

Resolution Title: Directive related to candidate nomination and approval

Priority # 3

Kings-Hants EDA

Date of General meeting: December 10 2017

Officer: Hugh Curry CEO/President

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The submitted resolution is a directive resolution.

WHEREAS the Party seeks to promote internal democracy and grassroots leadership;

BE IT RESOLVED that the following direct Council to change the Rules Governing the Nomination Process of Candidates for the New Democratic Party of Canada as found in the Renewal Guidebook Toolkit, 2016.

Remove the current *2b) Approval to stand for nomination and 2c) Appeals* and replace with the following:

2b) Approval to stand for nomination.

1. The National Director shall receive all applications to seek a nomination.

(The following process may be followed electronically to facilitate speedy process as required during a writ period.)

2. The National Director may approve prospective candidates. The National Director may not reject potential candidates. Only Council, after following the process below can decide to reject a candidate. Reasons for considering denial of potential candidates are: breach of the NDP constitution, these regulations or any other duly enacted requirement or policy of the NDP.

The National Director should have sufficient support to make a turn-around in good time.

The National Director follows the process below if they believe there are sufficient reason to reject a potential candidate.

- 2a. If the Director is not willing to approve the candidate, he/she/they shall forward the application to the Candidate Review Committee with reasons for not wishing to approve within two business days, with a copy of the application and information.

3. Outside of a writ period this process may take a maximum of 10 business days. The National Director may extend this deadline in extenuating circumstances. If the deadline is extended beyond 10 days, the National Director or a designated staff member will communicate to the EDA, immediately following the 10 days, that the deadline has been extended due to extenuating circumstances. (copied from the current rules).

4. Council may revoke approval of a prospective candidate for nomination by striking an ad hoc Candidate Review Committee.

A candidate may only be barred or removed from candidacy if one or more of the following is true:

(a) The candidate resigns of their own accord.

(b) The candidate violates civil or criminal laws, or Elections Canada's regulations, in such a way that would prevent them from continuing as a candidate.

(c) The Candidate Review Committee resolves that the candidate has committed acts or made statements in violation of the Party's Constitution or core values.

In order to make this determination the Committee shall hear from:

(i) One or two persons designated by the National Director.

(ii) The candidate and a support person identified by the candidate.

(iii) Any other persons the Committee may choose to hear.

2c. Appeals: The Candidate or National Director can appeal the decision to full Council in a session held in camera. In order to maintain time limits, Council should have a meeting to hear any potential appeals set sufficiently ahead of the date named that Elections Canada closes nominations. This would allow time to find a new candidate if the appeal fails. Should the candidate be removed, the EDA shall be given sufficient support by central office to elect another candidate.

5. Only if the determination to bar or remove the candidate has been made shall the activity of such hearing and rationale be shared publicly by the Candidate Review Committee.
6. Once the candidate has been nominated by the EDA, should concerns about the candidate arise, the process as stated above should occur before a decision is made to remove the candidate. The National Director, council executive or EDA can trigger this process.