

# Information Sheet on Executive Elections and Resolutions

## *Resolutions and Bonser Ballot Procedure*

### **What has changed?**

In order to ensure all party members are allowed a voice in the decision making of the party. A ballot will be sent out 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting which contains all resolutions that were properly submitted. All members will now have the opportunity to participate equally, regardless of attendance.

### **How does a Bonser Ballot work?**

Resolutions will be listed on the ballot. Each eligible member will have the choice of 'green', 'yellow', and 'red'. Green indicates that the member believes the motion should pass as written and requires no additional explanation or amendments. Red indicates that the motion is without merit and should fail without discussion; yellow indicates that there is merit to the motion but that further information or discussion is warranted including the opportunity to pass amendments.

Resolutions that receive more than 75% red will fail outright and not be discussed at the AGM. Those receiving more than 75% green will pass and become part of party policy with no discussion. All other resolutions will be put on the agenda to be discussed at the meeting.

### **How to Submit a Resolution?**

Resolutions submitted to the party secretary (post or e-mail), Amber Jones, by March 14, 2011 will be included on the bonser ballot.

Amber Jones can be contacted at:

410 Ave E South  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7M 1S3

[ajones@greenparty.ca](mailto:ajones@greenparty.ca) – please include 'resolution' in subject line

### **Who can vote?**

All members of the Green Party of Saskatchewan can vote.

### **When must ballots be received?**

Members attending the convention can join/renew at convention and submit bonser ballots at that point. Members not able to attend must submit ballots five days prior to the convention (May 9, 2010). Membership forms (and funds) received with the bonser ballot will be accepted.

### **How are the ballots counted?**

A committee of two members will be appointed by the executive to oversee opening and counting to ensure secrecy.

### **Who will get a ballot?**

A package will be mailed out six weeks before the convention to all current and lapsed members. To request a package please contact the secretary at [ajones@greenparty.ca](mailto:ajones@greenparty.ca).

Please refer to the resolution passed at the 2009 AGM for more information:

10.1 Participation in Annual Convention will consist of in-person attendance at the meeting, whose timing is governed by Article 5 of these Bylaws, and asynchronous participation via mail-in ballots as provided for in other articles in these Bylaws.

Insert the following clauses prior to the current clause 10.9, (which shall be renumbered as 10.10):

10.9 The Resolutions and Bylaws Committee shall prepare a "Bonser" ballot listing all resolutions published as per Article 10.7, and mail it at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Convention to everyone who is a member in good standing of the Party, or has had their membership lapse within the last year, at that time.

10.9.1 The Bonser ballot will show the following choices for each resolution:

- red, indicating opposition to the resolution;
- yellow, meaning "I wish to learn more about this resolution" or "I do not like this resolution's present wording, but I think the concept has merit"
- green, indicating support of the resolution;

10.9.2 Included with the ballot will be:

- a separate envelope, into which the recipient will place the secret ballot, before sealing the envelope;
- a membership renewal form, with the individual's name pre-printed, which will be returned with the sealed ballot envelope. The form must be completed if the individual would not otherwise be a member in good standing on the date set for Convention.

10.9.3 Members attending Convention, including those who join at Convention, who have not mailed in a ballot, may receive a ballot at Convention, which must be filled in and sealed and returned to the Ballot Committee by a time designated by the meeting facilitator.

10.9.4 A Ballot Committee of two members will be appointed by the Executive, to verify membership, open the ballots (maintaining secrecy) and tally the results. Any member in good standing has the option of scrutineering the count. Membership verification can be done for all mail-in ballots before the Convention. Ballot opening and counting must occur at the Convention itself for members submitting ballots in person.

Add the following clause:

10.11 Voting on resolutions for which prior notice has been given will take place as follows:

- "Bonser" ballot results will be announced by the Ballot Committee, using the colour-coded categories defined in Article 10.9.1.
- If 75% or more of the votes are green, the resolution is accepted, without further discussion at Convention, and without subsequent ratification.
- If 75% of the votes are red, the resolution will fail, without further discussion at Convention, and without subsequent ratification.
- If neither green nor red has 75% of the votes, the resolution will be discussed and voted on at Convention.

### Exec#2 Mail-In Ratification for Resolutions

BE IT RESOLVED that the following clause be added to the GPS Bylaws:

10.12 The Executive shall mail out a secret ratification ballot to all persons who were members in good standing at the time of the Annual Convention, for all policy resolutions passed at Convention, excluding those passed by a 75% green vote on the Bonser ballots. Ratification ballots must be mailed out within 10 days of Convention, and must be received back at the GPS Office within 60 days of convention. If 50% plus one of the ratification votes support the resolution, it is deemed to be accepted; otherwise it is defeated. Any member in good standing has the option of scrutineering the count.

# Executive Elections

## What has changed?

All members of the party will now be able to vote for the members of the executive regardless of attendance at the AGM. Nominations must be received by March 14, 2011, two months prior to the AGM.

## Will nominations be accepted from the floor?

Nominations will only be received from the floor if no nominations for a particular position were received by the March 8 deadline.

## How to nominate?

Any person wishing to be nominated for a position on the provincial executive must have three members in good standing send a letter (e-mail or post) supporting the nomination to the party president, Tobi-Dawne Smith, two months prior to the AGM. Tobi-Dawne can be reached at:

1733 Ave F North  
Saskatoon, SK  
S7L 1Y4

[saskgreen@puregreenius.ca](mailto:saskgreen@puregreenius.ca) – include "Executive Nomination" in subject line

## Who can vote?

All members of the Green Party of Saskatchewan can vote.

## When must ballots be received?

Members attending the convention can join/renew at convention and vote at the convention (they do not need to

submit a ballot). Ballots from members not able to attend, must be received by the date of the convention, these can be mailed or hand-delivered. Membership forms (and funds) received with the ballot will be accepted.

## How are the ballots counted?

As at past AGM's, a committee will be struck at the AGM to count ballots and ensure secrecy.

## Who will get a ballot?

A package will be mailed out 6 weeks before the convention to all current and lapsed members. This package will include nominee's names and biographies, along with a ballot. To request a package please contact the secretary at [ajones@greenparty.ca](mailto:ajones@greenparty.ca).

For more information please refer to the resolution past at last year's AGM:

Be it resolved that by-law 8.2 be amended as follows:

8.2 - All Provincial Executive officers shall be elected by combination of secret mail in ballot and vote at the Annual Convention on the last day of the Annual Convention.

8.2.1– Any member not in attendance at the Annual Convention may mail in their ballot, or have their ballot hand delivered to the Convention.

8.2.2 - Any mailed in ballot must be received by the Party President prior to the Annual Convention.

8.2.3 - Ballots must be sent out 6 weeks prior to the Annual Convention along with the list of candidates

Be It Further Resolved that by-law 8.3 be amended as follows:

8.3 The nomination of the Provincial executive officers will be as follows:

8.3.1 All candidates for any provincial executive position must be nominated in writing by 3 members in good standing.

8.3.2 All nominations must be received by the Party President 2 months prior to the date of the election.

8.3.3 If no candidate is nominated 2 months prior to the election, the position may be filled by nominations from the floor during the AGM.

8.3.4 If only one candidate is nominated for a position and "None of the Above" receives the majority of votes, new candidates may be nominated from the floor and a second election will occur.

8.3.5 - All candidates must be presented to the general membership at least 6 weeks before the election.

Be It Further Resolved that by-laws 8.6 and 8.7 be removed.

## B06 Election Candidates

Be it resolved that the following be added to section 4 of the Bylaws:

4.4 Candidates must be members in good standing of the Green Party of Saskatchewan.

## Take Action, Make change, run for the Party executive

We are now seeking nominations for the party executive. Members of the executive influence the direction of the party throughout the year. This is your chance to create change, to inspire political action, and make a difference.

The following executive positions are up for election:

**Deputy Leader**

**Vice President**

**Secretary**

**Treasurer/Chief Official Agent**

**Member-At-Large – three positions**

*A resolution was passed at last year's AGM that the Party Leader and President serve two-year terms. Therefore their positions are not up for election.*

### Deputy Leader

- To support the Leader and to act as Party spokesperson in her absence

### Vice-President

- To support the President in his/her duties.
- To be the acting President when the President is unable to fulfill his/her duties for a short period of time.

### Secretary

- To record minutes of each Executive, Annual, and Special Meeting of the Green Party of Saskatchewan.

### Treasurer/Chief Official Agent

- To be responsible for the Provincial Accounts of the Green Party of Saskatchewan
- To be the main contact of the Green Party of Saskatchewan with Elections Saskatchewan
- To ensure the Green Party of Saskatchewan fulfills its obligations as set out in the Saskatchewan Elections Act.

### Members at Large

- To be responsible to the executive and the membership and to provide assistance as needed.