

Senior Liberals' Commission

DRAFT V2 **CHARTER of the SENIOR LIBERALS' COMMISSION** **Of the Liberal Party of Canada**

This Charter is based on the SLC Constitution approved at the Biennial General Meeting of the SLC held May 26, 2016 adopted to meet the requirements of the new LPC Constitution and By-laws.

PREAMBLE: The Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) is an association of members who share a belief in those principles set out in the LPC Constitution as amended from time to time, and who strive to elect candidates to the House of Commons for the purpose of advancing these principles.

The Liberal Party of Canada (LPC) established a Senior Liberals' Commission (SLC) as a constituent body at a National Convention for the purpose of encouraging older Canadians to participate in the political affairs of their country and to provide the LPC with insight and understanding of the interests and needs of Canada's current and future senior citizens.

Older Canadians have contributed to Canada's development, and shared in the benefits throughout their lives. They continue to share their energies, knowledge, and experiences in working toward building a better Canada. It is acknowledged that senior Canadians have different interests and needs as they age, but they also bring certain perspectives on public policy that are reflective of their lifelong experiences, and are of significance to many Canadians. The SLC provides an opportunity to bring these interests and needs to the fore.

The LPC Party Bylaw #1 Commissions, along with several other LPC By-laws and the LPC Constitution, describes the framework within which the SLC is to operate. This SLC Charter describes the principles and key requirements which guide the affairs and operations of the SLC within this framework.

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1. DEFINITIONS

GM	General Meeting of the SLC, a Section or Club;
SGM	Special General Meeting of the SLC;
CFO/Chief Financial Officer	Chief Financial Officer of the LPC;
Day	A calendar day, unless otherwise qualified;
EDA	Electoral District Association, the local association of the LPC within each federal electoral district (formerly known as a riding association);
LPC	Liberal Party of Canada;
National Board	National Board of the LPC as described in Section D of the LPC Constitution;
NPC	National Policy Committee of the LPC;
Permanent Appeals Committee	The Permanent Appeals Committee of the LPC established in accordance with the LPC Constitution;
PTB	Provincial Territorial Board of the LPC responsible for conducting the affairs of the LPC within each province or territory of Canada;
Registered Liberal	A person registered with the LPC in good standing;
SLC	The Senior Liberals’ Commission of the Liberal Party of Canada, including SLC Sections and Clubs;
SLC Section	The SLC organization within each province or territory of Canada through which the SLC operates;
Special Resolution	A resolution presented to the General Meeting to amend this Charter or its appendices.

2. NAME and AFFILIATION of the ORGANIZATION

- 2.1. The name of this organization shall be the Senior Liberals’ Commission of the Liberal Party of Canada, and commonly referred to as the SLC.
- 2.2. The SLC is a constituent body of the Liberal Party of Canada and is bound by the LPC Constitution, By-laws and this SLC Charter.
 - 2.2.1. The SLC is represented at the national level of the LPC by the SLC National Board.
 - 2.2.2. The SLC operates at the provincial/territorial level through SLC Section Boards and SLC Clubs
- 2.3. In the event of a conflict between this Charter and the LPC Constitution or By-laws, the LPC Constitution and By-laws shall have precedence.

3. PURPOSE and OBJECTIVES

3.1. The purpose of the SLC is to engage with and represent and promote the interests and needs of senior Registered Liberals within the LPC, and to encourage senior Registered Liberals to actively participate in its affairs.

3.1.1. The SLC shall respect the regional nature of Canada in its structure and operations.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1. A Registered Liberal who has reached the age of 60 is a member of the SLC.

5. RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES of MEMBERSHIP

5.1. SLC members have the responsibility to promote the purpose and objectives of the SLC, and to participate in its activities.

5.2. SLC members have the right to:

5.2.1. Attend, speak, and vote at all General Meetings of the SLC, their respective Section or Club, in accordance with this Charter.

5.2.2. Be elected to any office of the SLC.

5.2.3. Receive notices from the SLC regarding General Meetings.

5.3. Every member of the SLC has the right to appeal actions or decisions of the SLC National Board, SLC Section or Club Board, or the conduct of a meeting of the SLC National Board, SLC Section or Club Board, pursuant to LPC By-law 9, Procedure for the Permanent Appeals Committee.

6. RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES of the SLC

6.1. The SLC shall develop a current understanding of the political interests and needs of Canada's seniors that fall within the responsibilities of the federal government, and reflect a national perspective of these issues and needs within the LPC.

6.2. The SLC shall establish appropriate procedures to encourage members to participate in identifying seniors' interests and needs, and bring these matters to the attention of the LPC.

6.3. The SLC has the right to submit policy resolutions for each LPC Policy Conference, consistent with the rules established by the NPC.

6.4. The SLC shall, in accordance with Clause 11.1 of the LPC Party By-law #1 Commissions, provide the National Board a comprehensive annual plan for its activities with objectives and measurable goals.

6.5. The SLC has the right to be represented and participate on the National Board and certain of its standing committees.

6.6. The SLC has the right to propose changes to the LPC Constitution.

6.7. The SLC shall encourage and support the establishment of an SLC Section within each province/territory,

6.7.1. In accordance with Clause 4.4 of the LPC Party By-law 8 PTB, each SLC Section has the right to name a voting representative to its PTB.

7. FINANCIAL and RELATED MATTERS

- 7.1. The SLC National Board shall approve and submit an annual consolidated work plan, with estimated financial requirements, for the SLC (national) and the SLC Sections, to LPC for review and approval no later than January 31 of each calendar year.
- 7.2. No commitment or expenditure of funds shall be made by the SLC National Board or its SLC Sections until the final annual consolidated work plan and estimated financial requirements have been approved by LPC.
- 7.3. Requests for expenditure of funds from an SLC Section shall be submitted to the SLC Co-chairs by the Section Chair to ensure they fall within the SLC-approved consolidated work plan and estimated financial requirements for that Section.
- 7.4. SLC Clubs wishing to receive and expense funds shall be required to establish a financial administration relationship with a federal electoral district association according to the provisions in the SLC Club Procedure Manual provided by the SLC.

8. GENERAL MEETINGS and NOTICES

- 8.1. A General Meeting of the SLC shall be held coincident with each Biennial LPC Convention. Business to be conducted at each General Meeting shall include, but not limited to:
 - A report from the Co-chairs describing the activities of the SLC National Board;
 - A report of expenditures by the SLC for the period since the last General Meeting;
 - Reports from other Officers and Committee Chairs as appropriate;
 - A report describing any changes made to the SLC Charter since the last General Meeting;
 - Announcement regarding the slate of candidates standing for election as Officers of the SLC, and, as appropriate, an opportunity for them to present their credentials;
 - Other items of business considered to be important to the affairs and activities of the SLC; and,
 - An opportunity for members to provide feedback on the activities and policies of the SLC including proposed changes to the SLC Charter.
- 8.1.1. Notice of the General Meeting, including a summary of the business to be conducted at the meeting, shall be distributed to SLC members at least 35 days prior to the date of the General Meeting.
- 8.1.2. All members of the SLC have the right to attend, speak, and vote at the General Meeting provided they are registered to attend the associated LPC Biennial Convention.
- 8.1.3. The quorum for the conduct of a General Meeting of the SLC shall be 30 members of the SLC, who need not be registered to attend the LPC Convention.
- 8.2. A Special General Meeting (SGM) may be called between General Meetings by the SLC National Board or at the written request of 100 members for the specific purpose detailed in the agenda. The SGM shall address only the matters detailed in the agenda. The Notice of the SGM shall be consistent with notice requirements of a General Meeting.
- 8.3. Each SLC Section shall hold a General Meeting concurrently with each Biennial PTB Convention or as determined by the LPC National Board or LPC Management Committee

8.4. Each SLC Club shall hold a General Meeting in accordance with the SLC Club Procedure Manual.

9. BOARD MEETINGS and NOTICES

- 9.1. The SLC National Board, the SLC Section Board and SLC Club Boards shall each meet not less than four times per calendar year.
- 9.2. Meetings of the SLC National Board, or an SLC Section or Club Board, may be called on five (5) days' notice by either the Co-chairs or Chair (respectively) or any five voting members of the Board. A meeting agenda shall be circulated at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.
- 9.3. A Special meeting of the SLC National Board, or of an SLC Section or Club board, may be called on ten (10) days' notice by either the Co-chairs or Chair (respectively) or by any five voting members of the Board. A special meeting shall address only the matters set out on the special meeting agenda.
- 9.4. An emergency meeting of the SLC National Board, or of an SLC Section or Club Board, may be called on 72 hours' notice by either the Co-chairs or Chair (respectively) or by any five voting members of the Board. An emergency meeting shall address emergency matters only as set out on an emergency meeting agenda.
- 9.5. The SLC National Board, SLC Section Board or SLC Club Board may meet in person, or by electronic means, but if they meet by electronic means, each member must be able to communicate with each other member.
- 9.6. A simple majority of the voting members must be present, either in person or electronically, for a meeting to be called to order or continue.
- 9.7. A question at any meeting of the SLC National Board, SLC Section Board or SLC Club Board, shall be determined by a majority of votes cast by the voting members present. The meeting Chair shall remain impartial and refrain from voting except when the vote is being recorded or by secret ballot or when a tie vote occurs.
- 9.8. Minutes of all Commission meetings shall be kept and distributed within seven (7) days of the meeting.

10. THE SLC NATIONAL BOARD

- 10.1. The **Officers** of the SLC National Board shall be:
 - 10.1.1. Two Co-chairs, one English speaking and one French speaking;
 - 10.1.2. Secretary/Treasurer;
 - 10.1.3. Five Regional Directors, one representing each of the following regions:
 - Western Region which includes British Columbia, Alberta, Yukon, and NWT;
 - Central West Region which includes Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Nunavut;
 - Ontario Region;
 - Quebec Region; and,
 - Atlantic Region which includes New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI, and Newfoundland and Labrador;
 - 10.1.4. SLC Policy Chair;
 - 10.1.5. SLC Communications Chair;
 - 10.1.6. The immediate Past Co-chairs.
- 10.2. Additional members of the SLC National Board shall include:

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- 10.2.1. One representative of each SLC Section, normally the Section Chair, shall be a member of the SLC National Board;
- 10.3. In the event that an Officer or a Section Chair is unable to attend a meeting, that Officer or Section Chair may appoint a designate for that meeting, and should advise the Chair accordingly in advance of the meeting.

11. ELECTION of OFFICERS

- 11.1. Officers of the SLC National Board shall be elected during each LPC Biennial Convention in accordance with LPC Party By-law 6 and any other rules established by the LPC.
 - 11.1.1. Only senior Registered Liberals of the LPC who are registered to attend the LPC National Convention shall be allowed to vote for the Officers of the SLC National Board.
- 11.2. Senior Registered Liberals supporting the nomination of persons seeking the position of Regional Directors shall be from the specific region.
- 11.3. The SLC may establish a Nominating Committee in accordance with Clause 16.2 to facilitate the identification of members interested in holding an Office on the SLC National Board, and facilitate the meeting of the requirements for nomination of those members.

12. QUALIFICATIONS for OFFICER POSITIONS

- 12.1. An individual seeking any Office of the SLC National Board must be a Registered Liberal and a member of the SLC. Among other requirements, this means that they shall have reached their 60th birthday.
- 12.2. Except as provided in Clause 13.1.3, no member may serve in the same Office for more than two elected terms; an elected term being the period between two consecutive SLC General Meetings.

13. VACANCIES on the NATIONAL BOARD

- 13.1. In the event of an Officer position being vacant, either immediately following an election at a National Convention, or as a result of an elected Officer being unable to complete their term, the SLC National Board shall appoint within 60 days a member of the SLC to fulfill the remainder of the term until the next SLC General Meeting.
 - 13.1.1. In the event that a member is appointed in accordance with Clause 13.1 to fill an Office that remains vacant following the conclusion of a General Meeting, that member shall be considered to have been appointed for a term.
 - 13.1.2. In the event that a member is appointed in accordance with Clause 13.1 to complete the term of an Officer who was elected at a General Meeting and is subsequently unable to complete their term, that member shall be considered to be completing the term of the elected officer and not to be serving a separate term.
 - 13.1.3. Subject to the provisions of 13.1, if a suitable candidate is not found after a diligent search, the SLC National Board may appoint a member of the SLC to a vacant Officer

position regardless of the number of terms that person has previously served in that position.

- 13.2. In the event that a vacancy occurs in one of the Regional Director positions, the appointment of a replacement shall be done in consultation with the Chairs of the provincial/territorial SLCs within that region or in the event where there is no active provincial/territorial SLC, then in consultation with the PTB chairs in that region.

14. RESPONSIBILITIES and POWERS of the SLC NATIONAL BOARD

- 14.1. The SLC National Board is responsible for:
- 14.1.1. Managing the affairs of the SLC between General Meetings in accordance with this Charter, and any direction approved at a General Meeting;
 - 14.1.2. Planning and conducting General Meetings;
 - 14.1.3. Encouraging and assisting the existence of active SLC Sections within each province or territory of Canada;
 - 14.1.4. Ensuring that members of the SLC have opportunities to share their views regarding issues of concern to them and of importance to Canadian voters, and to develop working papers and policy resolutions to reflect these views;
 - 14.1.5. Preparing and submitting an annual activity plan as required under Clause 6.4 of this Charter, and executing the plan to achieve its goals and objectives; and,
 - 14.1.6. Providing support and counsel to each of the provincial/territorial SLC Sections.

15. RESPONSIBILITIES and POWERS of the OFFICERS

- 15.1. General Provisions
- 15.1.1. The holder of any Office in the SLC, in exercising a function of that office, must exercise the care, diligence and skill of a reasonably prudent person.
 - 15.1.2. The SLC National Board may establish policies or guidelines concerning expected standards of conduct for members of the SLC National Board, SLC Section Boards and SLC Club Boards.
 - 15.1.3. Any SLC Executive officer (national, Section or Club) who is, directly or indirectly, interested in a proposed contract or transaction with the LPC on behalf of the SLC must disclose fully and promptly the nature and extent of their interest to each other member of that Executive, and shall not participate in that portion of any meeting that considers that contract or transaction.
 - 15.1.4. An SLC Officer who is absent from three consecutive meetings of the SLC National Board, and who has not named a designate shall be considered to have resigned provided that due consideration is given to mitigating circumstances.
 - Any Officer who has thus resigned shall be notified in writing of their revised status.
 - Upon written request an officer so advised may be reinstated by a simple majority vote at the next regular meeting of the SLC National Board.

15.2 Co-Chairs

- 15.2.1 Shall ensure that the affairs of the SLC are conducted in accordance with this Charter and guidance received from members at a General Meeting, and in a manner that gives consideration to both Francophone and Anglophone perspectives.
- 15.2.2 Shall call meetings of the SLC National Board, the SLC Officers or SLC members as required and ensure that appropriate notice is provided.
- 15.2.3 Shall preside at all meetings of the SLC including membership meetings and National Board meetings.
- 15.2.4 Shall represent the SLC on the National Board of LPC in accordance with the LPC Constitution.
- 15.2.5 Shall be the official spokespersons for the SLC National Board and approve all SLC National Board publicity or public statements.
- 15.2.6 Shall appoint, pursuant to a resolution of the SLC National Board, persons to represent the SLC on any committee of the LPC.
- 15.2.7 Shall guide and support the other members of the SLC National Board to achieve the goals and objectives of the annual work plan.

15.3 Secretary /Treasurer

- 15.3.1 Shall advise and assist the National Board Co-chairs in communications with members of SLC, the SLC National Board and its committees including notices and records of meetings.
- 15.3.2 Shall establish and maintain a system for filing and retrieving notices and agendas of meetings, summary records of all meetings, any correspondence received or sent by the SLC, and other documents of significance to the SLC including the current version of the SLC Charter and all LPC By-laws.
- 15.3.3 Shall, at the request of the Co-chairs, serve notice of meetings to SLC members or members of the SLC National Board as appropriate.
- 15.3.4 Shall prepare a summary record of the discussions, decisions and actions agreed upon during any General meeting of the SLC members or the National Board, and distribute such records to all members of the National Board within seven (7) days of the meeting.
- 15.3.5 Shall advise the LPC regarding the members of the National Board of the SLC following each General Meeting, as well as appointments to LPC Committees, and any changes that occur in these positions or appointments prior to the next General Meeting.
- 15.3.6 Shall deposit a copy of the latest approved version of this SLC Charter and the summary record of each General Meeting with the LPC National Office.
- 15.3.7 Shall maintain, in concert with the LPC Commissions Coordinator and the Chief Agent, an appropriate record of financial transactions of the SLC, and report quarterly to the SLC National Board and to the membership at each General Meeting of the SLC.

15.4 Regional Directors

- 15.4.1 Shall ensure SLC Sections are properly constituted and active within each province and territory within their region.
- 15.4.2 Shall guide and support the Chairs of the SLC Sections within their region to accomplish their goals and objectives.

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- 15.4.3 Shall work with the Chairs of the SLC Sections within their region to encourage the formation of SLC Clubs within each province and territory.
- 15.4.4 Shall consider and approve requests for official recognition of Clubs within their region in accordance with Parts 1 and 2 in Appendix B of this Charter, and inform LPC and SLC accordingly.
- 15.4.5 Shall participate as (non-voting,) ex-officio members of the SLC Section executive committees within their region.

15.5 SLC Policy Chair

- 15.5.1 Shall chair the SLC Standing Policy Committee comprised of SLC Section Policy Chairs or designates.
- 15.5.2 Shall represent the SLC on NPC
- 15.5.3 Shall establish and maintain a mechanism and guidelines in collaboration with SLC Section Policy Chairs, subject to approval by the SLC National Board, for gathering the views of seniors in relation to issues of national concern that may lead to the development of SLC policy that reflects the interests of the membership of the SLC and assists the LPC to achieve its national electoral objectives consistent with the policy development process and guidelines established by LPC and the NPC.
- 15.5.4 Shall submit SLC policy resolutions for consideration at LPC Policy Conferences consistent with the rules established for such Policy Conferences.
- 15.5.5 Shall maintain a record of all identified issues, working papers and policy resolutions developed by the SLC.

15.6 SLC Communications Chair

- 15.6.1 Shall chair the SLC Standing Communications Committee comprised of SLC Section Communication Chairs or designates.
- 15.6.2 Shall represent the SLC on a LPC communications committee as required.
- 15.6.3 Shall develop and implement communications strategies subject to approval by the SLC National Board, including but not limited to, strategies relating to the SLC's national website and Liberalist usage.
- 15.6.4 Shall report as required detailing communications activities of the SLC.

16 COMMITTEES of the SLC

- 16.1 All SLC Committees shall be guided by a Terms of Reference approved by the SLC National Board.
- 16.2 The SLC shall have the following Standing Committees:
 - 16.2.1 Management Committee;
 - 16.2.2 Governance Committee;
 - 16.2.3 Policy Committee;
 - 16.2.4 Communications Committee;
 - 16.2.5 Nominations Committee;
- 16.3 Additional Standing Committees may be established by the SLC National Board.

17 SLC PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL SECTIONS

- 17.1 In accordance with LPC By-law 1 (Commissions), the SLC may choose to establish and recognize one or more Sections to oversee the commission's affairs in a Province, Territory or Region.
- 17.2 A SLC Section, established in accordance with LPC By-law 1, is the principal representative of the SLC within its respective province, territory or region and is expected to develop close working relationships with its PTB and EDAs.
- 17.3 SLC Sections shall be responsible for developing, based on input from their members, an understanding of the political interests and needs of seniors from a regional or national perspective that fall within the influence of the federal government. Interests and needs of a regional perspective shall be brought to the attention of their respective PTB organization to ensure they are recognized and supported at the provincial or territorial level. Interests and needs having a national perspective shall be brought to the attention of the SLC National Board.
- 17.4 SLC Sections shall encourage and assist SLC members to establish clubs at regional or riding levels in accordance with Section 19 and Appendix B of this Charter, and encourage these Clubs to hold no less than four meetings per calendar year.
- 17.5 SLC Sections shall establish contact with SLC Representatives on EDA Boards appointed as detailed in Appendix A of this Charter, and work with them to organize periodic regional meetings (or other mechanisms) at which members can share their views in relation to seniors' interests and needs, and determine what follow-up action is appropriate.
- 17.6 Each SLC Section shall provide support and counsel to the SLC National Board.
- 17.7 Each SLC Section shall have a governing document that is consistent with this Charter, LPC By-law 1 (Commissions) and LPC By-law 8 (PTBs) and includes – but not limited to – the following elements:
 - 17.7.1 The principles set out in the preamble to this Charter defining its purposes and objectives in a manner consistent with Section 3, Section 6, and Clauses 18.1 to 18.4;
 - 17.7.2 A provision that any member of the SLC Section has the right to receive from the SLC Section, newsletters, information, and notices of general meetings and other activities arranged by the SLC Section, the right to attend, speak and vote at any general meeting of the SLC Section, and the right to hold office in the SLC Section;
 - 17.7.3 In accordance with LPC By-law 6 – Elections, a provision for the election of five (5) Officers of the SLC Section (Chair, Vice-chair, Secretary-Treasurer, Policy Chair and Communications Chair) and other voting and non-voting directors as the Section deems necessary;
 - 17.7.4 A provision for an appeal procedure pursuant to Section 5.3 in this Charter;
 - 17.7.5 A provision for the establishment and maintenance of financial records, records of meetings, and correspondence.

18 SLC CLUBS

- 18.1 SLC Sections shall endeavour to establish SLC Clubs in their respective provinces and territories, where practicable, as a critical interface at the regional or riding level, through which members can meet periodically to share fellowship, exchange views on interests, needs, and other SLC related matters. SLC Sections shall determine appropriate follow-up activity.
- 18.2 An SLC Club may be formed when at least seven (7) senior Registered Liberals of the SLC hold and attend a founding meeting, elect its interim executive officers and adopt a temporary procedure manual consistent with the example provided in the SLC's Club Start-up kit.
- 18.3 To be recognized as an SLC Club by the LPC, the Club must have at least seven (7) senior Registered Liberals and make application for recognition in accordance with Parts 1 and 2 in Appendix B of this Charter.
- 18.4 SLC Clubs are expected to hold periodic meetings at which their members exchange views on seniors' interests and needs of local, regional, or national interest; discuss potential responses to these interests and needs; and develop working papers and policy resolutions for consideration within their provincial/territorial SLC Section.
- 18.5 A SLC Club may have associate members to promote the purpose and objectives of the SLC and participate in Club activities on the understanding that such associate members will not be recognized as members of the SLC by LPC, cannot be elected or appointed as members of any SLC (national, Section or Club) board, and are excluded from voting on all Club decisions.
- 18.6 Disputes that may arise from the actions, decisions or conduct of an SLC Club Board may be appealed as provided for in Section 5.3 of this Charter.

19. CHARTER AMENDMENTS

- 19.1 Subject to LPC By-law 1, this SLC Charter may be amended in accordance with the following by a Special Resolution at a General Meeting, or at a Special General Meeting held between General Meetings, provided the following requirements are met:
 - 19.1.1 A copy of each proposed amendment is provided, in writing, to the SLC National Board Co-chairs at least 48 days prior to the General Meeting at which it is to be considered;
 - 19.1.2 Reference is made to consideration of the Special Resolution in the notice of the General Meeting distributed in accordance with Clause 8.1.1;
 - 19.1.3 A copy of the Special Resolution including each proposed amendment is posted on the SLC National Website at least 27 days prior to the General Meeting at which the proposal is to be considered; and;
 - 19.1.4 The resolution is passed by 60% of the members present at the General Meeting;
 - 19.1.5 Amendments to the SLC Charter may be proposed by:
 - 19.1.5.1 The SLC National Board, or
 - 19.1.5.2 Any provincial/territorial SLC Section.

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19.2 A Charter amendment takes effect at the time it is adopted or any later date specified (if any) in the amendment.

20 APPEAL PROCEDURE

Any SLC decision may be appealed pursuant to LPC By-law 9, Procedure for the Permanent Appeals Committee.

21 RECORDS

- 21.1 SLC (national) Executive, SLC Section and Club Board Officers shall maintain and archive records of all meetings, guides, policies, work plans and governing documents for their respective Boards and committees in a safe, secure and confidential manner.
- 21.2 At the end of their term, Officers shall make arrangements to pass on the records and files appropriate to their position to the incoming Officers.

22 RULES of ORDER

22.1 Meetings of the SLC and the SLC National Board shall be conducted in accordance with the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

23 INTERPRETATION

- 23.1 Interpretation of this SLC Charter is the responsibility of:
 - 23.1.1 The members of the SLC present at a General Meeting, subject to reference to the SLC National Board in the event that members are unable to reach agreement. If the SLC National Board is unable to reach agreement on the interpretation, the matter shall be referred to the Permanent Appeals Committee of the LPC whose decision shall be final; or
 - 23.1.2 The SLC National Board between General Meetings, subject to referral to the Permanent Appeals Committee of the LPC if agreement cannot be reached.
- 23.2 Any interpretation of this SLC Charter or decisions arising from this Charter by the SLC members or the SLC National Board must be consistent with the following principles:
 - 23.2.1 A reasonable interpretation in a manner that is consistent with the LPC Constitution and applicable Party By-laws, and the Purpose and Objectives of this SLC Charter;
 - 23.2.2 Provision of a liberal construction to the provisions of this SLC Charter in a manner that is consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Canada Elections Act, and is in the best interests of the LPC and its traditions;
 - 23.2.3 Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa;
 - 23.2.4 Words implying the male gender include the female gender and vice versa;
 - 23.2.5 The power to appoint includes the power to replace;
 - 23.2.6 Wherever any period between two events is expressed as a number of days, the days on which the first and second event occurs are not to be counted.

24 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES – MEETINGS and DOCUMENTATION

- 24.1 National General Meetings shall be conducted in both official languages with all meeting-related materials made available in both official languages before, during and after each General Meeting.
- 24.2 National Board Meetings shall be conducted in a manner respecting the official language requirements of all members with any document requiring a decision by vote of the Board made available in both official languages.
- 24.3 **Documentation:**
 - 24.3.1 This Charter, national governance and guide documents, national brochures and the SLC website shall be published in both official languages.
 - 24.3.2 National Board meeting minutes shall be made available in both official languages.
 - 24.3.3 Content in all documents and other communication materials shall have the same meaning, force and effect in both official languages.
 - 24.3.4 Any dispute over interpretation shall be addressed in accordance with Section 23 of this Charter.

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Appendix A

SLC Representatives

In accordance with LPC By-law 2 (Electoral District Associations), an EDA's Board of directors shall include, as voting members, a representative of each commission recognized in LPC By-law 1 (Commissions).

SLC Representative Appointment

- 1.1 An EDA SLC Representative shall be appointed by the SLC Section in consultation with the EDA.
- 1.2 The SLC Section Executive, by a simple majority vote, may rescind the appointment of an EDA SLC Representative following consultation with the EDA and consideration of the justification for such action
- 1.3 The responsibilities of SLC EDA Representative include the following:
 - Attend and participate in Executive meetings of the EDA,
 - Connect with other Senior Reps in the other EDAs,
 - Participate in Regional and Provincial conference calls as required,
 - Maintain communication between the Section Seniors Commission and the EDA,
 - When and where possible, attend the Seniors Commission General Meeting at the Biennial Convention,
 - Participate in Liberal riding events and other senior events in the community;
 - Assist in developing policy on seniors issues with the Seniors Commission Section and the LPC;
 - Connect and get to know Seniors who are members of the LPC in the EDA as well as Seniors in the EDA who are not members of the Party;
 - Assist with the formation of one or more Seniors Club in the EDA.

Appendix B

SLC Club Requirements

This Appendix details the requirements and associated procedures for a SLC Club to be formally recognized by the SLC and LPC along with suggested best practices for club operation.

Before a SLC Club can apply for recognition by the LPC in accordance with Part 2 below, it must be first established as a SLC Club in accordance with Part 1 below.

1. Establishing a SLC Club

A SLC Club must be declared as formally established by the appropriate SLC Regional Director. To qualify for recognition the Club must:

- 1.1 Have held a founding meeting with at least seven (7) senior Registered Liberals who are 60 years of age or older in attendance, selected its interim executive officers and adopted a temporary Club Procedure Manual consistent with the example provided in the SLC Club Start-up Kit.
- 1.2 Provide a letter to the Chair of the SLC Section for the province or territory in which the Club is being established along with:
 - 1.2.1 Minutes of the founding meeting indicating the date and place of the meeting;
 - 1.2.2 A copy of the Club's temporary Procedure Manual;
 - 1.2.3 The Club membership registry including the names, telephone numbers, mailing and email addresses for Club members - including the interim executive members - attending the founding meeting.
- 1.3 If the application is deemed in order, the SLC Regional Director will advise the Chair of the SLC Section reviewing the application that the SLC Club has been established.
- 1.4 If they agree, the SLC Regional Director will send a letter acknowledging the Club has been formally recognized to the Interim Club Chair with copies to the SLC Section Chair, the LPC Commissions Coordinator, the PTB Chair and the SLC National Co-chairs.

2. Maintaining SLC Club Recognition

- 2.1 Each SLC Section will maintain an archive of founding documents, updated membership registries, regular and general meeting minutes for all recognized SLC Clubs within its province or territory. The SLC Regional Director will contact each SLC Club Chair on an annual basis to confirm the Club's status, preferably on or shortly after the anniversary date of the Club's founding meeting, collect and provide the necessary documentation for ongoing recognition to the SLC Section Chair. Necessary documentation will include:
 - 2.1.1 An updated Club membership registry confirming the Club has at least seven (7) Registered Liberals who are 60 years of age or older, including executive members;
 - 2.1.2 A copy of the Club's current, adopted Procedure Manual;

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- 2.1.3 Minutes of all Club regular and general meetings held since the Club's founding or last general meeting;
- 2.2 If the SLC Regional Director determines that the Club has met the above requirements, the Regional Director will advise the SLC Section Chair that the Club's status is recognized as active.
- 2.3 If the SLC Section Chair and SLC Regional Director agree, the SLC Regional Director will send a letter acknowledging the Club has met the requirements for continued recognition to the Club Chair with copies to the SLC Section Chair, the LPC Commissions Coordinator, the PTB Chair and the SLC National Co-chairs.

3. Best Practices for Club Operation

The Constitution of the LPC provides that only the Party, an EDA or a campaign, is permitted to hold property and money, accept contributions, make expenditures, or enter into any contracts, leases or other arrangements.

A commission club is not permitted to do any of the above in its own name but may do so provided it has established a collaborative working relationship with an affiliated LPC Electoral District Association (EDA).

The SLC recommends each SLC Club establish a collaborative and mutually beneficial working relationship with an EDA. Mutually agreed upon terms may include (but not be limited to) the following arrangements:

- To have all funds collected by the Club deposited with the EDA's treasurer or financial agent to be held in trust for the use of the Club and disbursed from Club funds as the Club directs;
- To have requests for Club funds addressed to the EDA treasurer or financial agent in the form of a Club resolution approved at a regular Club meeting and endorsed (signed) by At least two Club Officers, one being the Club treasurer;
- To have the EDA treasurer or financial agent provide the Club treasurer with regular reports detailing all Club transactions in the form of a balance sheet so that the Club treasurer is prepared, in advance, to provide reports to Club members during regular Club meetings;
- To arrange for the Club's General Meetings to coincide with the EDA's General Meetings as provided for in LPC By-law 6 (Elections) and for giving Notice of General Meetings jointly;
- To take advantage of opportunities for co-sponsorship of events and activities that attract the general public to become more involved with the LPC and become Registered Liberals;
- And to encourage Club members to become active volunteers as members of LPC candidate election campaign teams.