are determined to be eligible to vote in the leadership election;
- (k) “Party” means the Conservative Party of Canada;
- (l) “Rules” means these leadership election rules; and
- (m) “The Constitution” means the Conservative Party of Canada Constitution

1.1.2 Unless specifically defined or used differently in these Rules, words, and phrases herein which are defined in the *Canada Elections Act* shall have the same meaning as is provided in the definitions section of the *Canada Elections Act*.

1.2 Introduction

1.2.1 The LEOC was appointed on February 16th, 2022, and pursuant to section 10.9.2 of the Constitution is responsible for conducting the Leadership Election Process for the Party.

1.2.2 Voting will be conducted by a single secret ballot on which the member will indicate his or her preferred Candidates by marking a ballot with sequential numbers to indicate their Candidate preference.

1.2.3 These leadership election rules (Rules) are issued pursuant to section 10.9.2 of the Constitution, which mandates LEOC to “determine the rules and procedures for the conduct of the leadership selection process.” LEOC may amend these Rules or issue

further rules or procedures from time to time, as it deems necessary to conduct an open, fair, transparent, and equitable election process while respecting the Constitution as passed by the Membership at the start of the leadership process.

1.2.4 This Election Process shall be determined to have been convened on February 3, 2022.

1.3 Appointment of Officials

1.3.1 LEOC may appoint officials as it determines necessary to conduct the Election Process and may delegate in writing to him, her or them (collectively and individually “Delegated Decision-makers”) the authority to apply or interpret these Rules and any other rules, regulations, guidelines and/or procedures related to this Election Process.

1.3.2 Delegated Decision-makers of LEOC act with the full authority of LEOC and decisions rendered by Delegated Decision-makers shall have the same force and effect as having been issued by LEOC.

1.3.3 All authorities set out herein may be delegated by the individual or committee responsible except for those specifically reserved for subcommittees of LEOC set out in Sections 1.6, 1.7, and 1.8.

1.4 Chief Returning Officer

1.4.1 LEOC shall appoint a CRO.

1.4.2 The CRO shall:

- a) Be responsible for all matters pertaining to the conduct of the vote other than those specifically reserved for LEOC, the LCNC, or the DRAC herein;
- b) Appoint and oversee training for neutral Deputy Returning Officers (DRO) and other election officers as required;
- c) Recommend to LEOC for its approval Leadership Voting Procedures which shall set out (i) the process for postal voting; (ii) the process for the selection of in-person polling stations (if any); (iii) member identification requirements; (iv) the criteria for ordering Candidate names on the ballot; (v) any other clarification that the CRO deems advisable;
- d) Authorize the selection of any in-person polling stations;
- e) Certify the list of names of eligible voters for each Electoral District and provide each in-person polling station with the appropriate list and approved ballots;

- f) Prescribe the form of the ballot; and
- g) Carry out such other duties as may be determined by LEOC from time to time.

1.4.3 All notices to the CRO must be sent to:

Chief Returning Officer
Conservative Party of Canada
1720 – 130 Albert Street
Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 5G4
CRO@conservative.ca

1.5 Deputy Returning Officers

- 1.5.1 The CRO shall appoint Deputy Returning Officer(s) (DRO), as needed, and may appoint Electoral District Returning Officer(s) (EDRO) for any Electoral District where a polling station is authorized.
- 1.5.2 Where more than one polling station is established for any Electoral District as specified in these Rules, the CRO must designate the EDRO who shall be responsible for the conduct of balloting at that Polling station and answer to the EDRO.
- 1.5.3 An EDRO(s) need not reside in the Electoral District and the CRO may appoint the same person as EDRO for more than one Electoral District.

The CRO may revoke or replace any appointment under this section.

1.6 Electoral District Returning Officers

- 1.6.1 The EDRO shall preside over the Election Day process including registration, voting, vote counting, communication with the CRO, security, and the establishment of Voting and Counting areas at the Polling Station for his or her Electoral District.
- 1.6.2 The CRO shall hold training sessions for EDROs.

1.7 Rules Committee

- 1.7.1 LEOC shall appoint a Rules Committee. The Rules Committee shall recommend rules for adoption by LEOC and shall review the rules from time to time, and recommend amendments pursuant to section 1.2.3.
- 1.7.2 The Rules Committee shall liaise with any approved Candidates or their appointed representatives in respect of any amendment requested or proposed to the rules.
- 1.7.3 The Chair of LEOC and the CRO shall be ex-officio members of the Rules Committee, entitled to participate in all deliberations.

1.8 Dispute Resolution Appeals Committee

- 1.8.1 LEOC shall appoint a Dispute Resolution Appeals Committee (DRAC). The DRAC will have the power to set its own rules and procedures.
- 1.8.2 Any notice required to be provided to the DRAC shall be provided in writing to the Chair of the DRAC.
- 1.8.3 DRAC shall have all remedies available to them except for the disqualification of a Candidate. In the event that DRAC is of the opinion that a Candidate should be disqualified, they shall provide a written recommendation to the Chair of LEOC, who shall convene a meeting of LEOC who will accept or reject the recommendation within 4 days of receipt of the recommendation.

1.9 Leadership Candidate Nomination Committee

- 1.9.1 LEOC shall appoint a Leadership Candidate Nomination Committee (LCNC) which may include any LEOC member not serving on the DRAC and shall include the Chair of LEOC.
- 1.9.2 Any notice required to be provided to the LCNC may be provided to the Chair of the LCNC.

1.10 Leadership Debate Committee

- 1.10.1 LEOC shall appoint a Leadership Debate Committee (LDC).
- 1.10.2 The LDC shall make arrangements for sanctioned forums and debates.
- 1.10.3 There shall be at least one debate in the English language and one debate in the French language where attendance will be mandatory for the Candidates.
- 1.10.4 The LDC shall recommend rules of procedure for the debates to be adopted by LEOC.
- 1.10.5 The full compliance deposit as set out in Section 3.4, the first two instalments of the registration fee as set out in Section 3.3, and five hundred (500) member signatures of endorsement as set out in Section 3.2 must be received by the Party before the Candidate may participate in any Party sanctioned Leadership forums or debates.

1.11 Independent Auditor

- 1.11.1 LEOC shall appoint an independent auditor to monitor and verify the Leadership Election process and result.

1.12 Neutrality of Election Officials

- 1.12.1 Prior to their appointment, members of LEOC, the CRO, each DRO, and other Delegated Decision-makers shall sign a neutrality commitment in the form prescribed by LEOC and shall abide by it. The chair(s) of LEOC shall remove and replace anyone who contravenes the neutrality commitment.

2 MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Eligibility to vote

- 2.1.1 To vote in the election process a person must be a member in good standing of the Party as of 11:59 pm Eastern Time (ET) on June 3rd, 2022.
- 2.1.2 The Cut-off Time is determined as follows - Memberships purchased online at www.conservative.ca until 11:59 pm ET on June 3rd, 2022 will be eligible to vote. All other membership submission methods must be received at Conservative Party Headquarters by 5:00 pm ET on June 3rd, 2022 to be eligible to vote.
- 2.1.3 Any membership or membership renewal received after the Cut-off Time will be processed and the member's name will be added to the membership list of the Party, but any such member will not be entered on the National Voters List and will not be eligible to vote in the Election Process.
- 2.1.4 The CRO shall establish a list of all members of the Party in good standing as of 11:59 pm ET on June 3rd, 2022.

2.2 Residency

- 2.2.1 Each member's vote shall count for the Electoral District in which the member's place of residence is located.
- 2.2.2 The National Voters List shall state the Electoral District in which each member is entitled to vote and, unless changed or challenged in accordance with these Rules, the National Voters List shall be determinative of the issue of residence.

2.3 Membership Submissions by Candidates

- 2.3.1 Memberships paid for by way of credit card, must be submitted electronically using the online tools provided by the Party.

- 2.3.2 Candidate membership submissions may only be paid by the individual or family member using a personal form of payment, in accordance with the Conservative Party's Membership By-Law and Elections Canada rules.
- 2.3.3 Any payment by personal cheque must be accompanied by a prescribed membership form and the applicant's cheque made payable to Conservative Fund Canada.

2.4 National Voters List

- 2.4.1 The CRO shall have the absolute discretion to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure the accuracy of the National Voters List. Verification programs may be random or as otherwise determined by the CRO. Verification by the CRO of membership, eligibility to vote, and accuracy of information may take place at any time and there is no obligation to notify any Candidate of verification efforts.
- 2.4.2 The CRO shall send, to each EDRO, a portion of the National Voters List for the applicable Electoral District(s) under their jurisdiction by July 8th, 2022.

2.5 Changes Related to Residence

- 2.5.1 This section applies only to the determination of the Electoral District in which the member is eligible to vote.
- 2.5.2 Any request for a change of a member's Electoral District must be made in writing and received by the CRO along with any supporting documentation no later than 5:00 pm ET on June 15th, 2022.
- 2.5.3 The CRO or their designate shall have the absolute discretion to substitute in a requested alternative Electoral District or leave the member's Electoral District as entered on the National Voters List unchanged.

2.6 Challenges Related to Membership (Eligibility or otherwise)

- 2.6.1 This section applies to the determination of membership in the Party and the eligibility of a member to vote.
- 2.6.2 A Candidate may challenge the eligibility of any individual entered on the membership list on the grounds that any such individual is not a member in good

standing.

- 2.6.3 Any challenge pursuant to this section must be made in writing and received by the CRO along with any supporting documentation no later than seventy-two (72) hours after receipt of the eligible members' list.
- 2.6.4 After the membership cut-off date, the CRO shall provide a Preliminary National Voters List to Candidates.
- 2.6.5 The CRO shall provide a Final National Voters List to Candidates no later than 5:00 PM ET on July 29th, 2022.
- 2.6.6 In the event that a Candidate,
 - a) is not in compliance with the filing requirements of the rules;
 - b) has submitted a compliance deposit below the level set by LEOC; or
 - c) has not complied with a compliance directive from LEOC;that Candidate shall not be entitled to receive updates to the membership list or to receive the Preliminary or Final National Voters List until they return to full compliance.
- 2.6.7 Any challenge pursuant to this section must specify the membership number, name of the member, the date on which the member first appeared on the membership list, and the basis of the challenge.
- 2.6.8 The onus of proof where a challenge has been submitted is on the Candidate who submitted the challenge.
- 2.6.9 The CRO shall investigate the challenge, request further information as deemed necessary, and make a determination.
- 2.6.10 Candidates may appeal the decision of the CRO to the Dispute Resolution Appeals Committee (DRAC) within twenty-four (24) hours of the determination of the CRO along with any supporting documentation. If no appeal is received by the DRAC within 24 hours, the CRO's decision is final.
- 2.6.11 DRAC may request further information from the Candidate that has made the challenge, the member in question, from other Candidates, or any other person. However, DRAC is not obliged to receive representations with respect to any challenge other than the initial submission of the Candidate making the challenge.
- 2.6.12 Decisions of the DRAC are final.

2.6.13 In the event that the CRO determines that a challenge pursuant to these sections has been made frivolously then the LEOC shall be entitled to levy a fine against the compliance deposit of the challenging Candidate.

2.6.14 DRAC may, in its sole discretion, refuse to allow further eligibility challenges and/or appeals of CRO determinations on eligibility challenges from a Candidate who has been determined to have made frivolous challenges.

2.7 Candidates' access to the Membership List and National Voters List

2.7.1 Forthwith after confirmed receipt from a Candidate of the following,

- a) the first and second instalments of the registration fee of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars each;
- b) five hundred (500) endorsement signatures from members, as laid out in Section 3.2;
- c) A maintained compliance deposit balance of one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars; and
- d) the Candidate's written acknowledgment that the Membership List and the National Voters List is confidential and the exclusive property of the Conservative Party of Canada and shall only be used or disclosed as prescribed by the CRO.

the CRO shall provide the following information to that Candidate:

- e) The active membership list of the Party at the time.
- f) The historic membership records of the Conservative Party of Canada back to January 1, 2019.

2.7.2 Each time a new Candidate meets the requirements laid out in section 2.7.1, all other Candidates who are also eligible will receive the most up-to-date active membership list.

3 CANDIDATES

3.1 Requirements of Candidacy

3.1.1 No person shall be eligible to be a Candidate unless the Candidate:

- a) has been a member of the Party for at least six (6) months prior to filing his or her application or has received a written waiver of the six-month requirement from the LCNC; and
- b) Supports the founding principles of the Party as set out in the Constitution.

- 3.1.2 Candidates may apply to enter the race until April 19th, 2022 by submitting the following (collectively referred to as the “Filing Documents”):
- a) The Leadership Contestant Questionnaire (LCQ) is fully and frankly completed in a form prescribed by the LEOC;
 - b) The first instalment of the registration fee, fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), as per Section 3.3;
 - c) A written endorsement of the Party’s Code of Conduct for Volunteers, Campaign Staff, and EDA Staff, in a form prescribed by LEOC, agreeing that it shall apply to the Candidate and to all members of his or her campaign; and
 - d) The completed contact document required under Section 3.5.1.
- 3.1.3 Incomplete filing documents will not be considered.
- 3.1.4 An Applicant may be interviewed by the LCNC within seven (7) days of the completed Application having been received by the Chair of LEOC.
- 3.1.5 The LCNC will review a Candidate Applicant’s application and any other information they see fit to ascertain the suitability of an Applicant.
- 3.1.6 Within fourteen (14) days following the receipt of a Candidate Applicant’s submission of the Filing Documents, upon agreement from the LCNC and provided all prerequisites for certification have been met, the Chair of LEOC shall send, in writing, a Notice of Certification to the Candidate Applicant confirming that the Candidate Applicant has met all prerequisites for seeking the leadership of the Party.
- 3.1.7 If a majority of the LCNC believes that there may be cause to reject an Applicant, the Chair of the LCNC shall immediately inform the LEOC. The LEOC shall render a decision to allow or disallow an Applicant within four (4) days of receiving notice from the LCNC that there may be cause to reject said Applicant.
- 3.1.8 If the Candidate Applicant is disallowed by LEOC, the Chair of LEOC shall return the Filing Documents and all submitted fees to the Candidate Applicant with a notice that their candidacy has been disallowed.
- 3.1.9 The LCNC has the absolute discretion to consider a fresh application from a Candidate who was previously disallowed and who otherwise follows the Rules set out herein.
- 3.1.10 All decisions of the LEOC are final and are not subject to internal appeal or judicial review.
- 3.1.11 To become a Verified Leadership Candidate and appear on the ballot,

each Certified Candidate must submit to the Chair of LEOC, in complete and good order no later than 5:00 PM ET on April 29th, 2022, the following:

- a) All endorsement signatures as set out in Section 3.2;
- b) The full registration fee as set out in Section 3.3; and
- c) The full compliance deposit as set out in Section 3.4.

3.2 Endorsement Signatures

- 3.2.1 To be accepted as a Verified Leadership Candidate, each contestant must submit legible nomination forms in a file and in a format prescribed by the Party. These forms must include the names, signatures, residential addresses, telephone numbers, and Electoral Districts, and may include e-mail addresses, of not less than five hundred (500) members of the Party who must reside in not less than thirty (30) Electoral Districts representing not less than seven (7) different provinces/territories and shall be submitted at the time of application.
- 3.2.2 In order to be eligible to sign the nomination papers, a member must have been active at least twenty-one (21) days prior to submission by the Candidate.

3.3 Registration Fee

- 3.3.1 There will be a leadership Candidate registration fee of two hundred thousand (\$200,000) dollars.
- 3.3.2 The first instalment of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars must be tendered from the following:
 - a) A certified cheque payable to the Conservative Fund Canada from the Candidate's personal bank account (up to a maximum of \$25,000)

In order to be compliant with the Canada Elections Act:

- i. these funds must be from the Candidate Applicant's own funds;
 - ii. the cheque will be deposited if the Candidate Applicant is approved as a Candidate and returned if disallowed;
 - iii. must be treated by the Candidate's Financial Agent as either a personal contribution or a personal loan of the Candidate to their campaign and appropriately reported to Elections Canada; and
- b) A certified cheque, drawn on the Leadership Nomination account, payable to Conservative Fund Canada. In accordance with 4.5.2 leadership Candidates must provide detailed records of all non-directed contributions received to date; or

- c) The Candidate's Official Agent may instruct the Party to apply directed contributions, submitted as cheques or credit card donation forms, towards the registration fee until paid. In this case, the registration deposit will be deemed paid once the applied directed contributions, less the prescribed administrative fees, have reached the required level.
- d) any other method deemed acceptable by the CRO and CFO of Conservative Fund Canada after consultation with Elections Canada.

3.3.3 The second instalment of the registration fee of fifty thousand (\$50,000) dollars is due prior to the leadership Candidate being eligible to receive membership lists or participate in the leadership Candidate forums or debates as per sections 2.7 and 1.10.5.

3.3.4 The registration fee is non-refundable.

3.3.5 Once the Candidate has been approved by the LCNC and certified by the Chair of LEOC, they will be able to accept donations as outlined in Section 4.4.

3.3.6 The remaining one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars is due no later than 5:00 pm ET on April 29th, 2022.

3.4 Compliance Deposit

3.4.1 To ensure compliance with these Rules and good conduct of the Candidates in the Election Process, a compliance deposit of one hundred thousand (\$100,000) dollars will be required.

3.4.2 Payment towards the Compliance Deposit must be paid by one of two methods:

- a) A certified cheque, drawn on the Leadership Nomination account, payable to Conservative Fund Canada; or
- b) The Candidate's Official Agent may instruct the Party to apply all directed contributions towards the Compliance Deposit until paid. In this case, the Compliance Deposit will be deemed paid once the applied directed contributions, have reached the required level.

3.4.3 As per Section 2.7 and 1.10.5 the full compliance deposit as set out in Section 3.4.1 must be deposited with the Party before the Candidate may receive any Membership Lists or participate in any Party sanctioned Leadership Forums or Debates.

3.4.4 The compliance deposit shall be held as security for the Candidate's completion and

submission of all the required financial filings and compliance with these Rules. Following completion of the Election Process and once LEOC has determined that all required financial filings have been made and no amounts remain chargeable against the compliance deposit pursuant to these Rules, the remainder of the compliance deposit which has not been drawn upon will be returned to the Candidate.

3.4.5 A Candidate shall have seventy-two (72) hours from the date of receiving notice of any fine levied by the CRO or by LEOC to replenish the compliance deposit by certified cheque. At any time that a Candidate's compliance deposit is less than the amount set out in Section 3.4.1, that Candidate shall not be entitled to receive any information or lists or participate in the Election Process unless otherwise determined by LEOC.

3.4.6 If a Candidate's compliance deposit is less than the amount set out in Section 3.4.1 at 5:00 PM ET April 29th, 2022 then that person's name shall be struck from the Election Process and their name shall be removed from the ballot unless otherwise determined by LEOC.

3.5 Communications Notice

3.5.1 Candidates must provide, in the form provided by the CRO, a list of their contact information along with the contact information for: (i) their Campaign Manager; (ii) their Financial Agent (as filed with Elections Canada); and (iii) their Candidate Agent. There is no requirement in these Rules that these be separate persons. Candidates must keep this information current at all times.

3.5.2 Communications with a Candidate's Campaign Manager, Financial Agent, or Candidate Agent shall be deemed the same as communicating directly with the Candidate and all communications or notices delivered to any one or combination of these shall be deemed the same as notice having been given to the Candidate.

3.5.3 Any communication received from a Candidate's Campaign Manager, Financial Agent or Candidate Agent shall be deemed the same as communication directly from the Candidate and all communications or notices delivered to any one or combination of these shall be deemed the same as notice having been given by the Candidate.

4 FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

4.1 Spending Limit

4.1.1 Candidates shall not incur expenses exceeding Seven Million (\$7,000,000) Dollars.

4.2 Contributions and Expenses Defined

- 4.2.1 Unless otherwise defined in these Rules, “contribution”, “monetary contribution”, “non-monetary contribution”, “commercial value”, and “volunteer labour” have the same meaning as in the Canada Elections Act.
- 4.2.2 All contributions made by a Candidate to his or her campaign are to be reported as contributions, are non-refundable, and are subject to the administrative fee under Section 4.3.6.
- 4.2.3 In these Rules, “expenses” includes all costs incurred, or non-monetary contribution used, as an incidence of the Candidate’s campaign.
- 4.2.4 Expenses that shall be excluded from both the spending limit and the administrative fee set out in Section 4.3.6 are:
 - a) The registration fee;
 - b) The compliance deposit;
 - c) HST/GST/PST.
- 4.2.5 No Candidate shall accept a contribution from or permit expenses to be paid for or on his or her behalf by a government entity including the Parliament of Canada, an Electoral District Association, riding association, or affiliated entity of any present or previous federal or provincial political party.
- 4.2.6 No Candidate shall accept a contribution from a corporation, union, non-resident individual, or entity as prohibited by the Canada Elections Act.

4.3 Directed Donations

- 4.3.1 All contributions to Candidates are required to be directed through Conservative Fund Canada from March 10, 2022, until January 31st, 2023, or until thirty (30) days after they withdraw or are disqualified from the contest, whichever occurs first.
- 4.3.2 All donations made to Conservative Fund Canada for the benefit of a Candidate made by personal cheque or money order from an individual must be made payable to “Conservative Fund Canada”, with an instruction to direct the donation to a particular leadership candidate in the “Re” or “Memo” line. Credit card forms suitable for this purpose will be provided by Conservative Fund Canada.
- 4.3.3 Any and all donations/contributions are subject to the requirements of the Canada Elections Act. Any breach of the Canada Elections Act, with regard to contributions, by any campaign, may result in a candidate’s disqualification.

- 4.3.4 The Candidate shall prepare transmittals in a form prescribed by the Chief Financial Officer of the Fund.
- 4.3.5 Conservative Fund Canada shall be responsible for the issuance of tax receipts for directed contributions received up to January 31st, 2023. Accordingly, for all contributions directed through the Fund, Conservative Fund Canada will ensure that individual donors are not over their contribution limits.
- 4.3.6 All contributions directed to Conservative Fund Canada (directed contributions) are subject to the administrative fee, which shall be charged as follows:
- (a) 15% on the first \$1 million in contributions per Candidate;
 - (b) 20% on amounts over \$1 million and up to \$3 million in contributions per Candidate; and
 - (c) 25% on all contributions over \$3 million per Candidate.
- 4.3.7 Conservative Fund Canada will issue an electronic funds transfer on a weekly basis for all donations processed up to 4 PM ET on the Friday immediately preceding the transfer date, payable to the Candidate's campaign for the total of monies submitted less:
- a) Any amounts payable or due and owing by the Candidate in accordance with the Rules; and
 - b) The administrative fee as outlined in 4.4.6.
- 4.3.8 The administrative fee shall not be considered an expense counted against the spending cap.

4.4 Regulatory Reporting

- 4.4.1 Candidates shall provide the CRO with all financial reports required by Elections Canada at the time of submission. The accuracy and completeness of the reports shall be attested to by the Financial Agent of the Candidate. The CRO will forward these reports to LEOC and the National Council of the Party.

4.5 Authority to Audit

- 4.5.1 The CRO shall be entitled to perform random audits on the accounts of Candidates throughout the Election Process. The Candidate's Financial Agent shall provide all books and accounts to the CRO or any person that the CRO designates forthwith upon request and failure to comply shall constitute a breach of these Rules.

- 4.5.2 The leadership Candidate shall provide the CRO with detailed records of all received contribution, whether directed contributions or other contributions. These records may be required at the time of submission of the LCQ.

4.6 Non-Compliance

- 4.6.1 Without limiting the generality of any of the foregoing provisions, any action by a Candidate aimed at circumventing or avoiding the application of any section of the Financial Regulations shall be a violation of these provisions and be subject to sanction by the CRO as set out in Section 7.1.
- 4.6.2 For greater certainty, failure to comply with any contribution or expense filing deadlines will be considered a violation of these Rules and shall be subject to sanction by the CRO as set out in Section 7.1.

5 VOTING METHOD

5.1 Voting Details

- 5.1.1 LEOC shall establish the rules outlining the time, locations, and methods of voting.

6 BALLOTING

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 The Election Process as set out in the Constitution shall be conducted on a One-Member, One-Vote Point System where;
- a) Each Electoral District will be allocated 100 points or 1 point per vote cast at that stage, whichever is less;
 - b) Leadership Candidates will be assigned a point total based on their percentage of the vote in each electoral district;
 - c) To win the leadership, a Candidate must obtain a majority of points from across the country; and
 - d) Voting will be by preferential vote (single transferable ballot).

6.2 Calculation of Electoral District Points for Initial Counting Round

- 6.2.1 The total points received by each Candidate for each Electoral District shall be determined based upon the percentage vote that each Candidate receives from the valid ballots cast for that Electoral District or one point per valid vote, whichever is less (spoiled ballots are not valid ballots for the purposes of calculating the percentage received).
- 6.2.2 The total points received by each Candidate for the three-hundred and thirty-eight (338) Electoral Districts shall be calculated and verified by the CRO and verified by the independent auditor and reported to the Chair of LEOC after the close of voting. If one Candidate receives over fifty (50%) percent of the points then that Candidate will be declared the Leader of the Conservative Party of Canada.

6.3 Calculation of Electoral District Points for the Second and Subsequent Counting Rounds

- 6.3.1 If no Candidate receives over fifty (50%) percent of the points after the initial counting round, then the Second Counting Round will commence.
- 6.3.2 The Candidate who received the fewest points nationally in the initial counting round will be dropped and that Candidate's ballots will be reallocated to the second preference with the total points for each Candidate then recalculated in accordance with 6.1.1.
- 6.3.3 The counting round process will continue in the same manner until one Candidate receives over fifty (50%) percent of the points, with the Candidate receiving the lowest number of points being dropped off the ballot in each counting round.

6.4 Validity

- 6.4.1 The vote, calculated and verified by the CRO and verified by the independent auditor (of valid ballots and points received) is final and binding, subject to any recount mandated by the Constitution.

7 DISPUTE MECHANISM

7.1 Non Compliance

- 7.1.1 The CRO may inquire into whether a Candidate has contravened these Rules, any directive, or any law of Canada. Any Candidate or member can request an inquiry.

- 7.1.2 The CRO shall notify the Candidate of its inquiry and will provide the Candidate an opportunity to present a written response that shall be provided within 24 hours. No further notification is required if the inquiry relates to a matter where a request was already made under Section 4.6.1.
- 7.1.3 Following consultation with the Chair of LEOC, if the CRO determines, in their absolute discretion, that a Candidate has contravened these Rules, any directive, or any applicable law, he may do one or more of the following:
- a) Direct the Candidate to take specified actions to achieve compliance and to remedy any consequences of the contravention, with which direction the Candidate must immediately comply;
 - b) Levy a fine and charge any such fine against all or part of the Candidate's deposit;
 - c) Issue a warning;
 - d) Make public the CRO's determination and ruling;
 - e) Advise the appropriate authorities;
 - f) Recommend to LEOC that LEOC disqualify the Candidate, remove his or her name from the ballot; and
 - g) Take such other steps that it deems appropriate.
- 7.1.4 The decisions of the CRO are open to appeal by a Candidate to the DRAC with the exception of Sections 6.2.2 and 6.4.1. Any appeals will follow the timelines and process set out in Section 2.6.10.
- 7.1.5 Decisions of the CRO (other than through an appeal to the DRAC as set out in these Rules), the LEOC, and the DRAC are final and binding on the Candidate and all Party members. Such decisions are not subject to internal appeal or judicial review.
- 7.1.6 At the discretion of LEOC, a Candidate who commences legal action against Conservative Fund Canada, CRO, or LEOC in defiance of section 7.1.5 may, at the discretion of LEOC, forfeit their compliance deposit and may lose entitlement to any future-directed contributions.
- 7.1.7 No failure by the CRO, LEOC, LCNC, DRAC, or any neutral election official to meet any of the deadlines specified in these Rules shall be seen as invalidating the Rules, the Election Process, or any subsequent deadline.