



Policy and Constitution Process Memo

Given that portions of the final consultation phases that were originally planned were overtaken by the federal election, your elected representatives on National Council and the National Policy Committee had to decide on revised final processes to determine the resolutions to move forward for debate at Convention 2008 to amend the Constitution and Policy Declaration. The resolutions all flow from the earlier consultations.

Rules

Under the Constitution, the rules for debating constitutional and policy resolutions at a convention are determined by National Council. The Rules for Convention 2008 have now been finalized and posted on the Party website. They are largely based on the rules used at the first convention in Montreal in 2005, modified to reflect the revised pre-convention process discussed in this note.

Constitutional Resolutions

With the necessary cancellation due to the election of the final EDA consultative phase planned for the constitution resolutions, National Council became the only body constitutionally able to present resolutions to the delegates at convention. National Council passed a motion to bring forward constitutional resolution submissions that were made to the National Constitution Committee by members of the Party and electoral district associations in the prior consultative phase of that Committee, as well as some other largely technical amendments that were submitted directly to National Council. National Council as a body neither supports nor opposes any of the resolutions that come through the National Constitution Committee but passed a motion ensuring that these resolutions would go to convention enabling the delegates to discuss and decide themselves. Debate and voting on constitutional resolutions will take place at the constitution breakout session on Friday, November 14th. Final debate and voting will take place in the plenary room on Saturday, November 15th.

As provided in the Convention Rules, the final package of constitutional resolutions to be considered at the convention was posted on the Party's website (www.conservative.ca) on November 5.

Policy Resolutions

Given that the final policy consultation phase decided upon by the National Policy Committee was interrupted by the federal election, an appropriate number of previously proposed resolutions will be determined for discussion at the convention's breakout sessions by the democratically elected National Policy Committee. The National Policy Committee made these decisions by taking into account the results they received from the Regional Joint Policy Meetings that were held prior to the federal election, by ensuring all regions and policy areas are best reflected, and keeping in mind that time constraints will only allow for a maximum of 20 to 25 resolutions to be discussed in each breakout session, which take place on Friday, November 14th. Final debate and voting on policy resolutions will take place on Saturday, November 15th in the plenary room.