



# **Convention 2016 Package**

**Delta City Centre Hotel, Ottawa, ON**

**August 5 — 7, 2016**

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## **AGENDA**

### **Friday, August 5th**

1:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Convention Registration
3:30 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Orientation</b> Understanding the process for new Convention goers. Location: Richelieu Room <i>Note: Closed to media.</i>
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Official Opening of General Meeting</b> Chair: Ken Melamed Co-Chair: Patricia Farnese
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	<i>Break.</i>
7:00 PM - 8:45 PM	<b>Opening Ceremonies</b> Welcoming speeches from Green Party Leader Elizabeth May, Green Party of Ontario Leader Mike Schreiner, European Green Party MP Évelyne Huytebroeck, and Federal Council President Ken Melamed. Keynote: New Zealand Green Party Co-Leader James Shaw.
9:00 PM - 11:00 PM	<b>Heroes and Heartaches: Stories from the Campaign Trail</b> An open-mic style session for all to share their best and worst stories from the election. Let's laugh and cry together as we relive the trials and tribulations of 2015 Location: Panorama Penthouse <i>Note: Closed to media and observers.</i>

### **Saturday, August 6th**

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Convention Registration
8:00 AM - 9:25 AM	<b>Member's Session</b> An opportunity for all GPC members to gather, ask questions and share comments with the leadership and staff. Emily McMillan, Executive Director, will start the session with a brief presentation. Location: Richelieu Room. <i>Note: Closed to media and observers.</i>
9:30 AM - 10:25 AM	<b>Continuation of General Meeting</b>



10:25 AM - 10:30 AM	<i>Movement from International Ballroom to workshops. Breakfast refreshments available in workshop foyer.</i>
10:30 AM - 11:25 AM	<b>Resolutions/Issue Workshops</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy Resolutions Workshops (Capitale and Chaudiere).</li> <li>2. Constitutional &amp; Directives Resolutions Workshop (Frontenac).</li> <li>3. Current Indigenous Issues in Canada: Lorraine Rekmans, Dawn Lavell-Harvard (Richelieu).</li> <li>4. A Lego Presentation on Proportional Representation: Daniel Green (en francais, Joliet).</li> </ol>
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Speaker: Bill McKibben</b> Introduced by: Glenn Sollitt
12:00 PM - 12:15 PM	<i>Lunch served in International Ballroom.</i>
12:15 PM - 12:55 PM	<b>Panel Discussion: Getting Elected as a Green</b> Speakers: Peter Bevan-Baker, David Coon, Adam Olsen Moderated by: Holly Dressel
1:00 PM - 1:55 PM	<b>Training &amp; Discussion Workshops</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Green Engagement and Social Media — Presented by Jeff Braunstein and Thomas Teuwen (Joliet).</li> <li>2. Fairness = Proportional Representation — Presented by Anna Keenan, Paul Gregory, and Bruce Hyer (Frontenac).</li> <li>3. Green Community Engagement — Presented by Sonia Theroux (Richelieu).</li> <li>4. Organizing at the Municipal Level — Presented by Steve Kisby and Jacquie Miller (Capitale).</li> <li>5. Energy East Strategy Session — Presented by Daniel Green (Chaudiere).</li> </ol>
1:55 PM - 2:00 PM	<i>Movement from workshops to International Ballroom. Afternoon refreshments available in Ballroom foyer.</i>

2:00 PM - 2:55 PM	<b>Table Talks</b> Interactive, roundtable discussion sessions that allow participants to share experiences, solve problems, and glean practical advice. These are the epitome of peer-to-peer learning. Each table will have key subject matter experts to lead the conversation and all attendees are encouraged to move around the room and to ask plenty of questions. Topics will include ideas like campaign planning, green media action, starting an EDA, fundraising, carbon fee and dividend and others! <i>Note: Closed to media.</i>
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Plenary Session</b>
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Reflections on the Election and the Greens' Path Forward</b> Speaker: Frank Graves Introduced by: Janice Harvey
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	<i>Break.</i>
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Gala Reception &amp; Dinner</b> Hosted by Deputy Leaders Daniel Green and Bruce Hyer Featuring: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Your Party, Your Vision, Your Action: Inspiration from across Canada. A series of Green Party speakers from coast to coast to coast who will share what inspires and motivates them about being part of the Green movement in Canada</li> <li>2. Standing against the TPP: International Trade Critic Paul Manly</li> <li>3. Keynote: Green Party Leader Elizabeth May</li> </ol>
9:00 PM - 12:00 AM	<i>Mingling, SGI &amp; GPO Hospitality Suite.</i>

## Sunday, August 7th

7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Interfaith Service (Joliet). Yoga on the Hill (Parliament Hill lawn).
8:30 AM - 10:00 AM	<b>Let's Get Working on Proportional Representation</b> Facilitator: Anna Keenan A round table session for Green Party members to create an action plan for moving forward together in communities across the country. <i>Note: Closed to media and observers.</i>

10:15 AM - 11:45 AM	<b>Final Plenary Session</b>
11:45 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Closing and Adjournment</b>
12:30 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Federal Council Meeting</b> Members in good standing welcome as observers (Richelieu). <i>Note: Closed to media.</i>

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



The carousel of the election cycle, to which we are inevitably bound, brings us here to Ottawa. Our next bi-annual meeting takes place under the pending tension of the next election. This weekend will be more relaxed, a time to reflect, and re-set our course in the wake of the 2015 Election. Let's take this time to get to know each other, share ideas, and re-commit to taking our party to new heights. Welcome to all of you who could make it. And to the many who wished to be here but could not: be assured that you are missed, and not forgotten.

After a tumultuous campaign and disappointing result, we gather to renew our resolve. Though not without many positive outcomes, the election resulted in a Parliament desperately missing the strong cadre of Green Party MPs that it needs.

Electing more Greens is crucial. It is what we are working towards. It is how we can rescue our democracy and give Canadians a government that works for them, for social justice, and for the ecological diversity which is our common heritage.

But sometimes, the What and the How seem to dominate our agenda to such a degree that we lose sight of our Why. Why do we work so hard? Why are we so passionate?

For me it is a vision of a Canada that works for all Canadians. The Global Green Values resonate strongly with my own, and I am heartened that we are part of a global community dedicated to building a better future for everyone.

We are the only party that has not sold out to backroom strategists. We are the most progressive party and the most democratic. We champion the bold policies that can build a better, more sustainable future for everyone, not only during election campaigns but in between elections as we continue to build a community of engaged citizens. Our values do resonate strongly with Canadians and there is no question that our presence is having a significant impact in the Canadian political scene. A better world is ours for the shaping, and we are called to work for this greater good. We must not rest in the face of the challenge.

Why are YOU a committed Green? Take time over this weekend to reflect and share how you feel. Let this be a celebration of our community, united in our Green Values, for a Canada that works. Together.

Have a great convention.

Ken Melamed  
President, Federal Council

## LEADER'S WELCOME



To our growing Green family,

Welcome to Ottawa for our Bi-annual Convention. Our 2016 Convention marks nearly ten years since I was elected leader. It is hard to believe it has been almost a decade. It has been difficult to deal with the profound disappointment in not electing more Green MPs last October. But when I reflect on the last ten years, the progress has been remarkable.

I remember that when I announced my bid for leadership, the Green Party had 3,000 members. Today, we have over 20,000 members. In the leadership race, my main competitor argued we needed a decade of building before raising expectations that we could elect a Green candidate to Parliament. There were some who thought that was overly optimistic, maintaining that no Green could be elected under our antiquated First Past the Post voting system.

Now we know it took five years, not ten, to elect one Green MP, and that win helped the provincial parties in British Columbia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to elect Green MLAs. Party leaders Andrew Weaver, David Coon and Peter Bevan-Baker have raised the bar in their own legislatures, as I have tried to do in Parliament.

This year gives us our best hope of changing the voting system to allow fair voting; to end the strategic voting virus that thwarted our hopes in the last election.

This year gives us our best hope to achieve aggressive and meaningful climate action.

This year gives us a chance to defeat yet another contract to enhance corporate rule masquerading as a free trade deal.

Greens are now an accepted part of the fabric of Canadian political life. As we gather here over the next few days, we will share those heartaches from strong campaigns for impressive candidates that just could not persuade the voters to reject fear and vote for what they really wanted. We will rebuild and plan our way forward for making those key changes that inspire us to not just a political party, but also a movement that inspires more Canadians to join us.

Thank you for your deep commitment to our shared vision. Thank you for participating in the 2016 Green Party Convention.

Elizabeth May, O.C.  
Member of Parliament, Saanich-Gulf Islands  
Leader, Green Party of Canada

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S WELCOME



On behalf of the Green Party of Canada and our wonderful staff, welcome to Ottawa! This is an exciting time for our Party in a post-election period, and we're privileged that you took the time out of your busy schedules to join us. With a new Prime Minister and government in the halls of power, we've heard a lot of big promises to uphold Green values – promises like tackling climate change, shifting to a green economy and bringing in electoral reform, just to name a few. Promises that were included in the GPC platform, and which remain priorities for our party.

We're all keen to see these promises become reality, and to see more Green MPs under an electoral system of proportional representation in 2019. Elizabeth May continues to work tirelessly as Leader across party lines, and we remain so grateful to our dedicated supporters across the country who offer their time, donations and kind words to keep us moving forward. Green voices remain so critical on the national stage: we are champions of what is possible for the environment, the economy and for Canada. As we continue to take on so many important issues, we need a strong, united team more than ever.

Be sure to catch our keynote speaker, New Zealand MP and Green Co-Leader James Shaw, as he talks about his country's progressive shift to proportional representation; pollster Frank Graves as he shares insight on what Canadians really think; and provincial Green MLAs David Coon and Peter Bevan-Baker as they inspire us with tales of their electoral success. Find our complete list of speakers online at [greenparty.ca/convention](http://greenparty.ca/convention).

We hope this weekend serves as a time to reflect, recharge, and re-inspire — so that we are ready to take on the tasks that lie ahead. Following Convention, we'll be following up to hear more about your thoughts on the future of the Green Party of Canada. In the meantime, have a great Convention and enjoy this time of fellowship with the Green family!

Emily McMillan  
Executive Director, Green Party of Canada

## **Policy Resolutions**

### **Sunny Ways: Building Solar Infrastructure**

**Code:** G16-P001

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Brian Smallshaw

#### **Preamble**

WHEREAS there is an urgent need to reduce carbon emissions to limit the damage caused by climate change, and

WHEREAS Canada made a commitment at COP21 in Paris to reduce its carbon emissions, and

WHEREAS there is a need to expand our production of electricity to meet the increased demand that will result from the decarbonization of our transportation, and

WHEREAS the cost of photovoltaic power is becoming increasingly competitive with other means of electrical power generation, therefore

#### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Canadian government will use the Bank of Canada to establish a ten billion dollar fund for distribution to each of the provinces and territories on a per capita basis for the purpose of constructing photovoltaic power generation in each of the provinces. The funds will be distributed with the following terms:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The money is to be spent over the next two years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Photovoltaic panels with greater than 75% of their manufacturing taking place in Canada will have 25% of their cost subsidized by the program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED The solar installations will be owned by a crown corporation to be established in each province, and the electricity generated sold to the provinces' electrical utilities at a price of 5 cents per kilowatt hour. Electricity not purchased by the utilities will be sold on the open market.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Profits earned by each of these crown corporations will be repaid to the Bank of Canada up to the amount originally received (see below). After the full amount is paid back, earned income beyond what is necessary to maintain infrastructure will be used to further expand generating capacity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED At the conclusion of the program, the cost per kilowatt-hour of the generating capacity in each of the provinces will be calculated for the purposes of allocating funds in the subsequent two-year phase of the program. The province with the most efficient production of PV electricity will be granted an extra billion dollars in the next phase of the program, and the province with the next most efficient production will be granted a half-billion dollar bonus. The remaining funds will then be distributed as previously, on a per-capita basis to each of the remaining provinces and territories.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Funding for this program will come from the Bank of Canada, considered as an interest-free loan to each of the provinces.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P001>

**Sponsors:** Jacquie Miller, Cathy Lenihan, Ann Eastman, Lois Eaton, Elizabeth May, Gary Gagné, Bob Mackie, Rumiko Kanesaka, Steve Abbott, Romy Tittel, Marcelle Roy, Jordan Bober, Dave Charles, Cary Ennis, Sue Earle, Joanne Montrichard, Sarah Potts, Tom Mitchell, Chris Dixon, Adam Olsen, Curt Fireston, Andrea Marx, Glenn Sollitt, Jan Slakov, Kjell Liem, Margarite Sanchez

## Background

This resolution is based on the conviction that we need massive, rapid action to reduce our carbon emissions to prevent catastrophic damage from climate change, and that small-scale piecemeal efforts will not be enough to achieve what is required. Specifically, it seeks the creation of large solar photovoltaic power generation farms across Canada to replace existing carbon-intensive electrical generation, and to expand our electrical generation capacity to meet the growing demand that will come from decarbonizing our transportation fleet.

It will be asked why PV power generation only? Certainly there are many other alternative power generation technologies with great potential, but all of them either have issues that prevent their rapid deployment, or are not yet sufficiently developed to permit them to be build out on a large scale over a short time frame. Wind turbines, for example, though well developed and widely used, have siting issues that make their installation a longer-term process. Though this resolution calls for the creation of solar PV farms, it certainly doesn't preclude other initiatives to develop and deploy other alternative energy generation systems.

The resolution includes a provision to reward purchases of Canadian-made solar panels with an extra subsidy. The hope is that this project will encourage the creation of some large manufacturing facilities for solar panels in Canada to replace fossil fuel-based industries, similar to this one in Buffalo NY:

<http://www.treehugger.com/solar-technology/12-million-sq-ft-solar-gigafa...>

The program calls for the creation of a crown corporation in each province to oversee the building and management of the solar farms. This approach was taken to allow for flexibility in how the projects are managed in each province; for example, in some places it may be preferred to fund local co-op energy programs, in others, rooftop solar. The creation of new crown corporations was preferred over providing funding to existing power companies in each province for several reasons: in some provinces there is more than one company operating; a project of this kind might be beyond their mandate; and it is preferred to have an entity devoted solely to this effort. (Love it). The power generated will be sold at a competitive price on the electricity market. A price of 5 cents per KWh was specified, but it need not be fixed at that and if it turns out a different price is better, this can be changed. Money earned through electricity sales will be credited against the original loan until it is paid off, after which all revenue beyond what is necessary for the maintenance and upkeep of the system will be paid into each province's general revenue. It might be asked why not use this revenue to further expand the systems, and this option could also be explored.



It is envisaged that there will be subsequent phases to this program after the initial two-year term, and an incentive system has been built in to encourage the most efficient use of funding: provinces producing the power at the lowest cost per KWh will receive extra funding in subsequent phases of the program. Bonuses for \$1 billion and \$0.5 billion for the two most efficient producers have been specified in this draft for discussion purposes, but those numbers should not be considered final.

Some may ask why the Bank of Canada should be used for financing a project such as this. The payback period for a solar PV farm is likely to be quite long and were the project to be financed with a typical bond issue, the interest charges over the lifetime of the project would increase its costs substantially, possibly by as much as 50%. Given the long payback period and very low risk involved, the Bank of Canada is particularly well suited for financing this project, as it has done for others in the past. Because the Bank of Canada Act stipulates that only short-term loans to the Government of Canada are permitted, it might be preferable to have a special government bond issue that will be purchased by the Bank of Canada, adding to the approximately \$90 billion in government securities that it currently holds.

Small-scale, piecemeal efforts will not be enough to forestall disaster – we need a plan to act fast and act big to decarbonize our power generation.

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## **Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax**

**Code:** G16-P002

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Brian Smallshaw

### **Preamble**

Whereas Canada faces substantially increased health care costs as a result of the rising incidence of diabetes, and

Whereas the country also faces an obesity epidemic as reported by a recent Senate Committee report, for which sugar-sweetened drinks play a substantial role, and

Whereas there is substantial evidence that the introduction of a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in Mexico in 2014 has led to a substantial decrease in the consumption of these drinks, therefore

### **Operative**

Be it resolved that a Green government will introduce a tax on sugar-sweetened (including those sweetened with high fructose corn syrup) and artificially sweetened drinks at a high enough level to discourage their consumption.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P002>

## Sponsors

Bob MacKie, Dona MacKie, Elizabeth May, Jacquie Miller, Dave Charles, Lois Eaton, Romy Tittel, Gary Gagné, Jordan Bober, Marcelle Roy, Tom Mitchell, Sharon Forrester, Stefan Klietsch, Paul Kompass, Chris Dixon, Rumiko Kanesaka, Saul Bottcher, Adam Olsen, Sue Earle, Curt Firestone, E. Lisbeth, Carolyn Herbert, Jan Slakov, Kjell Liem, Margarite Sanchez

## Background

Canada is currently facing twin epidemics of diabetes and obesity that have a high cost to our economy and an incalculable human cost. While there are a number of lifestyle and nutritional causes for these problems, the high and growing consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages is a significant contributor to both of them. Placing a tax on these beverages to discourage consumption, though not a 'silver bullet', could help to moderate the economic and human costs of diabetes and obesity.

According to the Canadian Diabetes Association, the prevalence of diabetes has almost doubled since the year 2000, and is expected to increase by another 1.5 million people by the year 2020. It was estimated to have put an \$11.7 billion burden on our economy in 2010.

<https://www.diabetes.ca/CDA/media/documents/publications-and-newsletters...>

A recent Senate committee convened to investigate the obesity problem in Canada found that each year between 48,000 and 66,000 Canadians die from conditions linked to excess weight, that nearly two-thirds of adults and one-third of children are obese or overweight, and that obesity costs our country between \$4.6 and \$7.1 billion annually in health care and lost productivity.

In one of its four recommendations, the committee called for a study of a tax on sugar- and artificially-sweetened beverages.

[http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/sen/committee/421/SOCI/Reports/2016-02-25\\_...](http://www.parl.gc.ca/content/sen/committee/421/SOCI/Reports/2016-02-25_...)

Experiences in other countries suggest that a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages can be effective in reducing consumption. Mexico, where an exploding obesity problem that coincided with sharply increased levels of consumption, implemented a one-peso-per-litre soda tax (about 10% of the pre-tax price) on sweetened beverages at the beginning of 2014. By the end of the year the tax had yielded 1.9 billion pesos in revenue and sales were down 17%. How much this reduced consumption will affect health outcomes is more difficult to determine, but it is likely to be significant.

<http://www.theguardian.com/news/2015/nov/03/obese-soda-sugar-tax-mexico>

## **Tug-Barge Petroleum Tankers**

**Code:** G16-P003

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Brian Smallshaw & Ingmar Lee

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS more than half a million deadweight tons of petroleum products are being shipped from Washington state to Alaska via the 'protected' waters of the British Columbia Inside Passage every year;

WHEREAS these tug-barge combined units carry up to 20,000 deadweight tons of petroleum products up the entire BC coast at least once every 10 days;

WHEREAS this traffic employs not a single Canadian, nor a single Canadian pilot, nor master mariner, nor even a deckhand, nor pays any fee, tariff or dividend to the Canadian public, nor even stops in Canada, except occasionally to load petroleum products at the Kinder Morgan or Chevron spigot in Vancouver;

WHEREAS at least six tugs, all involved in towing barges sank off the BC coast last year, and this year already there have been at least two serious groundings associated with tug/barge units;

WHEREAS all other petroleum product tankers that traverse the British Columbia coast must travel at least 20 miles offshore in order to increase the time available for a rescue response in the event of disaster;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that American tug-barge petroleum traffic be barred from traveling up and down the 'protected' waters of the British Columbia Inside Passage, and be required to travel, by suitable, seaworthy double-hulled vessels safely 20 miles off the BC coast, just as all the other petroleum tanker traffic must do.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P003>

### **Sponsors**

Steve Abbot, Glenn Sollitt, Mark Bigland-Pritchard, Rumiko Kanesaka, Lois Eaton, Elizabeth May, Dona MacKie, Mike Nestor, Jacquie Miller, Chris Dixon, Ed Wilson, Don Munroe, Liberty Bradshaw, Bonnie North, Jordan Bober, Stefan Klietsch, E. Lisbeth, Bob MacKie, Simon de Weerd, Wally Kunz, Sarah Hutchinson, Vancouver Centre EDA, Annie Humphries-Loutit, Jan Slakov, Andrew Park, Adam Olsen, Sunshine Goldsberry, Kjell Liem, Colin Griffiths, Margarite Sanchez

## Background

The combined, mated vessels which are the subject of this resolution consist of 'Articulated Tug/Barge' (ATB) units, as well as regular Tug and Tow units. There are at least a dozen of these vessels carrying various refined and heavy oil products plying the British Columbia coast, most of which are owned and operated by the Texas-based Kirby Corporation. Although Alaska exports large amounts of crude petroleum by tankers, there are no refineries there, so these tug/barge units travel north, loaded, to serve the state's domestic market.

These barges generally carry 10,000 deadweight ton loads (dwt) but occasionally up to 20,000 dwt loads are carried, and by Transport Canada regulations they are allowed to carry as much as 40,000 dwt north, through Seymour Narrows. (Approximately 40,000 dwt of oil spilled out of the Exxon Valdez.) There is, on average, one loaded tug barge traveling north every 10 days up the BC Inside Passage, the entire length of the BC coastline, for a total of at least 500,000 deadweight tons annually.

This substantial traffic has largely 'flown under the radar'. This may be because the vessels are comparatively smaller than more typical oil tankers, yet the inevitable accident will be catastrophic to the British Columbia coast. They travel the Inside Passage of British Columbia's coast which is often described as 'protected' because it is sheltered from the open Pacific, yet there are a great many hazards and offshore conditions along this route, including strong tidal flows, reefs and shoals. Were a tug to become disabled for any reason, the barge that it is pushing could easily end up on the rocks and spilling its contents.

It should be noted that these tug-barges operate by 'special waiver' issued by BC's Chief Pilot, Captain Kevin Obermeyer, CEO of the Pacific Pilotage Authority which oversees all shipping on Canada's Pacific coast. These waivers exempt this traffic from Transport Canada regulations which otherwise require two Canadian pilots on the bridge, and exempts them from the requirement of navigating with escort tugs in Port Metro Vancouver. It also exempts them from restrictions which otherwise bar petroleum tankers from traveling anywhere other than via Juan de Fuca Strait, and from there, 20 miles offshore of the BC coast. They travel without Canadian pilots and without any basic First Nations protocol permission, and Canada derives no benefits at all in terms of employment or business from it, while accepting considerable risk.

We offer a reasonable alternative to this traffic: the petroleum products that Alaska requires for its domestic market should be delivered by modern double-hulled tankers along the standard designated route, 20 miles offshore. This solution would ensure that if a vessel gets into trouble for any reason, it would be far less likely to go aground and there would be more response time to take measures to prevent a spill. This resolution is intended to promote that form of shipping as a replacement for the current tug-barge transport of petroleum between Washington and Alaska along the BC coast.

Although the issue of petroleum tankers operating in British Columbia waters is a highly charged and contentious issue that is of great concern to the people of Canada, very little is known about this traffic that has been traveling quietly up and down the waters of this coast. You can learn more by signing onto the '10,000 Ton Tanker' Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/325722317633216/>

Managed by Bella Bella resident and Green Party member, Ingmar Lee, who co-authored this resolution.

## **The Green Marshall Plan - Bank of Canada's Green Money Supply**

**Code:** G16-P004

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Constantine Kritsonis

### **Preamble**

#### **WHEREAS**

A) The right to create money belongs to the citizens, but has been "contracted out" to irresponsible entities that have participated in creating a vast ecological debt.

B) Money creation that helped caused the ecological debt must be used to help repay that debt. If the money creation rights are more flexible and can be exploited to reverse ecological damage and restrict expansion of emissions, then we have a moral duty to use them for that immediately because we are at the tipping point of a runaway greenhouse effect.

C) With green infrastructure projects come new jobs, a larger tax base and savings from efficiency that will expand the economy. Green infrastructure paid by new money prevents resistance from those otherwise forced to pay for it.

D) The risk-reward ratio of reducing carbon vs inflation risk is in favour of reducing carbon. No claim that green money creation in and of itself guarantees inflation is credible. Countries engaged in large scale quantitative easing (QE) have not experienced problem inflation. Nor have countries like South Korea that focused its 2008-9 stimulus on energy efficiency measures.

Better energy efficiency, reduced fuel use and reduced pollution abatement must reduce long term costs. That reduces inflation, as inflation is measured against a basket of actually used goods. If we require less fuel, and get more for less, then actual value received for money is increased.

Created money creating genuine progress across whole societies reduces expenditures otherwise required for the same amount of genuine progress.

E) Ratified Green Party of Canada policy exists that Greens advocate the Bank of Canada return to a prominent role in creating money. (policy code G10-P24) That means, among other measures, creating additional money.

F) The ecological or natural capital of the biosphere, or indeed any ecosystem within it, is the root of all wealth.

G) Green MPs in England have asked the Bank of England to consider green QE. Mark Carney, the Bank's governor has stated a scenario where that may happen. Greens in at least Canada, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, the USA, France, Germany, Italy, other EU nations are urging similar measures. G7 and G20 and BRICS countries are also updating their policies to respond to V-20 and COP21 concerns. Canadian Greens should be among this chorus.

## **Operative**

Be It Resolved: Green MPs and the GPC will advocate for Bank of Canada money creation to offer interest free (or sovereign interest level) loans and grants for green infrastructure and efficiency projects. Such projects may include the creation of for profit crown corporations that build own and operate infrastructure and efficiency projects. Green MPs and the GPC will advocate The Bank of International Settlements support all central banks under its structure engage in sovereign coordinated Green Marshall Plans.

Be It Further Resolved: A royal commission will be established to determine the feasibility of creating such crown corporations in given fields of expertise and offer a plan for a virtually carbon free Canada. The royal commission would create specific objectives and operating procedures for the green crown corporations. Grants to crown corporations will take preference over any grants to private interests. One example of a green project, which could be owned by a crown corporation: fast electric vehicle charging stations for EVs.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P004>

## **Sponsors**

Dimitri Lascaris, Corey Levine, Mark Bigland-Pritchard, Rolly Montpellier, Laura Lee Roberts, Debra Scott, Brennan Wauters, Roger Benham, Miriam Meir, Betty Muir, Mario LeClerk, Charlene Day, Angela Salewsky, Paula Boutis, Tom Beck, Diane Wilson, Constantine Ivals, Constantine Kritsonis, Cyrille Giraud, Tom McLenaghan, Joan Jenkin, Joe Foster, Maria Kritsonis, Robert Mellalieu

## **Background**

According to academics including professor Mark Z. Jacobson, the technologies exist to cost competitively replace fossil fuels now, in 2016 [[https://www.ted.com/speakers/mark\\_z\\_jacobson](https://www.ted.com/speakers/mark_z_jacobson)] (TED talk)].

Thus the moral obligation implement these proposed solutions immediately on a large scale. In 2008, literally trillions of dollars in various currencies were created by central banks to bail out banksters, failed corporations, even lawbreakers who were never punished (except in Iceland) because they are too big to fail. If those who cause ecological destruction and loss of natural

capital can be bailed out with large scale new money creation because they are \*too big to fail\* , then certainly central banks can help "bail out" the species, climate & biosphere they have done so much to compromise.

It is our planet that is too big to fail.

The Marshall Plan rebuilt Europe after WWII with the equivalent of hundreds of billions of dollars worth of infrastructure spending, including newly created money. Today, we need a Green Marshall Plan for our planet.

Policy G10-P24: <http://www.greenparty.ca/en/node/20655>

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## **Limits of Funding for "Alternative Therapies"**

**Code:** G16-P005

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Bruce Van Dieten, CFO Spadina Fort York

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS the Green Party of Canada has adopted a policy committing to "Provide funds to expand provincial health insurance to cover proven alternative therapies that are less expensive and invasive"; this policy proposal is intended to refine, qualify, and specify limitations to supports and funding for alternative health therapies;

WHEREAS the Canadian healthcare system is an essential feature of Canadian society, it keeps our communities strong and it serves the most fundamental role in our social safety net. Canadians consistently value healthcare as a top priority;

WHEREAS to be strong, effective and sustainable, the Canadian healthcare system must be based on science-based medicine, clinically proven treatments, therapies, and healthcare solutions that are economically efficient as well as driven by innovative research and the best knowledge currently available;

WHEREAS the federal government is responsible to set national targets, benchmarks, and incentives for health system performance across all provinces, providing financial incentives through health system transfer payments which reward achievement of national objectives.

WHEREAS the Green Party rightly embraces science when it comes to global warming, ecology, endangered species, and should therefore demonstrate a consistent commitment to science and evidence in matters of health;

WHEREAS alternative therapies, by definition, do not fit this standard, since once a therapy is proven it is no longer alternative, therefore all new funding projects must be targeted exclusively to therapies, treatments, and medicines proven to be effective and efficient using research based on established protocols;

## Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that the GPC adopt a policy that recognizes evidence based and proven therapeutic practices as the gold standard for funding, that for funding purposes, only programs with a demonstrable benefit be supported through national health care dollars.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that proven is understood to mean proven based on scientific evidence, principles, and methods. Only those therapies that meet the gold standard of evidence based on high quality, double-blinded clinical trials, should be promoted to Canadians, who deserve no less. Also, when treatments are proven not to work, there should be a mechanism to have them removed from the list of approved therapies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that less invasive procedures are always preferred, such as those which provide alternatives to surgeries or other clinically invasive methods while achieving substantially equivalent clinical outcomes or meeting clinically determined goals. Cost benefit ratios must take into account the efficacy of the treatments. But expense and efficacy of all treatments are to be gauged not only on cost but on beneficial outcomes based on the gold standard previously highlighted.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P005>

## Sponsors

Presented on behalf of the Spadina - Fort York EDA in a vote taken by the executive.

## Background

Canadian health care dollars are precious and should not be squandered on therapies that do not meet the highest standards of efficacy and effectiveness. The only mechanism with which to determine whether or not a therapy or treatment is valuable is to test it with multiple, randomized, large, double-blinded clinical trials. The results of these trials must be peer-reviewed in top, high impact papers and be widely accepted by science-based professional organizations such as the Canadian College of Physicians and Surgeons. If dollars are allocated based on popularity or the lobbying of groups such as homeopaths or naturopaths, we will be rejecting science and wasting our health care dollars. The Green Party rightly embraces science when it comes to global warming, ecology, endangered species and should therefore demonstrate a consistent commitment to science and evidence in matters of health.

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## Palestinian Self-Determination and the Movement for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions

**Code:** G16-P006

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Dimitri Lascaris, Justice Critic, Green Party of Canada Shadow Cabinet

## Preamble

WHEREAS Article 49 of the 4th Geneva Convention prohibits an occupying power from transferring parts of its own civilian population to territory it occupies;



WHEREAS the International Court of Justice has ruled that Israel's settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories ("OPT") violate international law;

WHEREAS GP14-P22 declares that the GPC "fully condemn [sic] all illegal Israeli settlement expansions in the [OPT] as undeniable obstacles to the Israel – Palestine peace-process";

WHEREAS Israel has continued, since the adoption of G14-P22, to expand its settlements and to demolish Palestinian homes and other infrastructure in the OPT;

WHEREAS Canada and other nations have previously succeeded in ensuring respect for human rights through the use of economic and political sanctions, including in the case of South Africa.

WHEREAS the Liberal and Conservative parties recently supported a motion 'condemning' attempts by Canadians to promote the boycott, divestment and sanctions movement;

AND WHEREAS nothing in this resolution condones the use of force against innocent civilians or other human rights violations by either side in the conflict.

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the GPC supports the use of divestment, boycott and sanctions ("BDS") that are targeted to those sectors of Israel's economy and society which profit from the ongoing occupation of the OPT;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GPC will support such a form of BDS until such time as Israel implements a permanent ban on further settlement construction in the OPT, and enters into good faith negotiations with representatives of the Palestinian people for the purpose of establishing a viable, contiguous and truly sovereign Palestinian state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the GPC opposes all efforts to prohibit, punish or otherwise deter expressions of support for BDS.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P006>

### **Sponsors**

Alex Hill, Erin Davis, Menno Meijer, Lora Teuschler, Temara Brown, Colin Griffiths, Joe Foster, Constantine Kritsonis, Brian Smallshaw, Ghaith Hannibal, Mark Bigland-Pritchard, Kyle Lacroix, Kevin Labonte, Bonnie North, Melia Helson, Stacey Leadbetter, Corey Levine, Hugh Thorburn, Matthew Chisholm, Lora Picchi, Don McLeod, Lindsay Thompson, Mohammed Rajpar, Pamela Reid, Stefan Kleitsch, Mary Ann Hodge, Johan Hamels, Inge Stahl, Saul Bottcher, Will Sorrell, Sharon Danley, Don Scott

### **Background**

When Palestine was partitioned in 1947, the U.N. allocated approximately 1/3 of Palestinian territory to the Palestinian people, although they constituted approximately 2/3 of the population.

Since 1947, the Palestinian people have never exercised true sovereignty over the territory the U.N. had allocated to them. Moreover, due primarily to Israeli settlement construction in the OPT, the land Palestinians occupy has shrunk dramatically since 1947.

Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention prohibits occupying powers from transferring parts of their own civilian population to territory they occupy. Accordingly, the U.N. Security Council has declared that Israeli settlements in the OPT constitute “a flagrant violation” of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Moreover, in a 2004 advisory opinion, the International Court of Justice ruled that Israel’s settlements have been established in breach of international law.

Despite the clear illegality of Israeli settlements in the OPT, Israel has continued to construct and expand such settlements up to the current time and has given no indication that it will cease doing so in the foreseeable future. Moreover, the current Israeli Prime Minister has made numerous statements that raise serious questions as to his commitment to a two-state solution. Thus, Palestinians’ prospects for achieving a sovereign Palestinian state through bilateral negotiations with Israel are remote.

This leaves only one, non-violent option to the Palestinian people for realizing their dream of self-determination within their lifetimes. That option is BDS. Further, because BDS seeks to achieve Palestinian self-determination through economic and political sanctions rather than the use of force, BDS is entirely consistent with the GPC’s commitment to peace and mutual respect.

However, should Israel implement a permanent ban on settlement construction and expansion and enter into good faith negotiations with the Palestinian authorities with a view to the creation of a viable, contiguous and truly sovereign Palestinian state, then the GPC should re-evaluate whether its support for BDS is necessary to achieve Palestinian self-determination.

For nearly 70 years, the Palestinian people have been without a sovereign state. It is time for international community to give to the Palestinian people a realistic and non-violent path to self-determination. In the current circumstances, BDS is, in the view of the submitter, the only such path.

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## **Use and Protect Community Television to Support Local Political Communications**

**Code:** G16-P007

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Vancouver Centre EDA

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS public and private television broadcasters filter all political messaging (e.g. news programs that clip sound bites), putting the Green Party of Canada and other smaller political parties at a communications disadvantage in the mainstream media;

WHEREAS Community Television channels were originally created by the Canadian Radio-television Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) to provide the Canadian public and political parties a means to bypass the mainstream media and directly connect with their communities;

WHEREAS the CRTC has designated Broadcasting Distribution Undertakings (BDUs, cable & satellite companies) responsibility for making political parties and other members of the public aware of their right to access Community Television services in each local area served;

WHEREAS even though BDUs in 2015 had \$151 million in public funds available to provide Community Television services, many BDUs did not provide the minimal requirements that the CRTC demands for local and access programming and failed to fully inform Electoral District Associations of the training, tools, and production support available to them;

WHEREAS the Canadian Association of Community Television Users & Stations has proposed to the CRTC redirecting public funds from private sector corporations (BDUs) to non-profit Community Media Centres hosted by public libraries, film co-ops, and non-profit community media groups to better serve the public interest as providers of Community Television, as is done in the United States;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada formally supports a strengthening of Community Television in Canada that will enable Electoral District Associations to access significant training and production support to produce their own political programming for local Community Television airing;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada monitor its access to Community Television in each EDA and report to the CRTC when its rights and those of other political voices are discriminated against;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada supports the proposition by the Canadian Association of Community Television Users & Stations to redirect public funds from private sector BDUs towards the creation and ongoing funding of non-profit Community Media Centres that will be run in partnership by public libraries, film co-ops, and other local stakeholders.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P007>

### **Sponsors**

Vancouver Centre EDA

### **Background**

Community Television should support political parties and local democratic discourse:

Community TV is free, effective, and is mandated to allow all political parties equitable access to the airwaves according to the CRTC. It's meant to connect with community viewers, especially those not reached by other mainstream media. It is a critical tool that allows the Green Party to have more direct access to the public and overcome mainstream media's filtering of our party's message. Every Green Party EDA needs Community TV in its communications mix.

There are two kinds of programs that can be accessed by political parties through Community channels, hosted by cable companies:

## 1) Programs Produced and controlled by Cable Company Staff (CRTC Bulletin 2015-354)

During election times, all political parties have the right to equitable access to debates and/or airtime to share their messages. For these kinds of cable company controlled shows, cable staff will determine the format and length of the program. Political parties have the right:

- to be informed and included in coming televised debates & other political programming.
- to be informed of the air time(s), so that you can advertise them to journalists and the community.

## 2) Public-Access Programs that are controlled by the public, including political parties (CRTC Bulletin 2015-354 and CRTC 2010-622)

Public-access programming allows television access to elected officials and candidates. Political parties can get assistance in the form of training and production support to produce and air their television shows. This content can be reposted to the party's website or used elsewhere, such as public gatherings.

For more information, please contact: John Savage, MLIS, [John.PG.Savage@gmail.com](mailto:John.PG.Savage@gmail.com)

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## **Develop A National Urban Park Strategy**

**Code:** G16-P008

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Vancouver Centre EDA

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS many urban natural spaces (water and land) are under environmental threat from development, traffic, poor management, misuse, and industry;

WHEREAS existing legislation and overlapping jurisdictions (e.g. federal, provincial, municipal, and First Nations governments) fail to provide the highest level of environmental protection for natural areas in urban areas under threat;

WHEREAS urban natural spaces in Canada's largest cities are a last refuge for flora and fauna in these areas and often serve as natural corridors for their passage between other natural areas;

WHEREAS urban indigenous peoples depend on natural spaces in urban areas to connect with the land and engage in harvesting according to their traditions;

WHEREAS Parks Canada has already established Canada's first National Urban Park, the Rouge National Urban Park in Pickering, Ontario on May 15, 2015, but has stated clearly that they refuse to consider plans for other parks of this kind in other urban regions;

## **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada support a new Federal strategy to establish National Urban Parks in other major population centres immediately to protect these areas for generations to come.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P008>

## **Sponsors**

Vancouver Centre EDA

## **Background**

National Urban Parks are being established around the world to protect natural spaces in urban areas. As Canada's urban areas are undergoing development that will forever change or destroy their natural spaces, protection is required to help defend these areas on behalf of people, flora, and fauna.

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## **Lead a New Coordinated Initiative to Manage Urban Waterways**

**Code:** G16-P009

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Vancouver Centre EDA

## **Preamble**

WHEREAS many urban waterways are under environmental threat from a variety of influences, pollution, motor boat traffic, float planes, snowmobiles, shipping, and waterfront development (e.g. Vancouver's English Bay and the Ottawa and Gatineau Rivers in the National Capital Region);

WHEREAS paddling and rowing are becoming more popular, healthy recreational activities that allow the public to interact with their natural urban environment and wildlife (e.g. whales and birds);

WHEREAS wildlife, paddlers, rowers, and swimmers are put at risk by motor boats and pollution;

WHEREAS urban indigenous peoples have a traditional right to safely navigate their ancestral waterways;

WHEREAS, existing legislation and confusing overlapping jurisdictional responsibilities between cities, provinces, and the Federal government makes it difficult for any community to manage their waterways' safety and environmental concerns;

## Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada support a new Federal initiative to coordinate among all levels of government a strategy to assess and design proper protective measures to control motor boat traffic on major urban waterways, develop and protect safer forms public water access, and protect indigenous access to their ancestral waterways.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P009>

## Sponsors

Vancouver EDA

## Background

Urban waterfront areas in Canada are not as well controlled and protected as they could be, simply because there are at least three layers of government that are responsible for setting speed limits, protecting the environment, and policing. Historically, waterfronts have evolved from places of hunting and fishing, to industrial uses, and now are becoming recreational areas where paddlers and rowers are threatened by speeding motor boats. In many areas, the public are frustrated that no level of government seems to be able to act to coordinate a comprehensive strategy. Local governments are challenged to work to improve their waterfronts, so it is important that the Federal Government help address these concerns that seem to exist in most major waterfront communities. Indigenous peoples are frustrated that local governments don't seem to acknowledge their right to access their ancestral waterways. Environmentalists are frustrated that they cannot protect shorelines (e.g. protecting whales in English Bay from speeding boats to issues of shoreline erosion and noise pollution in places as the Ottawa River). It is time to fix these poorly managed waterways.

There are some examples in Canada where various levels of government have worked together concerning urban waterfront areas. One such example is Waterfront Toronto (<http://www.waterfronttoronto.ca/>), an agency that coordinates three levels of government to provide a shared vision for that city's waterfront and to overcome similar concerns.

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## Revoking the Charitable Status of the Jewish National Fund Canada (JNF)

**Code:** G16-P010

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Corey Levine

## Preamble

WHEREAS the JNF practices discrimination against non-Jews in Israel through its bylaws which prohibit the lease or sale of its lands to non-Jews;

WHEREAS the JNF is complicit in the continued dispossession of Palestinians from their lands by creating forests and parks on this land in the name of 'environmentalism';

WHEREAS the JNF's 'Ayalon Canada Park' sits in occupied Palestinian territory, covering up the lands of the depopulated and demolished Palestinian villages of Yalu, Imwas and Beit Nuba;

WHEREAS Israel's Attorney General and the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights have charged the JNF with practicing institutional discrimination against non-Jewish citizens of Israel;

WHEREAS "the CRA is aware that the JNF's activities contravene Canadian public policy;"

WHEREAS many civil society groups across Canada, including Jewish groups, have called for an end to JNF charitable status;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada calls on the Canada Revenue Agency to revoke the charitable status of the Jewish National Fund for contravening public policy against discrimination and for its failure to comply with international human rights law.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P010>

### **Sponsors**

Constantine Kritsonis, Anne Percival, Dr. Adrian Fine, Dr. Leslie King, Miriam Meir, Alex Hill, Ghaith Hannibal El-Mohtar, Elizabeth May, Dimitri Lascaris, Richard Hosein, Tessa Owens, Carolyn L. Herbert, Joe Foster, Saul Bottcher, Diane Wilson, Paul Manly, Tom McLenaghan, Colin Griffiths, Danny Polifroni, Ilan Goldenblatt, John Mullane, Edwin Daniel, Laila Zarrabi Yan, Stefan Kiletsch, Eva Manly, Jim Manly, Temara Brown, Lora Picchi

### **Background**

The Jewish National Fund was created in 1901. Its purpose is to 'acquire' land for "the purpose of settling Jews on such land." Under the JNF's charter, it is prohibited from selling or leasing land to non-Jews. It operates as a quasi-governmental body in Israel, yet it has charitable status in Canada.

13% of Israel is directly under the control of the JNF and has a great deal of influence over the control of the remaining public lands (80% of all land), which means it has a direct role in implementing Israel's discriminatory policies against its Palestinian citizens.

Under the guise of 'environmentalism,' the JNF has forested over the ruins of Palestinian villages in an attempt to 'greenwash' non-Jewish dispossession. This includes 'Canada Park' which was built over top 3 destroyed Palestinian villages where more than 9000 residents were expelled from their homes. The JNF today continues to displace Bedouins from their ancestral lands to make way for 'green space' as well as Jewish-only settlements.

Because of its charitable status, JNF provides tax credits for donations, meaning that up to 25% of their budget comes from our taxes. In the '2010 Fall Report of the Auditor General of Canada Chapter 7 - Registered Charities,' the Canada Revenue Agency asks: 'If a registered charity undertakes illegal activities abroad, what action will the CRA take? Will the CRA investigate or revoke the registered status of the Jewish National Fund? The Auditor General has yet to ask

the CRA this question, despite having knowledge of the JNF's illegal activities abroad.' 1 <http://ijvcanada.org/campaign/the-jewish-national-fund-jnf/> 2 Ibid. 3 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8rZmzlqK6Fc> 4<http://ijvcanada.org/campaign/the-jewish-national-fund-jnf/> 5 Ibid.

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## **Advancing the Equality of LGBTQ+ Canadians**

**Code:** G16-P011

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Nathan Grills

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS non-violence, social justice, and a respect for diversity serve as three of the six core values of the Green Party of Canada and the Global Green movement;

WHEREAS despite the Green Party of Canada's strong record of fighting for LGBTQ+ rights, very little membership approved, formally adopted policy exists on LGBTQ+ issues;

WHEREAS Conversion therapy (which treats one's sexual orientation and/or gender identity/ expression as a mental illness and attempts to "convert" LGBTQ+ people) has been widely discredited by relevant professional organizations and has contributed to serious mental health issues, trauma, and suicides;

WHEREAS the LGBTQ+ community (or segments thereof) faces elevated risks of a variety of mental health challenges, self-harm, substance abuse, PTSD, suicide, physical assault, sexualized/gender based violence, hate crimes, discrimination, homelessness, and poverty;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada: advocate for amendments to the Canadian Human Rights Act to explicitly include gender identity and gender expression as protected grounds of discrimination, amendments to the Criminal Code to include gender identity and gender expression in hate sentencing and hate propaganda provisions, and advocate for the introduction of a third sex identifier of "X" in Canadian passports;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Party of Canada: advocate for an end to "conversion therapy," support achieving an equal age of consent across Canada by repealing s. 159 of the Criminal Code, and work to ensure that Canada plays a leading role fighting for LGBTQ+ rights globally through diplomatic efforts, foreign assistance, and support the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green party of Canada: advocate for significant increase in federal funding, coordination and support for robust, comprehensive strategies on mental health, addictions, sexual education, sexualized and gender based violence, and housing for all Canadians while encompassing specific components to address the needs of Canada's LGBTQ + community.



Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P011>

## Sponsors

Victoria Electoral District Association

## Background

While LGBTQ+ rights have made tremendous advances in recent decades, our work is far from done. Trans, genderqueer, intersex, agender and non-binary Canadians still lack equal protection under the Human Rights Act and Hate Crime legislation.<sup>1</sup> While Australia and New Zealand allow for a third option for passport identifiers, many Canadians lack access to identification which accurately reflects their identify.<sup>1</sup> Though it's been overturned in parts of the country, the Canadian Criminal Code retains a discriminatory age of consent for anal sex<sup>1</sup>.

In Canada, the LGBTQ+ community, or portions of the community, face elevated risks of a variety of mental health challenges, self-harm, substance abuse, PTSD, suicide, physical assault, sexualized/gender based violence, hate crimes, discrimination, homelessness and poverty.<sup>2</sup>

The only current membership approved policy dealing explicitly with the rights of LGBTQ+ Canadians are resolutions "G06-p39" and "1996 – Same-Sex Marriages."

Parts of this resolution encompasses positions which the Green Party has already taken, but have not been approved by membership through a policy resolution, while other parts of the resolution bring forward issues that the party has yet to confront.

In addition to calling for specific consideration for Canada's LGBTQ+ community, this policy also entrenches strong commitments in membership approved policy to a number of social policies of great benefit to all Canadians. Specifically, this policy serves to reinforce the strong existing commitment in membership approved policy on housing, greatly strengthens our policy on addictions and introduces strong progressive commitments on mental health, sexual education and sexualized and gender based violence to membership approved policy.

I believe that this policy is likely to have a positive impact on the electability of Green MPs. In 2012, a Forum Poll showed fertile electoral ground for strong positions on LGBTQ+ rights, especially for the Greens.<sup>3</sup>

There would likely be some small costs for administering the legislative and bureaucratic changes in the resolution, and more substantive spending increases associated with the commitments on mental health, global advocacy, addictions, sexualized and gender based violence and housing. However, these investments would also serve to generate revenue in the long term by reducing the costs of poverty and increasing productivity.

1. <http://egale.ca/election-policy-questionnaire/>

2. <http://ontario.cmha.ca/mental-health/lesbian-gay-bisexual-trans-people-a...>

3. <https://www.forumresearch.com/forms/News%20Archives/News%20Releases/6774...>  
(Forum\_Research)\_(20120628).pdf

## High-speed Passenger Rail Service

**Code:** G16-P012

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Brian Smallshaw

### Preamble

WHEREAS modern high-speed, high-frequency passenger rail links between Windsor, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal could greatly reduce the volume of car and air traffic between those centres and thus the volume of carbon emissions;

WHEREAS current passenger rail service is so slow that business travelers between those points are forced to use modes of transportation that are less convenient than trains;

WHEREAS Canada has the manufacturing capacity to build the rolling stock that would be needed for such a project, and that orders for rail cars and other equipment needed would help to stimulate the economies of Ontario and Quebec;

WHEREAS Via Rail, Canada's crown corporation for passenger rail travel, has developed a plan to construct a dedicated passenger rail line between Toronto and Montreal with a view to upgrading its service between these two centres to a high-frequency service;

WHEREAS the Green Party of Canada already has policy calling for the prioritization of high-speed rail transportation (G10-P10 Prioritizing High-Speed Rail in Canada), this motion is a call for action to realize the goal set forth in that resolution;

### Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that a Green government will fund the construction of dedicated passenger rail lines between Windsor, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal in order to facilitate the construction of high-frequency passenger rail service, with a view to subsequently constructing a high-speed rail service between those points at a later date;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that funding for this project be limited to 4 billion dollars in the first phase of this project, and that funding come from interest-free loans from the Bank of Canada.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P012>

### Sponsors

Rumiko Kanesaka, Ann Eastman, Curt Firestone, Jacquie Miller, Stefan Klietsch, Constantine Kritsonis, Daniel Green, Don Scott, Ilan Goldenblatt, Nathan Grills, Kathryn-Jane Hazel, Lynne Quarmby, Jan Slakov, Lucy Baril, Kevin Dale McKeown, James Mihaychuk, Richard Noel, Josée Baril, Elaine Alpert, Bill Marsh, Drina A. Read, Ira Heidemann, Peter Bevan-Baker, Cathy Lenihan, Teresa Doyle, Becka Viau, Kjell Liem, Grant Penton, Arthur Green, Mike Nestor, Thomas Trappenberg, Paul Manly, Colin Griffiths, Kenneth Foley, Darcie Lanthier, Jack Thornburgh, Mark Bigland-Pritchard

### Background

In 2014 fifty-six Greens traveled from Vancouver to Miramichi, New Brunswick on the 'Green Train' to attend the Biannual General Meeting in Fredericton. The trip gave us a first-hand view of the current state of Canada's passenger rail service, which can be most generously described as 'quaint'. For myself, as a long-time resident of Japan and having visited the country and used its high-speed trains shortly before the cross-Canada trip, the contrast between the service between Toronto and Montreal, and Tokyo and Nagoya could not have been starker. The rail service between Canada's two biggest cities is slow, infrequent, rarely on schedule and at times was so bumpy I was unable to read without feeling seasick. It is no wonder that despite the advantages of a downtown-to-downtown transportation option most business travelers choose to fly instead.

A modern passenger rail service connecting Windsor, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal could significantly reduce the amount of travel by air and by car, which would have a positive impact on the country's carbon emissions. It would also facilitate business by permitting speedier, more convenient travel between the country's two largest cities, and construction of it would help to stimulate the economy in areas of the country negatively affected by globalization.

Via Rail currently has a plan to construct a dedicated passenger rail link through this corridor, which will allow it to build what it calls a 'high-frequency' rail line. Without having to defer to freight trains, its trains will be able to move quicker and more punctually. This is an important first step, but to be viable in the long term, it will need to become a true high-speed service, which requires the removal of all at-grade rail crossings. This will naturally require a great deal of funding, which should come in the form of a special bond issue from the Government of Canada, to be purchased by the Bank of Canada to make it an interest-free loan.

The construction of rail lines was a fundamental part of the creation of Canada – it's why British Columbia joined the Confederation. We should be continuing that tradition today.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/via-rail-ready-to-roll-out-...>

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## **Dental Health Care**

**Code:** G16-P013

**Resolution Type:** Policy

**Submitter Name:** Valerie Klassen

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS dental health is integral to human health;

WHEREAS the Green Party of Canada is committed to promoting health equity for all Canadians;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that basic dental care be made a publicly funded health service.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-P013>

## **Sponsors**

Andrew Park, Scott Harrison, Paul S. Graham, Kate Storey, Doug Storey, Brian Timlick, James Beddome, Wesley Stevens, Pam Sanford, Richard Freeman, Dan Green, Patrick Dirks, Ruth Gregory, Ian Elwood-Oates, Leslie Elwood-Oates, Andy Shadrack, John Redekopp, David Nickarz, Keith Moen, Marc Payette, Bruce Hyer, Lori Boast, Don Scott

## **Background**

Health care in Canada is considered a provincial/territorial responsibility, guided by provisions of the federal Canada Health Act (1984), which establishes criteria and conditions that provincial and territorial health plans must meet in order for them to receive federal cash transfers. The Act requires provision of medically necessary physician and hospital services: however medically necessary has not been defined. Since the Canada Health Act was adopted, knowledge about what is required to maintain health and address health problems has evolved, and there are now initiatives to ensure universal coverage of a broader array of evidence-informed health services.

We now know that provision of basic dental health care is necessary for overall health: poor dental health can contribute to many other health problems.

As noted by Health Canada:

Oral health is not only important to your appearance and sense of well-being, but also to your overall health. Cavities and gum disease may contribute to many serious conditions, such as diabetes and respiratory diseases. Untreated cavities can also be painful and lead to serious infections. Studies are also currently examining whether there is a link between poor oral health and heart disease and between poor oral health and women delivering pre-term, low birth weight (PLBW) babies. <http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/life-vie/dent-eng.php>

The Green Party of Canada is committed to preventative health care, and to promoting wellness. Given current knowledge of the health risks of cavities and gum disease, ensuring public funding of basic dental health care for all Canadians is a logical extension of this policy.

As things stand, dental health care is covered (in whole or in part) for Canadians with employer sponsored or private health care plans. However, many low income Canadians cannot afford dental health care, leading to serious health inequities.

Our current platform states: "It is appalling that in a country as wealthy as Canada, our children do not have guaranteed no-cost access to high quality dental care. In order to address the crisis among the most marginal in our society, we will expand our public health care coverage to include dental coverage for low-income Canadians under the age of eighteen."

If adopted, this resolution will extend this policy to provide basic dental health care to all Canadians.

# Constitutional Resolutions

## On Limit to Councillor Tenure (Bylaw 2.1.4)

**Code:** G16-C002

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Johan Hamels

### Party Commentary

This changes the constitution to limit council to 2 terms.

### Preamble

WHEREAS councillors are limited to a 2 year term, but there is no limit to how many consecutive terms a councillor may serve;

WHEREAS the governing Council of the GPC requires qualified members with management skills and experience;

WHEREAS some degree of continuity is needed to bring historical perspective and knowledge to the Council;

WHEREAS there is a need to bring to Council new ideas, experience and energy;

### Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 2.1.4 be amended to limit the number of consecutive terms a voting member of council may serve to two (2) terms or four (4) years;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bylaw 2.1.4 be extended with a new clause, 2.1.4.9 to read:

2.1.4.9 No member of council may serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C002>

### Sponsors

Ard van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Colin Griffiths, Constantine Kritsonis, Danny Polifroni, Joe Foster, Marcus Madsen, Mark MacKenzie, Stacey Leadbetter, Norbert d'Costa, Lorraine Rekmans, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Saul Bottcher

### Background

It is a common best practice in many organisations to limit the time any one board member serves. This is not to deny the contribution that any one board member may make to the life and decisions of the organisation, but to ensure that a continuous influx of new ideas and viewpoints

are provided to it. The GPC has no limit on the time a board member may serve. This resolution proposes to provide a limit. After a break in service, they may stand for re-election.

---

## **Give Fourteen Days Notice of Council Vacancies to Members by Email**

**Code:** G16-C003

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Colin Griffiths

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS a vacancy in Council may occur at any time;

WHEREAS it is important to fill such positions as soon as possible;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that Federal Council shall be notified of a vacancy within 14 days rather than the current 7 day period in Bylaw 2.1.6.2, such that the clause shall read:

2.1.6.2 All Federal Council members shall be notified of a vacancy within fourteen (14) days.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a similar change be made to Bylaw 2.1.6.3 correcting the term “general members electronic mailing list” for clarity to refer to email, such that the clause shall read:

2.1.6.3 Notice of the vacancy shall be posted prominently on the Party's website and all Members will be notified by email within the same fourteen (14) day period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a period of a further 14 days be allowed before a vacancy is filled to enable members to identify or self-identify eligible candidates.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C003>

### **Sponsors**

Ard van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Constantine Kritsonis, Danny Polifroni, Joe Foster, Johan Hamels, Marcus Madsen, Mark MacKenzie, Stacey Leadbetter, Norbert d'Costa, Doug Anderson, Lorraine Rekmans, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins

## Background

Recent changes have occurred with less visibility and openness than intended by the constitution. In addition the time limits are found to be too short to enable full notice to be provided to all members. Accordingly, this motion proposes to increase the time before federal council is empowered to fill a vacancy.

---

## Require a By-Election for Council Vacancies

**Code:** G16-C004

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Joe Foster

### Preamble

WHEREAS the existing Bylaw 2.1.6 requires Federal Council fill any vacancy on Federal Council by appointment;

### Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that 2.1.6.1 be replaced with the following:

2.1.6.1 Federal Council has the authority to fill, by appointment, any vacancy, however caused, if fewer than four(4) months remain before an internal election and that Federal Council may appoint one of its existing members to fill an executive position that becomes vacant until the next General Meeting or the term for that position ends, whichever occurs first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a new Clause 2.1.6.2 be added to read:

2.1.6.2 A by-election will be called for any council position that becomes vacant more than four (4) months prior to the internal election cycle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the remaining Clauses be renumbered accordingly.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C004>

### Sponsors

Ard van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Colin Griffiths, Constantine Kritsonis, Danny Polifroni, Johan Hamels, Marcus Madsen, Mark MacKenzie, Stacey Leadbetter, Norbert d'Costa, Doug Anderson, Lorraine Rekmans, Saul Bottcher

## **Background**

One of the issues of allowing appointments by federal council to fill vacancies is that the general membership does not have a role to play in selecting the replacement. By stipulating that a by-election should take place, this is corrected. It also opens up the process of party management to address the cause of the vacancy, whether accidental or not. Given the speed with which we are now able to conduct an election, the additional process of an election for one councilor is not seen as an impediment to due process.

---

### **Require that All Council, Committee and General Meeting Minutes be Posted on the Website**

**Code:** G16-C006

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Joe Foster

#### **Preamble**

WHEREAS in keeping with the Global Green Charter to promote transparency;

WHEREAS more, information needs to be available to inform and engage the membership;

#### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 10, Party Documents, be modified to include reference to all motions, resolutions and minutes of council and council committees;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Bylaw 10.1 be modified to read as follows:

10.1 The Federal Council shall maintain for viewing by all Members the following Party documents:

10.1.1 The Constitution and Bylaws

10.1.2 The Constitution of the Young Greens of Canada

10.1.3 The Rules of Procedure for General Meetings

10.1.4 The Adopted Policies

10.1.5 The Election Platforms for previous elections

10.1.6 All minutes of previous General Meetings

10.1.7 All minutes of Federal Council, the executive and committees of Council



### 10.1.8 Committee Handbooks

### 10.1.9 The Federal Council Motions and Resolutions Database

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C006>

### Sponsors

Ard van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Colin Griffiths, Constantine Kritsonis, Danny Polifroni, Johan Hamels, Marcus Madsen, Mark MacKenzie, Stacey Leadbetter, Norbert d'Costa, Doug Anderson, Lorraine Rekmans, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Saul Bottcher

### Background

There is a recognized gap between the Central Party and the GPC membership. Part of the problem is the lack of communications through timely and informative information that keeps members up to date on governance issues and, it timely, allows members to question certain activities that their provincial/territorial representative can either respond directly or intercede on their behalf at a Council meeting.

Handbooks and timely Minutes of Central party meetings are an essential resource, Not only for the general membership but also Council and its committees as well.

Minutes take a number of weeks to be published and remain useful mostly as a reference. A more important and timely tool for all members is the Council Motions Database that was requested via a Directive at a previous Convention meeting.

---

### Separating political leadership and governance leadership

**Code:** G16-C007

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Ard van Leeuwen

### Preamble

WHEREAS the Executive was formed to assist in addressing urgent concerns;

WHEREAS the Executive must be able to meet as and when needed in order to bring to Council urgent concerns or to advise as an Executive body;

WHEREAS it is difficult for the Leader to respond to Executive schedules in view of the many demands on a Leader, especially if s/he is an MP;

## Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 2.6.1 of the Constitution be modified to remove the Leader from the Executive Council and will therefore state:

“The Executive Council shall consist of the President, the Vice President English, the Vice President French, and the Fund Representative as voting members and the Executive Director as a non-voting member.”

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C007>

## Sponsors

Burt Folkins, Danny Polifroni, Joe Foster, Johan Hamels, Marcus Madsen, Mark MacKenzie, Stacey Leadbetter, Norbert d'Costa, Doug Anderson, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Saul Bottcher

## Background

Since Council is a governing body and the Executive is a subcommittee of Council, there is no need to have the Leader present at Executive meetings. Since the leader is already a member of Federal Council s/he is party to all decisions taken on behalf of the party. There is no need to burden the leader further as a member of the executive.

The Executive may seek advice from the Leader or any other functionaries, such as committee Chairs, as required.

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## Clarify the Operating Procedures of Green Party of Canada

**Code:** G16-C008

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Bruce Hyer

## Preamble

WHEREAS the President of Council tends to be renewed every two years;

WHEREAS various people act as Chair for the Biennial General Meeting;

WHEREAS the current Green rules are not widely known and unevenly followed;

WHEREAS a set of rules for meetings which ensures that the traditional principles of equality, harmony and efficiency are kept;

WHEREAS Robert's Rules of Order is the best-known description of standard parliamentary procedure and is used by many different organizations as their rule book for conducting effective meetings;

WHEREAS clarity in procedure tends to lead to better governance practices;

## **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that:

Article 8 of the Green Party of Canada Constitution (General Meetings of the Entire Membership of the Party) be amended to include:

8.3.1 General Meetings shall be conducted via Robert's Rules of Order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that:

Bylaw 2 (Federal Council) be amended to include:

2.4.6.1 Federal Council meetings shall be conducted via Robert's Rules of Order.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C008>

## **Sponsors**

Simon McMillan, Christine Cantin, Kate Storey, Irene Novaczek, Olivier Adam, Janice Harvey, Becky Smit, David Coon, Elizabeth Berman, Lynne Quarmby, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Patricia Farnese, Kyle Tate, Lucy Baril

## **Background**

Robert's Rules is a very common set of standard procedures for running meetings. It is used by many governments, organizations, and nonprofits.

There is an official website: <http://www.robertsrules.com>, a full book, an abridged book, and even a Robert's Rules for Dummies book. The benefit in all of these resources is that any question of procedure can be quickly answered without need for argument. While the Green Rules (<http://www.greenparty.ca/en/party/documents/rules-procedure-full>) are laudable, they are not comprehensive and have led to procedural wrangling that distracts us from the real work at hand. There are also other procedural systems such as Kerr and King but these are less accessible, with much less information and resources available.

As Tom Atlee writes (<http://www.co-intelligence.org>), "Robert's Rules is efficient at getting through an agenda. It offers order and predictability. People can understand how to operate the system by studying the rules, and a group can revise its procedures by discussing them. It's many checks and balances can provide an enormous degree of protection against demagoguery, impulsivity and laziness. Robert's Rules gives people shared language, and

shared points of reference with which to communicate thoughtfully and systematically about their process.”

---

### **On Calling a Leadership Race (Bylaw 2.1.7.2)**

**Code:** G16-C009

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Bob MacKie

### **Party Commentary**

This resolution was co-sponsored by Bob MacKie and Colin Griffiths.

### **Preamble**

Whereas the Green Party of Canada has grown to approximately 20 000 members; and

Whereas the selection of a Leader of a national political party is a serious matter that requires consideration and planning; and

Whereas a Leadership contest is an opportunity to grow the party and engage in grassroots discussion; and

Whereas 2.1.7.2 is unclear as to whether the leadership contest must be concluded within six months; and

Whereas six months is too short and not consistent with current practice in other national political parties;

### **Operative**

Be it resolved that Bylaw 2 (Federal Council) be amended to read:

#### **2.1.7.2**

A Leadership Contest must be started within six months of the appointment of an interim Leader and concluded within 24 months of said appointment.

Previous wording:

#### **2.1.7**

Where the Leader's term ends or the position of Leader otherwise becomes vacant:

#### **2.1.7.1**

Federal Council shall forthwith appoint an interim Leader until a Leadership Contest is held and a new Leader is elected.

#### 2.1.7.2

A Leadership Contest must be held within six months of the appointment of an interim Leader.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/>

### **Sponsors**

Mary Ann Coleman, Simon McMillan, Christine Cantin, Bob MacKie, Kate Storey, Kyle Tate, Becky Smit, Ard van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Constantine Kritsonis, Danny Polifroni, Joe Foster, Johan Hamels, Marcus Madsen, Mark MacKenzie, Stacey Leadbetter, Lorraine Rekmans, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins

### **Background**

Six months to start and finish a leadership contest seems like much too short a time to properly engage our growing membership. For comparison, at the recent NDP convention in Edmonton, the floor decided to extend their own leadership timelines from 12 to 24 months. This motion doesn't necessarily mean that the process will take 24 months, but it gives more flexibility. Federal Council can set a timeline within that framework that takes into account any external factors such as an upcoming election or byelection and that ensures a proper consultation of members is accomplished.

---

### **Clarify the Use of the Policy Governance Model by Council**

**Code:** G16-C010

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Steve May

#### **Preamble**

WHEREAS the members passed a resolution directing the Green Party of Canada to investigate using the Carver Model of Governance;

WHEREAS the Carver Model is informally known as the Policy Governance Model;

WHEREAS the Federal Council of the Green Party of Canada considers itself to be run by the Policy Governance Model;

WHEREAS it has never been codified in the Constitution that the Green Party of Canada is governed by said Model;

WHEREAS half of the Council is new each year and needs clarity on the governance model;

WHEREAS the Policy Governance model is codified in numerous resource manuals;

## **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 2 (Federal Council) be amended to include:

2.7 Policy Governance Model:

2.7.1 Federal Council shall operate in a manner consistent with the Policy Governance Model.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C010>

## **Sponsors**

Mary Ann Coleman, Simon McMillan, Christine Cantin, Kate Storey, Aaron Padolsky, Irene Novaczek, Olivier Adam, Janice Harvey, Becky Smit, David Coon, Elizabeth Berman, Lynne Quarmby, Carrie McLaren, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Elizabeth May, Stephanie Coburn, Steve May, Jacquie Miller, Patricia Farnese, Kyle Tate, Ira Heidemann, Brian Smallshaw, Sid Hayes, John Whistler

## **Background**

Policy Governance is a system that helps boards, like our Federal Council, lead successful organizations. It ensures that Council and staff are clear on who does what and why, while it also maximizes board accountability to members. Author Susan Mogensen explains the six major benefits of a policy governance system (<http://www.browndogconsulting.com/index.php/policy-governance-benefits/>):

1. Empower the staff to do their job with confidence and creativity through having clear and complete criteria for successful decisions, plans and actions.
2. Council saves time discussing operational details or minutiae and can focus on setting direction and priorities.
3. Members are heard and see results. Policy Governance emphasizes that accountability is to the members. This model helps the Council to focus on linkages with the membership and develop policies and monitor results in a way that maximizes alignment between member's expectations and results.
4. Council members add value and make a difference. Boards using Policy Governance set the "tone at the top," and direct and protect the organization with the greatest possible clarity and efficiency. Board members engage in rich, values-based conversations and make important decisions that have tremendous impact on the organization.
5. The board has the ability to control risk (without stifling creativity). Boards using Policy Governance apply principles that simultaneously control risk throughout the organization and maximize freedom for staff to get the job done. Additionally, monitoring performance uses a simple, streamlined, evidence-based approach.
6. 'Politics' is kept to a minimum. Boards using Policy Governance enjoy a high level of clarity, empowerment, and accountability, in which room or necessity for tension, politics, and

disharmony is minimized. When everyone knows the rules of the game, it is much more fun and fair for everyone to play!

---

## **Clarify the Process for Implementation of Directive Resolutions**

**Code:** G16-C011

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Steve May

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS Directive' in Article 7.3.5 of the GPC Constitution is currently defined as "A General Meeting motion or resolution that does not meet the definition of Policy or, if adopted, does not result in a change to the Constitution or Bylaws.";

WHEREAS that definition is vague and confusing;

WHEREAS Directives are an important way for Green Party members to provide direction to the party;

WHEREAS the current definition does not specify the process of what happens to Directives after submission;

WHEREAS Directives often lack follow up;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that Article 7.3.5 be amended to add:

...and, if adopted, is sent to Federal Council for consideration in the annual planning and budget process.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C011>

### **Sponsors**

Mary Ann Coleman, Simon McMillan, Christine Cantin, Kate Storey, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Elizabeth Berman, Lynne Quarmby, Olivier Adam, Steve May, Jacquie Miller, Stephanie Coburn, Patricia Farnese, Kyle Tate, Aaron Padolsky, Becky Smit, Jordan Bober, Ira Heidemann, Brian Smallshaw, Sid Hayes, John Whistler

## Background

This resolution seeks to provide more detail around how a Directive is dealt with and ensure that the good ideas contained in Directives are not lost in between Conventions. In conjunction with this Directive, we will seek to ensure that a document listing all Directives is posted on the GPC website. It has also been suggested that we mandate that Federal Council be obligated to report back on Directives for each BGM.

---

## Clarifying the electoral purpose of the GPC in Article 4 of the Constitution

**Code:** G16-C012

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Jacquie Miller

### Preamble

WHEREAS Article 4 Purpose of the GPC Constitution is unclear on two points;

WHEREAS clarifying our purpose as a political party is helpful to avoid confusion;

### Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that:

Article 4.1.1: be amended to read: Fielding, endorsing and electing members of the Party as candidates of the Party in every riding for election to the House of Commons and supporting their election; rather than “Fielding and electing candidates in federal elections.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Article 4.1.4 be amended to delete the phrase ‘outside of electoral periods’

The amended Article would then read:

4.1 It is the purpose of the Party to advance the Party's Platform, Positions, Policy, Values and Basis of Unity, and to contribute to the welfare of Canada, Canadians and the community of life in Canada by:

4.1.1 Fielding, endorsing and electing members of the Party as candidates of the Party in every riding for election to the House of Commons and supporting their election;

4.1.2 Debating and forming legislation in the Canadian Parliament and by participating in, or forming, the Government of Canada.

4.1.3 Developing Policy, Positions, and Platforms consistent with its Values and Basis of Unity.

4.1.4 Advancing the Party's Platform, Positions, Policy, Values and Basis of Unity



4.1.5 Forming and maintaining Party organizations at the federal, provincial and electoral district levels.

4.1.6 Working in solidarity with green parties of other jurisdictions, and green parties globally.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C012>

## **Sponsors**

Jacquie Miller, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Jean-Luc Cooke, John Savage, Carrie McLaren, Caroline Brown, Christine Cantin, Brenda Sayers, Paul Manly, John Whistler, Adriane Carr, Paul George, Sid Hayes, Rosemary Cooper, Jordan Bober, Colin Griffiths, Steve May, Wes Regan, Greg Sabo, Drina Read, Patty Mucklow, Simon McMillan, Ira Heidemann

## **Background**

The purpose of this resolution is to add clarity to the purpose of the party, to help identify what guides us as a distinct alternative in Canadian politics, and one that aims to be a truly national party, representing the interests and well being of citizens and voters across the country.

---

## **Replacing the Word “Principles” with “Values” in the Constitution**

**Code:** G16-C013

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Dimitri Lascalis

## **Party Commentary**

This does not change the constitution but it might create some confusion. Although technically correct, eliminating the word "principles" entirely might break the connection between GPC Values and the Global Green Charter Principles, which are meant to be the same. The Global Green Charter gets around this by including a detailed statement under each Principle heading.

## **Preamble**

WHEREAS Values are the high-level fabric that provides the baseline for a society’s core beliefs on how all human beings are to live together and,

WHEREAS Principles are the first step in identifying the guidelines for action based on those values.

## **Operative**

Be it resolved that in Article 5, all references to the term “Principles” be replaced with the term “Values” and,

that Clause 5.2 be deleted.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C013>

## **Sponsors**

Andy Park, Burt Folkins, Colin Griffiths, Colin Old, Cyrille Giraud, Danny Polifroni, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Frances Coates, Ian Soutar, Joe Foster, Johan Hamels, Marcus Madsen, Mario Leclerc, Mark MacKenzie, Sharon Danley, Stacey Leadbetter, Stephan Kliestch, Suzanne Lacourcière

## **Background**

The current Constitution confuses Principles and Values, even though we generally use the term values in our documentation.

Principles are a set of statements that more explicitly define our Values as set out in Article 5. By differentiating between Values and Principles, we can provide a better framework for creating policies and positions. A couple of examples are:

Value: Non-violence

1. Principle: The death penalty is not an appropriate component of our Justice system
2. Solitary confinement is a violation of Human Rights.

With these as guidelines, we can then create policies to reflect these Principles in line with non-violence. For example, we could develop policy (ies) outlining if and when solitary confinement is justified. Approximately half of all prisoners in Canada spend time in solitary confinement. A disproportionate number represent minorities and persons with a mental disability. Some have spent years in what is termed “a cruel and unusual punishment.”

The current Global Greens Charter, referenced in Article 5.4 of the constitution, uses the term principles interchangeably to mean values and principles.

---

## **Addition of the Term “Economic” to Green Values in Constitution**

**Code:** G16-C014

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Joe Foster

## Preamble

WHEREAS social, economic and environmental issues must be integrated factors in development and sustainability and,

WHEREAS the Global Green Charter includes the term “economic,” but the stated values of the GPC do not.

## Operative

Be it resolved that the word “economic” be added to ARTICLE 3.1 to read:

“3.1 To enhance the effectiveness of the Global Green Movement in creating a Green Society by providing an evolving social, economic and political structure that embraces and supports Green Values and offers itself as a voice for the broader Green Movement.”

Related Discussion: <https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C014>

## Sponsors

Andy Park, Burt Folkins, Colin Griffiths, Colin Old, Cyrille Giraud, Danny Polifroni, Don Scott, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Frances Coates, Ian Soutar, Johan Hamels, Kay Foster, Marcus Madsen, Mario Leclerc, Mark MacKenzie, Norbert d'Costa, Sharon Danley, Stacey Leadbetter, Stephan Klietich, Suzanne Lacourcière

## Background

This motion brings our Constitution in line with the Global Green Charter.

There is a need for the economic system to function efficiently so that we can afford the social and environmental priorities that are essential for our long term well being and global security. At present, as many prominent economists are expressing, our economic priorities over the past few decades are out of balance and a few now globally control most of the wealth and hence the political power. This is in no one's long term interest. It is estimated that there are 220 million migrants in the world which can only mean global instability. We need to press for economic changes that provide greater equality and security on a global basis.

---

## Adopting a Seventh Core Principle: Scientific Inquiry

**Code:** G16-C015

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Saul Bottcher

## **Preamble**

WHEREAS the Green Party of Canada has consistently presented itself to the public as "The Party of Science", has publicly endorsed evidence-based decision-making, and has promoted policies which are based on current science;

WHEREAS scientific inquiry has been crucial to our understanding of the most important issues facing Canada today, including climate change, sustainability, economic inequality, and democratic reform, and has been equally crucial in determining the most prudent solutions to those problems;

WHEREAS in a multi-faith, multi-cultural society, an agreed common foundation for discussion of public policy is necessary for social cohesion and sustained social progress;

WHEREAS the actions of the Canadian public, such as the outcry against the rejection of science by a previous government, have affirmed that science and evidence are central to the Canadian identity and social fabric;

## **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Constitution be amended to add item 5.1.7: "Scientific Inquiry" and to add item 5.5: "Appendix B provides additional reference text regarding principles.";

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Constitution be amended to add Appendix B as follows:

### **"Scientific Inquiry**

We recognize the scientific method as humankind's common lens for probing and understanding the natural world. We believe that empirical evidence is the foundation of effective public policy, and we promote rational inquiry and sincere debate as the processes by which policy is best created, refined, and reviewed.

This requires:

- A policy development process which begins with empirical evidence and uses inquiry and debate to arrive at finished policies
- An awareness of current scientific understanding and a respect for expert analysis and opinion
- A willingness to embrace political positions clearly supported by evidence, and to abandon those clearly not supported by evidence
- A commitment to apply the Precautionary Principle
- A spirit of joy and fearlessness in discovering and understanding the beauty of the natural world that surrounds us"

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C015>

## **Sponsors**

Colin Griffiths, Corey Levine, Scott McDowell, Stefan Klietsch, Carolyn Herbert, Paul Kompass, Melanie MacDonald, Danny Polifroni, Simon Rear, John Redins, David J Momotiuk, Cyrille Giraud, Thomas Trappenberg, Kevin Labonte, Lindsay Thompson, Laila Zarrabi Yan, Grant Penton, James Mihaychuk, Kyle Lacroix, Pauline Thornham, Matt Chisholm, Shaun Hatton, Daniela Gadotti, Gary Adams

## **Background**

While most members would agree that the Green Party embraces science and evidence, you may wonder what purpose there is to enshrining scientific inquiry as our seventh principle in our constitution.

First, there is a public purpose. By declaring science as one of our core principles, we make a promise to the Canadian public: that we will develop sound policy, that we will respect expertise, that we will make prudent and rational decisions, that we will lead fearlessly, and that we will put the public good ahead of our own political gains. This is an unequivocal statement on the type of government we intend to form, and will clearly position us in the mind of the public.

Secondly, there is a symbolic internal purpose. This is an opportunity to acknowledge an attitude which is fundamental to the character of our party, and in doing so, to enrich the fabric of our shared values. It is a celebration of something fundamentally "green".

But most importantly, there is a tangible internal purpose. Should we pass this motion, we will be declaring a mandate for the future development of our party. We will be setting the expectation that every one of our internal behaviours must respect the principles of scientific inquiry: freely-shared information, open debate, universal participation, freedom to dissent, and a common striving for the truth.

In short, this motion is intended to set our compass, in view of both the public and ourselves, so that we can strive together toward a common destination.

For additional questions & answers submitted by members, please see: [www.saulbottcher.com/seventh-principle.html](http://www.saulbottcher.com/seventh-principle.html)

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## **Increase General Meeting Quorum to 100**

**Code:** G16-C016

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Joe Foster

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS the GPC has grown over the years;

WHEREAS it is essential to have adequate representation;

## Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that the number fifty (50) be replaced with the number one hundred (100) for quorum in Article 8 “General Meetings of the Entire Membership of the Party.”

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C016>

## Sponsors

Burt Folkins, Colin Griffiths, Colin Old, Cyrille Giraud, Danny Polifroni, Diana Nunes, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Frances Coates, Ian Soutar, Joe Foster, Johan Hamels, Kay Foster, Marcus Madsen, Mario Leclerc, Mark MacKenzie, Norbert d'Costa, Sharon Danley, Stacey Leadbetter, Stephan Klietsh

## Background

It is important that changes to the Constitution are made only if there are a reasonable number of members in attendance. Since the Party has grown over the past decade, the previous number of 50 should be increased to guarantee a better representation of the membership from across Canada.

---

## Removal of Leader after Two Terms or Less than 75% Support

**Code:** G16-C017

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Johan Hamels

## Party Commentary

This resolution changes the bylaws but the change is unclear. It seems to allow a leader with less than 75% support from members to remain as the leader until they have served 8 years.

## Preamble

WHEREAS the current bylaw calls for a leadership review following a general election in which our leader does not become Prime Minister;

WHEREAS a review does not permit an extensive review of the performance of the party or its leadership;

WHEREAS it is essential that the Leader continues to have strong support from the Party;

## Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that a new clause 2.1.4.8 be added to read:

2.1.4.8 The term of the leader shall be limited to the greater of two (2) consecutive parliamentary terms, or eight (8) years, unless she or he becomes Prime Minister or she or he achieves at least a 3/4 (75%) approval vote in future Leadership Reviews.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C017>

## Sponsors

Colin Griffiths, Colin Old, Cyrille Giraud, Diana Nunes, Ian Soutar, Joe Foster, Mario Leclerc, Mark MacKenzie, Sharon Danley

## Background

The NDP has shown the disastrous results to both the Leader and the Party if she or he diverges significantly from the grassroots sense of direction.

Stressing Leadership Reviews will help to ensure that the Party and its Leader remain in contact and connected. This will help to garner support and loyalty to the Party, especially during an election.

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## Randomly Assigning Members' Voting Rights to One Convention Workshop Only

**Code:** G16-C018

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Stefan Klietsch

## Preamble

WHEREAS Green Party convention workshops represent decisive focal points for the success or failure of resolutions under their review, where handfuls of activist Members can effectively veto or approve policies to which hundreds of Green Party Members would otherwise be open-minded or closed-minded respectively;

WHEREAS special interest and ideological minorities within the party have the capacity to disproportionately mobilize their votes to workshops relative to the general Membership, reducing the capacity for workshops to deliberate and impartially analyze policy and constitutional motions on behalf of the plenary;

WHEREAS all Members at each convention retain the opportunity to vote for or against each policy or constitutional motion at the floor of the plenary, but using a workshop to vote twice

should be deemed as an awarded privilege given the inequality relative to those Members not present at any given workshop;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that new provisions under Bylaw 4, General Meetings of the Entire Membership of the Party, will be written as follows:

4.4.2 Whenever motions are divided for review by workshop votes for later recommendations to plenary, each voting Member will be assigned to a single workshop only, through a randomized process of name-selection. Member participation in assigned workshops will remain voluntary while sitting and speaking in non-assigned workshops will be permitted, but voting by a Member in a workshop to which he or she is not assigned will be prohibited.

4.4.3 The prohibition against voting at workshops to which a given Member is not assigned will not apply wherever less than ten percent (10%) of the quorum of Members would otherwise be voting at a given workshop.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C018>

### **Sponsors**

Colin Griffiths, Carolyn Herbert, Saul Bottcher, Danny Polifroni, John Redins, Shawn Conroy, Alex Hill, Joe Foster, David Momotiuk, Ard Van Leuwen, Cyrille Giraud, Grant Penton, Johan Hammels, Kevin Labonte, Mark Mackenzie

### **Background**

At the 2014 Green Party BGM in Fredericton, Dalhousie University scientist Thomas Duck advised Members that evidence-based policymaking requires ignoring personal intuitions when considering policies with which one disagrees. But this advice is inevitably not pursued whenever like-minded Members disproportionately stack a policy workshop without the incentive to think in the negative rather than “win” for their side. For example, in discussion at the workshop of G14-P07, multiple Members immediately declared their voting intentions without requesting response to criticisms from the motion mover, with the assurance that the majority was already opposed and need not concern itself with two-sided dialogue. With G14-P08, the confirmation bias of the majority was evident in the ovation selectively given for only one side of the argument. With G14-P26, the hasty workshop judgment was not taken seriously enough by the plenary to be rejected for debate.

This motion attempts to preserve debate space for ideas with soft support bases against anxious shut-down by those most immediately conscious of their self-interests, without blocking attendance and testimony at a workshop to which one is not assigned. Randomization of voting rights would better ensure that a majority of voting Members in any workshop instance have no predetermined convictions, thereby increasing quality and two-sidedness of debate on controversial proposals.



By curtailing the exceptional power of senior party members to organize established lobbyist networks and crowd debate forums with hard support bases, this motion would also enhance grassroots democracy within the Green Party.

The exemption to the randomization rule proposes a safeguard against excessive narrowing of voting powers in the workshops.

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## **Removal of Member who has Willfully Damaged the Party**

**Code:** G16-C019

**Resolution Type:** Constitutional

**Submitter Name:** Jacquie Miller

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS the criteria for removal of a member are lacking specifics;

WHEREAS we as a small party are vulnerable to take-over from others who may not have the interests of the Party in mind;

WHEREAS we have grown to approximately 20,000 members;

WHEREAS we want to maintain our Green Values and spirit of inclusiveness while still preserving good conduct;

WHEREAS the Federal Council requires clarity as to expulsion of members;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that:

Bylaw 1.3 of the GPC Constitution: Resignation and Removal of Member be amended to add 1.3.3: In accordance with 1.3.2 a member may be expelled, suspended, or otherwise disciplined for any conduct which (1) is contrary to the Members' Code of Conduct, or (2) is contrary to this Constitution, or (3) is contrary to the principles and purpose of the Party, or (4) brings discredit to, or (5) willfully damages the interests of the Party.

Bylaw 1.3 Resignation and Removal of Member

1.3.1 A person shall cease to be a Member of the Party:

1.3.1.1 By delivering her/his resignation by mailing or delivering it to an address of the Party.

1.3.1.2 On her/his death.

1.3.1.3 On being expelled.

1.3.1.4 On having been a Member not in good standing for 12 consecutive months.

1.3.1.5 On stating that they are working to form a new Federal political party, or if they are supporting another existing Federal political party.

1.3.2 A Member may be expelled by a resolution of the Federal Council or a General Meeting of Members. The person who is subject to the proposed expulsion shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the meeting before the motion is put to a vote.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-C019>

## **Sponsors**

Jacquie Miller, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Jean-Luc Cooke, John Savage, Carrie McLaren, Caroline Brown, Christine Cantin, Brenda Sayers, Paul Manly, John Whistler, Adriane Carr, Paul George, Sid Hayes, Rosemary Cooper, Jordan Bober, Colin Griffiths, Steve May, Wes Regan, Greg Sabo, Drina Read drinaread, Patty Mucklow, Simon McMillan, Ira Heidemann, Andrew Park

## **Background**

The purpose of this resolution is to strengthen the terms under which the party can protect itself from takeover by other parties, their representatives or people acting on their behalf, and to better enable Federal Council and our party to remove people from the membership who act against the interests of the party that we have all worked so hard to build as a unique alternative in Canadian politics.

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## **Allow Voting by Remote Ballot in Rural Ridings for Candidate Nomination and Other Procedures**

**Code:** G16-D001

**Resolution Type:** Directive

**Submitter Name:** Daniela Gadotti

## **Preamble**

WHEREAS Bylaw 5 of the Green Party of Canada states that “The party will provide rules for the selection of candidates for Member of Parliament”, and those rules as set by Council in the document “Green Party of Canada Candidate Nomination Procedures” state in point 7.1.1 that to be eligible to vote a Member “is present at the meeting;”

WHEREAS “Participatory Democracy” is enshrined in the Constitution of the Green Party of Canada as one of the six founding principles of the Party, in agreement with The Charter of the Global Greens (article 5 of the constitution);

WHEREAS rural ridings in Canada are geographically so large that several hours travel are necessary for some members to reach a single physical location elsewhere in the riding, this being costly in time, money and carbon emissions;

WHEREAS the Central organization of the Green Party of Canada allows remote ballots by its Members on occasion of leadership reviews, Council elections and the approval of resolutions;

### **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that voting procedures for the selection of a Candidate for Member of Parliament shall be allowed to take place by remote ballot so long as a single vote per eligible member can be reasonably ensured;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that votes by members in rural EDAs, be them to elect the executive or any other occasion where the members are formally consulted, can be operated via secure remote ballot.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-D001>

### **Sponsors**

Sjeng Derkx, Carrie McLaren, Michael Jessen, Bruce Edson, Sam Troy, Cameron Baughen, Paul Bowles, Ann Remnant, Andy Shadrak, Brock Carpendale, Gusti Callis, Lisa Bramson, Giulia Roberts, Laurel Ralston, Elsje De Boer, Celeste Kitchen, Nora Abercrombie, Romy Tittel, Al Birchard, Monique Groom, George Gilks, Nicole Charwood, Jonathan Halasz, Matthew Chisholm, Sara Golling, Dylan Peaks, Mariah Grau, Bill Green, Arthur Green, Ralph McLean, John Redins, Robert Mellalieu, Brian Smallshaw

### **Background**

The directive of the GPC Council that voting Members be present in person at a nomination meeting to nominate a Candidate works well in urban ridings, where the whole electoral district can be crossed in a half hour bus ride. The geographic reality of rural Districts makes it impossible to conduct voting procedures in any one location or even several locations within practical reach of a large proportion of the population. For example, see the maps on the Elections Canada web site for the Districts of Kootenay Columbia (BC), Northwest Territories (NWT), Kenora (Ontario), Avalon (Newfoundland and Labrador), to name just a few. The provision that members be present in person is not practical in Rural ridings and is not conducive to democratic expression. Recently the GPC allowed voting by remote ballot for the leadership review, this vote was managed by a third party. A visit to the web page of this third party (simplyvoting.com) reveals that a basic voting procedure for an EDA with around 200 members would cost around \$200, well within the means of EDAs with even minimal fundraising. Furthermore a vote can be arranged on short notice and provisions made for telephone and paper ballots.

## **Improve the Welcoming and Membership Renewal Process for GPC donors and Members**

**Code:** G16-D002

**Resolution Type:** Directive

**Submitter Name:** David Hunter, CEO North Vancouver EDA

### **Preamble**

WHEREAS current processes for welcoming and renewing GPC donors and members include the following:

1. GPC contacts new donors and members to thank them (via email, phone, or regular mail)
2. New donors who did not specifically ask to become a member are invited by GPC to do so, with the benefits explained to them
3. When new donors confirm they would like to become a member, GPC invites them to register on the GPC website so they can vote and access the “members” section
4. GPC reminds members to renew 30 days before their membership expires

### **Operative**

Be it resolved that the following new actions will be added to the above preamble existing processes:

1. If a GPC membership expires, the expiry date will be shown in their personal profile section on the GPC web site. (It currently says “No Membership” or is left blank.)
2. Upon request, or a previously agreed to schedule, GPC will send to a local EDA the list of donors who contributed via the online GPC website to either GPC or the local EDA, so the local EDA can reach out and connect with them.
3. EDAs will inform GPC within 30 days after supporters make donations to their local EDA and/or want to become members
4. EDA's will retain the membership fees from local EDA donations (e.g. not send the \$10 fee to GPC)

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-D002>

### **Sponsors**

Alison Watt, Alistair Peacock, Amy Fisher, Barb Jolliffe, Betsy Agar, Bruce McArthur, Claire Martin, Claudia Cornwall, Colin Cargill, David Hunter, Eric Johnson, Gina Chapin, Jodie Bergeron, Kathleen Burman, Nick Burman, Simon Rear, Cora LaRussa, Peter Chappell, Leo Fernig, Nancy Pow, Pete Fry, Sue Kent, Amrita Ahuja, Julia St. Pierre, Ian Soutar, Gordon Cornwall, Miriam Sabzevari, Heather Peacock, Nancy Hunter

## Background

The above Directive proposals will improve the ability of GPC and local EDA's to thank, welcome, and renew donors and members in a coordinated, timely fashion, explain the benefits of being a member, and to invite them to connect to GPC and local EDA Social Media sites so they participate in, and keep up to date, on national and local activity and events.

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## Federal Council Member Reimbursement

**Code:** G16-D003

**Resolution Type:** Directive

**Submitter Name:** Alison Watt

### Preamble

WHEREAS the duties of Federal Council members as outlined in the Green Party of Canada Federal Council Handbook, particularly in articles 3.2.3, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, and 3.3.14, mandate communication within all levels of the party, and representation across broad geographic regions;

WHEREAS the effective fulfillment of Federal Council member's mandate requires travel, as well as attendance at local and national Green Party of Canada events;

WHEREAS in keeping with the Green Party of Canada fundamental principle of social justice, the personal income of Federal Council members should not be a limiting factor in the effective performance of their duties;

### Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that Federal Council members each receive reimbursement from the Green Party of Canada of up to \$3,600 annually, to reimburse reasonable expenses related to fulfilling their mandate.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-D003>

### Sponsors

Jodie Bergeron, Alistair Peacock, Amy Fisher, Barb Jolliffe, Betsy Agar, Bruce McArthur, Claire Martin, Claudia Cornwall, Colin Cargill, David Hunter, Eric Johnson, Gina Chapin, Kathy Burman, Nick Burman, Nancy Hunter, Karen Meijer, Daniel Kline, Mark Reeves, Carin Gill, Kimberly Parker, David Gill, Leo Fernig, Sue Kent, Amrita Ahuja

## Background

The Green Party of Canada presently has no formal directive to address expenses incurred by Federal Council members in the performance of their mandated duties. In order to reflect party principles of social justice, such a directive is necessary. Approval of specific expenses is at the discretion of the Green Party of Canada, as is the transparency of such expenses to the membership. The maximum annual cost of this resolution would be \$64,800, though it could be less if there are Federal Council vacancies, or if individual Federal Council members do not claim the maximum reimbursement allowed in a given year.

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## On Recording Council Motions/Resolutions

**Code:** G16-D004

**Resolution Type:** Directive

**Submitter Name:** Joe Foster

### Preamble

WHEREAS it is important for Council to have a ready reference to past and current Motions/Resolutions;

WHEREAS it is equally important for members to be able to be kept fully informed of Council plans and decisions;

### Operative

BE IT RESOLVED that a Motions/Resolutions database be created expeditiously with search facilities using the following 9 fields (4 contain a boolean Yes/No, and the next 5 contain text/sentences):

Draft, Rejected, Deferred, Approved

Title, Sponsors, Operative, Background, Actions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director officially appoint an individual to update this Database (when available) within 5 working days of a Council meeting;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a schedule be developed to add past Council Motions/Resolutions to this Database.

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-D004>

## **Sponsors**

Stacey Leadbetter, Danny Polifroni, Ard Van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Peter Bevan-Baker, Colin Old, Don Scott, Colin Griffiths, Eric Walton, Stephanie Coburn, Mark MacKenzie, Johan Hamels, Lee Coates, Dimitri Lascaris, Cyrille Giraud, Sharon Danley, Becka Viau, Mario Leclerc, Lynne Lund, Kay Foster, Marcus Madsen

## **Background**

Councillors need an easy and quick reference to current and past decisions that may influence new Motions being proposed. In addition, interested members should have quick access to proposals and decisions should they wish to raise questions through their representatives. This is another step in improving transparency, openness and participation of the membership.

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## **Clear and Consistent Use of the Terms "Motion" and "Resolution"**

**Code:** G16-D005

**Resolution Type:** Directive

**Submitter:** Colin Griffiths

## **Party Commentary**

This is both a change to the Constitution and is a party directive which reverses the common Canadian understanding of the meanings of the words "resolution" and "motion".

In Canada a resolution is defined as "a main motion that needs to be expressed formally in writing, to attach a special level of importance, such as policy or constitutional amendments."

## **Preamble**

WHEREAS a motion is movement and a resolution is resolved;

WHEREAS motions are moved prior to being resolved;

WHEREAS a motion may be rejected and therefore never resolved;

WHEREAS a resolution is resolved on its adoption;

WHEREAS a motion on submission cannot be a resolution;

## **Operative**

BE IT RESOLVED that wherever in the constitution, in the web site, and in the process and procedures of all our committees, reference is made to a resolution in a context clearly prior to its resolution, that the reference be changed to "motion";

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that wherever a reference is made to a “motion” in a context clearly following its adoption that the reference be changed to “resolution.”

Related Discussion:

<https://www.greenparty.ca/en/forum/convention-2016/voting/resolutions/G16-D005>

## **Sponsors**

Ard van Leeuwen, Burt Folkins, Colin Old, Constantine Kritsonis, Cyrille Giraud, Danny Polifroni, Diana Nunes, Erich Jacoby-Hawkins, Frances Coates, Ian Soutar, Joe Foster, Johan Hamels, Kay Foster, Lorraine Rekmans, Marcus Madsen, Mario Leclerc, Mark MacKenzie, Norbert d'Costa, Saul Bottcher, Sharon Danley, Stacey Leadbetter

## **Background**

According to the CGA publication, “How to Conduct a Meeting,” -- “Though the terms “motion” and “resolution” are frequently used as synonyms, the terms are separate and distinct. A motion is a proposition placed before a meeting for discussion and decision. If, as a result of that discussion, the proposal is carried by a vote of the members, it is considered a resolution of the meeting.”

This is a confusion which exists throughout the deliberations of the Green party. It exists in the way we call our BGMs, in the way we present ideas for discussion, in the way we have organized and presented our web site, and in the way our executive operates. It is not being pedantic to request that this terminology be normalised.



## 2014 Tabled Resolutions Requiring a Vote

### **G14-P46 – Divestment from Fossil Fuels**

BE IT RESOLVED that The Green Party supports the divestment campaign begun by Bill McKibben. The Green Party of Canada will add its name to the list of institutions committed to divestment from fossil fuels;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that The Green Party of Canada will encourage Canada to divest from fossil fuels;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it will be the policy of the Green Party of Canada, when elected, to have the government of Canada divest from fossil fuel companies.

### **G14-P05 – Using Canada's Armed Forces to Address Non-Military Security Threats**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Without increasing military spending, the Green Party of Canada will promote an enhanced role for Canada's existing armed forces in transforming the nation to a low-carbon economy, in addressing the impacts of climate change in Canada and in other serious non-military security threats as they arise.

## 2014 Official Minutes

The Green Party of Canada's 2014 Biennial General Meeting was held in Fredericton, NB, from July 18-20, 2014. Official Minutes are available at: <https://www.greenparty.ca/en/party/convention-2014/minutes>.

## 2014 Directives Report

Four directive resolutions were passed at the 2014 BGM. Two were housekeeping motions that were enacted immediately following their passing:

### **G14-D01 - Waiving of 120 day rule in article 10.3.1 of the 2010 Constitution with respect to BGM12 Policy resolutions**

- *That the provisions of article 10.3.1 of the 2010 Constitution be waived for the purposes of ratifying policy resolutions introduced at BGM12, and that they therefore be adopted.*

### **G14-D02 - Waiving of 120 day-rule in article 10.1.4.2 with respect to BGM12 Constitutional resolutions**

- *That the provisions of articles 10.1.3 and 10.1.4.2 of the 2010 Constitution be waived for the purposes of ratifying constitutional resolutions introduced at BGM12 and therefore that they be adopted.*

A third directive has been implemented and is now part of our candidate nomination process.

**G14-D05 - MP Code of Conduct**

- *That as part of the nomination process, any candidate wishing to stand for Green Party nomination must agree to and sign an MP Code of Conduct;*
- *That the Code of Conduct is to enshrine the highest ethical standards, both for campaigning during elections and for the holding of public office, and is to prohibit practices and conduct such as personal attacks, discriminatory or sexist remarks, and dishonourable or bullying conduct in the House of Commons;*
- *That deviation from the Code of Conduct constitutes a breach of the public trust, undermines the commitment of the Green Party of Canada to have our candidates and MPs lead by example and model good behaviour, and may constitute grounds for dismissal as candidate, or ejection from caucus as a sitting Member of Parliament.*

A fourth and final directive has yet to be actioned due to the timing of the 2015 General Election. It will be considered prior to the 2018 Biennial General Meeting.

**G14-D03 - Implementation of E-Voting**

- That a committee will be struck to determine the most cost-effective, technically feasible, and secure method of allowing voters to cast e-votes during BGMs and EDA processes, with the goal of improving participation in and quality of decision-making.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Plenary, Workshops and Voting

### Bilingual Services

Due to the preponderance of English speakers, most of the business is conducted in that language. Resolutions will be projected in both languages on screens at the front of the room. Simultaneous translation services will be provided.

### What is plenary?

Plenary is the part of conventions that are attended by all participants (as opposed to workshops). This is where we consider resolutions and conduct any other business of the general membership meeting. We use rules of order to make sure our convention runs smoothly, fairly, and on time.

### What are workshops?

These are sessions where groups of members review the resolutions to determine if it is possible to improve upon them. Workshops have the authority to recommend passing, amending or rejecting resolutions. The moderator of the workshop will bring any recommendations back to plenary. If there are particular resolutions you would like to discuss, be sure to attend that workshop. Because workshops run concurrently, often EDAs will make sure to discuss resolutions in advance and send representatives to each workshop.

### What are resolutions?

During our convention, we will consider three types of resolutions:

- Policy resolutions that set a position for the GPC on a specific issue,
- Constitutional resolutions that modify our constitution, and
- Directive resolutions that suggest a particular course of action for the operation of the party

### In what order will we review resolutions?

Both workshops and plenary prioritize their consideration of resolutions in order of the percentage of “green lit” votes (see “Online Members Survey Results”) received during the online vote held earlier in the year. We do an online vote in advance so all members can have input on whether to adopt resolutions.

Emergency resolutions from the floor will be considered in order of submission after all other business has been dispensed and as time permits. **Please see the separate handout on emergency resolutions.**

### How do we handle each resolution?

The online poll, which took place earlier this year, used the Bonser Method of voting and provides members at convention with guidance on which resolutions should be debated. The

recommendation is to pass Policy and Directive resolutions which received 60% or more 'green lit' votes, and Constitution resolutions which received 66.7% or more, during the online poll. There are exceptions, and members can put forward amendments to the recommendation.

All of the other resolutions will be sent to workshop for discussion and possible amendment.

Once the workshops are done, they will report back to the chair of plenary with their recommendations for final comments and votes.

### How do we debate resolutions?

In both plenary and workshops, there is a limited amount of time to debate each resolution. The chair will recognize two people for and two people against a resolution, giving each a maximum of 60 seconds to speak.

After the first two rounds of debate, the chair will test the room to determine if members are ready to vote.

The place to make amendments is at workshop. Substantive amendments at plenary will be discouraged by the chair.

Remember to be respectful of others at all times. Participatory democracy always demands polite discourse.

### How do we vote?

Only members with a voting card may vote. Please keep this on hand.

Once debate has been closed at workshop or plenary, the chair will then move to a vote. To vote for the resolution, show your voting card:

- a. Green to support the resolution.
- b. Red to oppose the resolution.

The resolution passes with a simple majority.

You do not have to vote on every resolution. It is extremely important to attend plenary and workshop sessions on time. We have very strict timelines to get through every resolution. The chair will start regardless of your attendance.

### Terms you may hear (or use!)

Please remember to direct your questions or points to the chair(s).

- **Point of Personal Privilege:** Used if there is an issue relating to noise, personal comfort (ie it's too hot!) etc. Please approach staff at the registration desk to attempt to remedy matters of comfort and interrupt proceedings only if necessary!
- **Point of Information:** A question about the facts under discussion: "I should like to ask the (speaker) a question."
- **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** A question about the rules of order if you are confused.

- **Point of Order:** A point of order can be raised at any time when any member notices a violation of the rules. The chair's duty is to make a decision, called a ruling, on the point of order.
- **Move the Question:** This can be said when you want to stop discussion and vote. Should be used sparingly as it is preferable to respect the chair's responsibility.
- **Main Motion:** Brings new business before the assembly: I move that....
- **Divide the Question:** Divides a motion into two or more separate motions (must be able to stand on their own).
- **Amend:** Change the wording of a resolution that is being discussed.
- **Table:** to suspend further consideration of something.

Have more questions?

An introductory session is scheduled for **3:30pm on Friday afternoon in the Richelieu room.**

You can also feel free to ask questions of your fellow members in the audience, or approach a chair during a break.

## **Green Party of Canada Ombuds Committee Report for 2016 Convention**

### Cases:

Our most time-consuming case this term was a complaint by a former member, about the process by which he was blocked from re-applying for GPC membership, and also about personal blog postings mentioning him that are posted by a Green Party member who had submitted the complaint about him that resulted in his loss of membership, and who been acting in an official capacity while she vetted him as a potential candidate. We submitted a report in July of 2014 which found that the process of blocking the complainant's membership was flawed. Our report included recommendations, but we have seen no indication that our recommendations were ever implemented. We did receive an email indicating that our report might be discussed at the Federal Council meeting in October of 2014. I (as Chair) was asked if I could be available to answer questions about it, and I provided my telephone number. I received no call, and do not know whether the report was ever discussed by Federal Council.

Instead, we have seen indications in the form of extreme e-mail and blog harassment of most of the party executive, and many others, by the complainant, apparently partially because he is upset by the lack of response to his further repetitive complaints to the Ethics Committee and to the lack of action on our Ombuds report recommendations. Not being mental health professionals, we have made no findings about the complainant's status in that regard.

Currently, we are exchanging messages with a new complainant and the subject of the complaint, about the suitability of certain views that were allegedly expressed on Facebook by the subject – a Green Party representative.

We have also responded to a number of other communications:

- a complaint about "electioneering on election day" from a person who did not understand the rules about it;
- a complaint from a member who said a Green Party person promised her a ride to the polls on election day and did not show up;
- a message from a former Ontario Election Organizer who resigned over concerns about GPC campaign support;
- a complaint from a campaign manager over non-payment for services (he was later paid);
- a complaint about the BC Workers' Compensation Board; we referred the complainant to the BC Provincial Ombuds person;
- a complaint about a late tax receipt for donations;
- a complaint from a concerned member about language critical of GPC Leader Elizabeth May in a widely-published article by Johan Hamels, GPC International Liaison;
- a complaint from a member who had asked to be taken off the phoning list, and thought she had received a call or calls from the GPC (but it was probably the provincial party);

- several communications from members upset by certain resolutions to be voted upon at the upcoming GPC convention.

**Ombuds Committee composition:**

The Ombuds Committee currently consists of: Kathleen deWitt; Sara Golling (acting Ombuds Chair); Jerome Dickey; J. Amber Freer.

**What we Need:**

For new appointments to the Ombuds Committee, we need Green Party of Canada members who do not hold any other official position at any level in the Party, and should not have any close ties with any others who hold official positions in the Party; should understand and support the concept of natural justice; who can adjust their opinions as new information becomes available; and who are able to recognize a potential conflict of interest and declare it, and stand aside from any case in which they have a conflict or an “apprehension of bias.”

Members should understand that we have no budget, and communicate almost exclusively by email – so as to have a written record of all assertions and allegations by complainants and respondents. Ombuds Committee members can live anywhere in Canada, but must be responsive to discussions.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Golling

## 2016 Federal Council



**Ken Melamed, President** – Ken Melamed is a former two-term mayor of Whistler, British Columbia during the Winter Olympics. He has been an environmental activist, social justice campaigner, and sustainability champion for many years. Ken served as the Green Party's candidate for West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea-to-Sky Country in 2015 and is now a member of his local EDA. He is currently President of the party, serving in this capacity since 2016.



**Elizabeth May, Leader** – Elizabeth May is the Leader of the Green Party of Canada and its first elected Member of Parliament, representing Saanich-Gulf Islands in southern Vancouver Island. She is a member of the Order of Canada.



**Patricia Farnese, VP English** – Patricia Farnese is a mother, lawyer, professor and union leader. Patricia has been a long-time volunteer for the Green Party, serving on the GPC Fund and previously on Federal Council as the Saskatchewan Representative. Currently, she has served on Federal Council as Vice President (English) since 2016.



**Jean Rousseau, VP French** – Born in Asbestos, Quebec, Jean Rousseau spent most of his childhood in Windsor in the Eastern Townships. He worked in show business as a musician, producer, promoter and soundman for 25 years in Quebec before getting involved in politics. He served as Member of Parliament for the riding of Compton—Stanstead during the 41st Parliament.



**Kate Storey, Treasurer/Fund Representative** – Kate Storey operates an organic farm business in rural Manitoba. She has been involved in her community for many years, serving on a number of boards. She also served the President of the her town's Chamber of Commerce. Kate has served on Federal Council as Treasurer for several terms.





**Lynne Quarmby, British Columbia Representative** – Dr. Lynne Quarmby is a professor of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry at Simon Fraser University. Lynne serves as Science Policy Critic on the GPC Shadow Cabinet and was the GPC candidate for Burnaby North-Seymour in 2015.



**Geoff Matthews, Alberta Representative** – Geoff Matthews is an avid outdoors-man and relishes time spent with his wife enjoying the easterly slopes of the Rockies whether on a mountain bike or skis. When in the city he volunteers as much as possible with Calgary Search and Rescue. Geoff has served on Federal Council as the Alberta Representative since 2015.



**Shawn Setyo, Saskatchewan Representative** – Shawn Setyo is passionate about seeing the elimination of poverty through the implementation of the Guaranteed Livable Income. A long time activist, Shawn has been involved with Greenpeace Indonesia and with the Green Party since 2011. He became the interim Leader of the Green Party of Saskatchewan in June 2016 after running federally and provincially on three occasions.



**Wesley Stevens, Manitoba Representative** – Wesley Stevens is a Professor of History with 10 books and over 100 articles. He has lectured worldwide in Iceland, Italy, and China: 14 countries altogether. Wesley has served on Federal Council as the Manitoba Representative since 2013.



**Jean-Luc Cooke, Ontario Representative** – After graduating from Carleton University with a degree in engineering, Jean-Luc created CertainKey Inc., an information security consultancy firm. He also volunteers with the Lynwood Village Community Association and the Make-A-Wish-Foundation. Jean-Luc is a long-time volunteer with the Green Party, serving as CEO for the Nepean EDA, and as a candidate in 2011 and 2015. He is also the party's Shadow Cabinet critic for Small Business. Jean-Luc has served on Federal Council as the Ontario Representative since 2016.



**Danny Polifroni, Québec Representative** – Danny Polifroni is a trilingual Montréalais (English, French and Italian) who worked for many years in the renewable and aerospace energy fields and is currently working on a municipal education and environmental action program. A member of the GPC since 2008, Danny is a three-time candidate, running in Papineau in 2011 and 2015, and again in 2013 in the riding of Bourassa. He is currently the CEO of the Papineau

Riding Association and, since 2009, has sat on the Board of Directors of the Quebec Wing of the Green Party of Canada (AQPVC). Danny has served on Federal Council as the Quebec Representative since 2013.



**Stephanie Coburn, New Brunswick Representative** – Stephanie Coburn joined the Green Party after reading Vision Green for the first time in 2007. In 2008, she worked with others to form the New Brunswick Green Party, and has been on Provincial Council since. She ran federally in 2011 and 2015, and Provincially in 2010 and 2014. She has also been on the Board of the Conservation Council of New Brunswick since 1999, the majority as their President. Stephanie has served on Federal Council as the New Brunswick Representative since 2015.



**Camille Davidson, Nova Scotia Representative** – Camille Davidson has been involved with the Green Party since 2008, signing up as a volunteer on Elizabeth May's campaign right after arriving in Nova Scotia. In addition, she serves as the Secretary of the Lund Community Society, organizing the operation of an alternative community school project. She is also currently on the board of the Pictou parks and recreation committee of the municipal council, advising on issues relating to parks and recreation in Pictou. Camille has served on Federal Council as the Nova Scotia Representative since 2016.



**Darcie Lanthier, Prince Edward Island Representative** – Darcie Lanthier has been volunteering for the Green Party both provincially and federally since 2011. After the 2011 election she went back to school to learn more about Renewable Energy and is now an Energy Systems Engineering Technologist. Whenever there was a need for action, Darcie has stepped up. Beyond recruiting, organizing and fundraising, she has been a two-time provincial candidate, most recently attaining 18.8% of the the vote while actively campaigning for (now Green MLA) Peter Bevan-Baker in another District. Darcie has served on Federal Council as the Prince Edward Island Representative since 2016.



**David Peters, Newfoundland and Labrador Representative** – David Peters was born and raised in St. John's, Newfoundland. Having previously taught undergraduate courses at Memorial University of Newfoundland as an adjunct faculty, David is pursuing new horizons. He is a prolific musician with modest skill. He and his band mates in the TERRS play charity gigs in St. John's. He is an enthusiastic supporter of several charities. David has served on Federal Council as the Newfoundland and Labrador Representative since 2015.



**Julie Anne Ames, Territories** – Julie Anne Ames is the Riding Coordinator for the Yukon Federal Green Party. Julie Anne has worked in Communications at the federal level at both Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada and at Natural Resources Canada. She has also worked in the non-profit sector as a Community Coordinator for Frontier College, a national, non-profit

literacy organization. Julie Anne was the Conference Coordinator for the Montreal International Conference on Degrowth in the Americas, 2012. Julie Anne has served on Federal Council as the Territorial Representative since 2015.



**Émilianne Lépine, Young Greens Representative** – Émilianne reactivated the Riviere-du-Nord EDA and currently manages their volunteers and social media. She is deeply concerned with the lack of political interest among Canadian youth, and she hopes to make it more accessible and interesting for this demographic. She was elected co-chair of the Young Greens Council in 2016, and has concurrently served on Federal Council as one of the two Young Green Representatives.



**Cherie Wong, Young Greens Representative** – Cherie Wong previously volunteered in Elizabeth May's Parliament Hill office. During the 2015 election, she worked closely with the Ottawa-Vanier riding as the Co-Chair and as their Student Coordinator from the Young Greens of the University of Ottawa. Cherie was elected co-chair of the Young Greens Council in 2016, and has concurrently served on Federal Council as one of the two Young Green Representatives.

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Remember, visit [greenparty.ca/convention](http://greenparty.ca/convention) for everything to do with Convention 2016, and be sure to reach out to us anytime with questions at: [support@greenparty.ca](mailto:support@greenparty.ca). Have a great weekend!

## Online Member's Poll Results — Resolutions

Resolution	Green	Yellow	Red	1	2	3	4	5
G16-C002 - On Limit to Councillor Tenure (Bylaw 2.1.4)	49.0%	36.2%	14.9%	17.4%	32.5%	39.3%	5.7%	5.2%
G16-C003 - Give 14 Days Notice of Council Vacancies to Members by Email	71.1%	23.9%	5.1%	17.8%	30.1%	39.2%	8.1%	4.8%
G16-C004 - Require a by-election for Council Vacancies	63.2%	27.7%	9.0%	20.3%	31.6%	36.6%	7.1%	4.4%
G16-C006 - Require that all Council, Committee and General Meeting Minutes be Posted on the Website	77.4%	17.1%	5.5%	35.1%	37.1%	19.8%	4.6%	3.4%
G16-C007 - Separating Political Leadership and Governance Leadership	55.9%	31.1%	13.0%	30.5%	32.7%	28.3%	4.1%	4.4%
G16-C008 - Clarify the Operating Procedures of Green Party of Canada	76.1%	19.3%	4.7%	37.7%	34.5%	21.5%	3.3%	3.0%
G16-C009 - On Calling a Leadership Race (Bylaw 2.1.7.2)	59.9%	28.1%	12.0%	22.9%	33.8%	31.2%	4.7%	7.4%
G16-C010 - Clarify the use of the Policy Governance Model by Council	62.4%	34.6%	3.0%	22.8%	36.1%	33.0%	4.6%	3.6%
G16-C011 - Clarify the process for Implementation of Directive resolutions	65.0%	32.4%	2.6%	23.5%	32.9%	34.9%	5.4%	3.3%
G16-C012 - Clarifying the electoral purpose of the GPC in Article 4 of the Constitution	68.2%	26.7%	5.1%	30.7%	28.8%	31.9%	5.0%	3.6%
G16-C013 - Replacing the word "Principles" with "Values" in the Constitution	53.2%	29.1%	17.8%	20.4%	27.9%	31.5%	8.8%	11.4%
G16-C014 - Addition of the Term "Economic" to Green Values in Constitution	74.9%	19.8%	5.2%	30.0%	36.8%	24.5%	4.5%	4.2%
G16-C015 - Adopting a Seventh Core Principle: Scientific Inquiry	77.5%	16.6%	5.9%	52.2%	29.4%	12.4%	2.8%	3.3%
G16-C016 - Increase General Meeting Quorum to 100	57.0%	32.4%	10.6%	20.7%	31.9%	35.9%	5.6%	5.9%
G16-C017 - Removal of Leader after two terms or less than 75% support	31.1%	31.5%	37.4%	32.0%	28.4%	23.6%	7.5%	8.6%
G16-C018 - Randomly assigning members' voting rights to one Convention workshop only	28.1%	41.7%	30.1%	19.9%	27.5%	35.1%	6.8%	10.7%
G16-C019 - Removal of Member who has Willfully Damaged the Party	77.2%	15.5%	7.3%	53.1%	29.1%	12.8%	2.4%	2.6%

G16-D001 - Allow Voting by Remote Ballot in Rural Ridings for Candidate Nomination and Other Procedures	86.6%	10.4%	3.0%	47.6%	35.0%	13.2%	2.1%	2.2%
G16-D002 - Improve the Welcoming and Membership Renewal Process for GPC Donors and Members	71.8%	23.2%	5.0%	30.3%	34.9%	26.6%	4.3%	3.9%
G16-D003 - Federal Council Member Reimbursement	56.9%	37.6%	5.5%	22.2%	34.6%	35.8%	4.3%	3.0%
G16-D004 - On Recording Council Motions/ Resolutions	75.8%	20.3%	3.9%	35.9%	31.5%	26.2%	3.8%	2.6%
G16-D005 - Clear and Consistent use of the terms "Motion" and "Resolution"	77.2%	17.1%	5.7%	35.9%	27.8%	24.3%	6.9%	5.1%
G16-P001 - Sunny Ways: Building Solar Infrastructure	80.5%	16.2%	3.3%	64.8%	25.1%	6.6%	2.1%	1.4%
G16-P002 - Sugar-sweetened Beverage Tax	65.1%	23.8%	11.2%	34.7%	28.0%	21.7%	8.0%	7.6%
G16-P003 - Tug-Barge Petroleum Tankers	76.9%	16.5%	6.5%	54.0%	27.9%	14.5%	2.2%	1.4%
G16-P004 - The Green Marshall Plan - Bank of Canada's Green Money Supply	56.0%	35.2%	8.8%	37.1%	31.6%	22.5%	5.0%	3.7%
G16-P005 - Limits of Funding for "Alternative Therapies"	49.8%	36.0%	14.3%	32.6%	28.7%	28.6%	5.6%	4.4%
G16-P006 - Palestinian Self-Determination and the Movement for Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions	58.5%	28.2%	13.3%	33.4%	32.2%	22.0%	6.5%	5.9%
G16-P007 - Use and Protect Community Television to Support Local Political Communications	68.0%	24.3%	7.6%	32.2%	27.9%	25.2%	7.4%	7.2%
G16-P008 - Develop a National Urban Park Strategy	79.8%	17.1%	3.1%	41.8%	35.6%	15.7%	4.6%	2.3%
G16-P009 - Lead a New Coordinated Initiative to Manage Urban Waterways	79.7%	17.0%	3.4%	44.3%	32.7%	15.9%	4.6%	2.5%
G16-P010 - Revoking the Charitable Status of the Jewish National Fund Canada (JNF)	61.5%	23.7%	14.8%	31.7%	29.2%	24.7%	7.6%	6.7%

Note: 1 — Very Important, 2 — Somewhat Important, 3 — Neutral, 4 — Somewhat Unimportant, 5 — Very Unimportant.

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

December 31, 2015

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## Independent Auditor's Report

### To the Directors of Green Party of Canada Fund

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2015, and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified audit opinion.

#### *Basis for Qualified Opinion*

In common with organizations of this type, the Fund derives revenue from contributions, the completeness of which is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of revenues from contributions is limited to the amounts recorded in the records of the Fund and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to the amount of contributions, excess of revenues over expenditures for the year, and net assets.

#### *Qualified Opinion*

In our opinion, except for the effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Opinion paragraph, these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the organization as at December 31, 2015, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

  
**COLBY MCGEACHY PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION**  
 CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

*Authorized to practice public accounting by the Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario*

Almonte, Ontario  
 June 20, 2016



**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
 As at December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 259,786	\$ 3,968,943
Accounts receivable	2,246,831	346,065
Prepaid expenses	24,865	15,292
Candidate loans	111,000	1,000
Loans receivable (Note 3)	-	23,330
	2,642,482	4,354,630
<b>Capital assets (Note 4)</b>	98,389	26,102
	<b>\$ 2,740,871</b>	<b>\$ 4,380,732</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 6)	\$ 294,413	\$ 315,535
Current portion of long-term debt (Note 7)	1,657,500	130,000
	1,951,913	445,535
<b>Long-term debt (Note 7)</b>	92,500	370,000
	2,044,413	815,535
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	598,069	3,539,095
Invested in capital assets	98,389	26,102
	696,458	3,565,197
	<b>\$ 2,740,871</b>	<b>\$ 4,380,732</b>

On behalf of the board

 Director

 Director

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND****STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**

For the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
Revenues		
Contributions	\$ 4,489,790	\$ 2,946,991
Election rebate	1,954,012	-
Transfers	353,418	3,525
Other	97,512	42,412
Government allowance	73,031	364,665
Interest income	12,868	23,488
Convention fees	-	46,075
Rental income from sub-lease	-	57,466
	<b>6,980,631</b>	<b>3,484,622</b>
Expenditures		
Pre-election and election expenses (Schedule 1)	4,042,660	171,915
Transfers	2,126,130	236,402
Wages and benefits	1,482,226	851,003
Professional fees	887,960	228,699
Office and general	581,291	337,038
Travel and promotion	162,774	135,872
Occupancy costs	161,694	113,648
Fundraising activities	150,211	124,189
Interest and bank charges	113,971	93,815
Convention expenses	63,277	125,739
Interest on long-term debt	28,655	-
Amortization	26,252	60,852
Advertising	22,269	60,322
	<b>9,849,370</b>	<b>2,539,494</b>
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures	<b>\$ (2,868,739)</b>	<b>\$ 945,128</b>

The attached notes are an integral part of these financial statements

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
For the year ended December 31, 2015

	Balance, beginning of year	Acquisition of capital assets	Amortization of capital assets	Transfer between funds	Disposal of capital assets	(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures	2015 Balance, end of year
Unrestricted	\$ 3,539,095	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (72,287)	\$ -	\$ (2,868,739)	\$ 598,069
Invested in capital assets	26,102	112,858	(26,252)	-	(14,319)	-	98,389
	<b>\$ 3,565,197</b>	<b>\$ 112,858</b>	<b>\$ (26,252)</b>	<b>\$ (72,287)</b>	<b>\$ (14,319)</b>	<b>\$ (2,868,739)</b>	<b>\$ 696,458</b>
	Balance, beginning of year	Acquisition of capital assets	Amortization of capital assets	Transfer between funds	Excess of revenues over expenditures	2014 Balance, end of year	
Unrestricted	\$ 2,606,541	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (12,574)	\$ 945,128	\$ 3,539,095	
Invested in capital assets	13,528	71,926	(59,352)	-	-	26,102	
	<b>\$ 2,620,069</b>	<b>\$ 71,926</b>	<b>\$ (59,352)</b>	<b>\$ (12,574)</b>	<b>\$ 945,128</b>	<b>\$ 3,565,197</b>	

The attached notes are an integral part of these financial statements

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND****STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

For the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenditures	\$ (2,868,739)	\$ 945,128
Adjustment for		
Amortization	26,252	60,852
	(2,842,487)	1,005,980
Changes in non-cash working capital	(2,018,131)	50,041
	(4,860,618)	1,056,021
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of capital assets	(112,858)	(71,926)
Proceeds on disposal of capital assets	14,319	-
Term deposits	-	400,000
	(98,539)	328,074
<b>Cash flows from financing activity</b>		
Advances (repayment) of long term debt	1,250,000	500,000
<b>(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(3,709,157)</b>	<b>1,884,095</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year</b>	<b>3,968,943</b>	<b>2,084,848</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 259,786</b>	<b>\$ 3,968,943</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents consists of:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 259,786	\$ 1,368,943
Term deposit maturing in less than three months	-	2,600,000
	\$ 259,786	\$ 3,968,943

The attached notes are an integral part of these financial statements

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

December 31, 2015

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**1. ACTIVITIES OF THE FUND**

The Green Party of Canada is a Registered Political Party as defined by the Canada Elections Act. It has appointed the Green Party of Canada Fund to act as its Chief Agent in connection with the receipt of contributions and payment of expenses and all other financial transactions of the Party as required by the Canada Elections Act. The Green Party of Canada Fund is exempt from income taxes.

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of presentation**

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Under the Canada Elections Act, local Electoral District Associations (EDAs) are registered separately with Elections Canada and must file separate financial statements with Elections Canada. Accordingly, these financial statements exclude the operations of EDAs.

**Revenue recognition**

The Green Party of Canada Fund follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the same year in which the related tax receipt is issued.

The Government allowance is calculated based on the number of votes the Party received in the most recent general election at an approved rate per valid vote. The allowance is recognized when received or receivable if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Commencing April 1, 2012 the per year per vote allowance is being gradually reduced by .51 increments until it is completely eliminated in 2015.

Membership revenue is recognized in the period to which it relates.

Contributions and participant fees for conventions and annual general meetings are recognized as revenue when received by the Fund.

Election rebates are recognized in the year of the election expenditure, when the amount is determinable and collection assured. The Party's claim for election rebates is based upon management's interpretation of the applicable regulations in the Canada Elections Act. These amounts are subject to review and acceptance by Elections Canada prior to collection.

All other revenue is recognized when received or receivable, if the amount can be reasonably estimated and if collection is reasonably assured.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

The Green Party of Canada Fund's policy is to present bank balances under cash and cash equivalents with a maturity period of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Term deposits that cannot be used for current transactions because they are restricted as reserves are also excluded from cash and cash equivalents.

**2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)**

**Capital assets**

Purchased capital assets are recorded at cost. Contributed capital assets are recorded at fair value at the date of contribution. The Green Party of Canada Fund provides for amortization using the following methods at rates designed to amortize the cost of the capital assets over their estimated useful lives. The annual amortization rates and methods are as follows:

Computer equipment	3 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 years
Computer software	100%

**Contributed services**

The Green Party of Canada Fund would not be able to carry out its activities without the services of the many volunteers who donate a considerable number of hours. Because of the difficulty of compiling these hours, contributed services are not recognized in the financial statements.

**Financial instruments**

The Green Party of Canada Fund's financial instruments consist of cash, term deposits, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. Unless otherwise noted it is management's opinion that the Green Party of Canada Fund is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risks arising from these financial instruments. The fair values of these financial instruments approximate their carrying values, unless otherwise noted.

**Intangible assets**

Intangible assets are recorded at cost. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over a ten-year period, subject to an impairment test at the end of each year.

**Loans and receivables**

These financial assets are measured at amortized cost using the effective interest rate method, less any impairment.

**Measurement uncertainty**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**3. LOANS RECEIVABLE**

Loans receivable represent amounts advanced for by-election and election campaigns, and are interest-free.

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
December 31, 2015

**3. LOANS RECEIVABLE (Cont'd)**

	2015	2014
Calgary Centre, due December 31, 2013	\$ -	\$ 17,681
Toronto-Danforth, due December 31, 2012	-	5,649
	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 23,330</b>

The Toronto-Danforth loan receivable was due at December 31, 2012 and was written off in the current year. The Calgary Centre loan receivable was due at December 31, 2013 and was paid August 27, 2015.

**4. CAPITAL ASSETS**

	2015			2014	
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value		
Computer equipment	\$ 131,498	\$ 67,487	\$ 64,011	\$ 19,541	
Furniture and fixtures	122,008	87,630	34,378	6,561	
Computer software	77,405	77,405	-	-	
	<b>\$ 330,911</b>	<b>\$ 232,522</b>	<b>\$ 98,389</b>	<b>\$ 26,102</b>	

**5. INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

	2015			2014	
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value		
Rights to G4G logo	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	

**6. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES**

	2015	2014
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 256,776	\$ 236,791
Amount payable in respect of government remittances	5,969	6,161
Deregistered riding account funds	31,668	72,583
	<b>\$ 294,413</b>	<b>\$ 315,535</b>

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

December 31, 2015

**7. LONG-TERM DEBT**

	2015	2014
Bank loan, interest payable monthly at prime plus 1.5% per annum, secured by a general security agreement against the assets of the Fund, maturing October 19, 2016.	\$ 1,250,000	\$ -
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5.00% per annum, secured by a general security agreement, originally maturing December 31, 2015; paid in full on January 21, 2016.	130,000	130,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, secured by a general security agreement, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	100,000	100,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	50,000	50,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	50,000	50,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	40,000	40,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	30,000	30,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	25,000	25,000
Carried forward	\$ 1,675,000	\$ 425,000



**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
December 31, 2015

**7. LONG-TERM DEBT (Cont'd)**

	2015	2014
Carried forward	\$ 1,675,000	\$ 425,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	25,000	25,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	20,000	20,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	15,000	15,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	10,000	10,000
Unsecured private loan, simple interest calculated at 5% monthly, one-half of the balance due upon receipt of central party election expenditure reimbursement from Elections Canada, and the balance remaining to be paid in four equal instalments, maturing in April 2017	5,000	5,000
	1,750,000	500,000
Less current portion	1,657,500	130,000
Due beyond one year	\$ 92,500	\$ 370,000
Estimated principal re-payments are as follows:		
2016	\$ 1,657,500	
2017	92,500	
	\$ 1,750,000	

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

December 31, 2015

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**8. COMMITMENTS**

The Green Party of Canada Fund is committed under the terms of various operating leases and other agreements with various expiration dates for the rental of premises and equipment. Subsequent to the year-end the Fund re-negotiated their tenancy agreement. The commitment obligations have been updated to reflect these new payment. Annual payments related to these commitments will be as follows:

2016	\$ 38,257
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**9. COMPARATIVE FIGURES**

The financial statements have been reclassified, where applicable, to conform to the presentation used in the current year. The changes do not affect prior year earnings.

**GREEN PARTY OF CANADA FUND**  
**SCHEDULE OF PRE-ELECTION AND ELECTION EXPENSES**

For the year ended December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
Advertising - radio and television	\$ 889,322	\$ -
Professional services and sub-contractors	784,039	-
Salaries and wages	732,500	-
National office expenses - By-election	592,876	45,406
Advertising - other	430,739	-
Leader's tour	211,882	-
Election surveys and research (pre-election)	156,890	126,509
Election surveys and research	144,764	-
Travel (other than leader's tour)	99,648	-
	<b>\$ 4,042,660</b>	<b>\$ 171,915</b>