

# **By-law concerning membership in the Conservative Party of Canada**

***As adopted by National Council March 18, 2007 – and:  
As updated on December 20, 2011 - following a decision by  
National Council on December 10, 2011***

## **1 Membership criteria**

1.1 Membership in the Party is open to every citizen or permanent resident of Canada who meets the following criteria:

1.1.1 is at least fourteen years of age;

1.1.2 actively support the principles of the Party;

1.1.3 signifies their intention to join the Party by signing a prescribed membership form, or by submitting a personal cheque for the amount of the membership fee where the prospective member has signed the cheque, or by use of a personal credit card for payment of the membership fee where the prospective member is the card holder;

1.1.4 has paid the Party's non-refundable national membership fee as set out in the by-law.

## **2 Membership Purchase**

2.1 The national membership fee is \$15.00 for one year; \$30.00 for two years; \$45.00 for three years; and \$60.00 for five years.<sup>1</sup>

2.2 A membership for a period of years can be purchased provided that the individual is not at any time a paid-up member for more than five years.

2.3 A membership in the Party is not valid until it is received in good order with payment at the National Office in Ottawa.

2.4 Payment by corporate cheque or corporate credit card is not permitted.

### **3 Bulk Membership**

3.1 Electoral district associations may submit payment by means of a cheque drawn on the association's bank account for a group of memberships on behalf of the applicants if the payment is accompanied by a completed prescribed membership form signed by each applicant. Submissions of memberships from electoral district associations should be made at least on a quarterly basis, in the format set out by the Executive Director

3.2 Subject to oversight of National Council, the Executive Director may establish procedures consistent with the requirements of this by-law and the *Canada Elections Act* for submissions of bulk memberships other than through electoral district associations as the need arises such as during nomination contests. Such membership may only be paid by certified cheque, credit card, bank draft or money order.

### **4 Family Memberships**

4.1 The same credit card or cheque may be used by an individual for payment of more than one membership sold or renewed as long as the Executive Director or his or her designate is satisfied that:

4.1.1 all the new/renewing members live at the same address and they are all stated to be related to one another and to the payor;

4.1.2 the individual making the payment is one of the new/renewing members;

4.1.3 each member complies with the conditions of membership set out in this by-law;

4.1.4 the individual making the payment indicates that each membership fee is being paid by that individual with funds belonging to each of the new/renewing members and with the consent of the other person(s);

4.1.5 the total number of family memberships purchased does not exceed six (6)

## **5 National Membership Program**

5.1 This by-law sets out the National Membership Program referred to in Article 4.3 of the Constitution. Subject to oversight of National Council, the Executive Director shall set out the prescribed membership form.

## **6 Rights of Membership**

6.1 Twenty-one (21) days after entry into the National Membership Program, or such other period as may be set by National Council in rules or otherwise for a particular event or series or class of events, every member is entitled to:

6.1.1 participate in any meeting of the electoral district association in which that person holds membership;

6.1.2 vote for, and stand for election to, the board of directors of the electoral district association in which that person holds membership;

6.1.3 attend any national convention upon payment of the prescribed fee;

6.1.4 vote for, and stand for election as, a delegate or alternate delegate at any meeting called by an electoral district association of which that person holds membership, for the selection of delegates to any national convention of the Party.

6.2 To allow for participation through renewal “at the door” by persons whose membership has recently lapsed, unless otherwise provided by National Council in rules or otherwise for a particular event or series or class of events and despite section 6.1, anyone whose membership has expired within the previous ninety (90) days and who fulfills the criteria of section 1 may exercise any of the rights set out in section 6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.1.3.

## **7 Membership Lists**

7.1 The membership list of each electoral district association shall be certified by the Executive Director or his or her designate before the holding of any meetings referred to in section 6 at which the election of delegates or nomination contestants is to take place.

The said certified membership list shall be remitted to the president of the association. Subject to section 6.2, only certified members shall be allowed to vote at such meetings.

7.2 Only those memberships which are received at the National Office in Ottawa within the time set out in section 6.1 may be certified.

7.3 At any other time, the membership list of an electoral district association may be requested from National Headquarters by the president of the association.

7.4 No use of any list generated from National Membership Program may be made for any purpose external to the Party without the prior written approval of the Executive Director, or as set out in the rules by National Council or as otherwise determined by National Council.

## **8 Membership Expiry**

### **8.1. Memberships**

will expire at the end of the month of the anniversary date of membership purchase in the year of expiry, depending on how many years of membership are purchased.

8.2 Membership in the Party may only be cancelled at the request of the member, or as provided by the revocation procedure set out in the by-law concerning membership revocation.

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<sup>i</sup> Changed pursuant to National Council decision of December 10, 2011 (formerly read: 2.1 The national membership fee is \$10.00 for one year; \$20.00 for two years; \$30.00 for three years; \$35.00 for five years.