

## **THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CANADIAN PARTY OF QUEBEC**

### **OUR NAME**

The name of this organization is the Canadian Party of Quebec.

WHEREAS the Canadian Party of Quebec is a political party registered with Élections Québec under the name of *Parti canadien du Québec / Canadian Party of Québec (P.C.Q./C.P. Q)*, and abbreviated by the Canadian Party of Quebec as the CaPQ / PaCQ (hereinafter referred to as “the Party”).

These regulations will form our Constitution (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Constitution’).

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Canadian Party of Quebec is to form the Government of Quebec by uniting all Quebecers with a platform of progressive social and economic measures to encourage prosperity, a united and strong Quebec and Canada, good stewardship of our 1,600,000 square kilometers of land, water and sky, and promote cultural, linguistic and equal rights for all Quebecers.

### **OUR CORE PRINCIPLES**

The Party believes that Canadians are Canadians are Canadians, wherever we live, for however long we have lived there. Every Canadian citizen in Quebec should feel at home, have the same rights, and be able to maximize their full potential, without impediments or barriers.

Over 100 languages contribute to Quebec’s unique culture, and bilingualism is a pillar of our heritage and future. Bilingualism of the French and English languages should be promoted and regarded as a distinguishing strength of our province, which is home to the majority of bilingual Canadians.

Our human capital is complemented by vast land and natural resources. We will promote better stewardship of the 1.6 million square kilometers we call home. A stronger sense of community service, respect for Indigenous, Métis and Inuit peoples, more progressive identity and inclusion policies and improving our education system are key to our long-term societal success.

### **OUR PRINCIPLES INCLUDE:**

#### **Principle 1: Rights are Rights are Rights**

The Party is deeply committed to the defense of human rights, civil liberties, and official language equality in Canada. It will defend the constitutional protections of all Quebecers, including those directly affecting Quebec’s English-speaking community. It will seek to re-establish the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms as the fundamental law of Quebec, to ensure that all provincial legislation complies with it, and defend it from arbitrary legislative changes. Furthermore, the Party will support court challenges whenever the provincial government makes arbitrary and draconian legislative changes. The Party pledges

unconditional, unequivocal opposition to Quebec's Law 21, Law 40 and Law 96. It will vigorously advocate for the rescinding or withdrawal of these laws/bills and their equivalents.

## **Principle 2: Respecting the Integrity of the Canadian Constitution**

The Party agrees that the Canadian Constitution ("Constitution") is the bedrock of the federal nation-state and applies to the Province of Quebec in its entirety. It asserts without reservation that the Constitution Act of 1982, including the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms ("Canadian Charter") and amending formula, is an integral part of the Constitution. At the same time, the Party will advocate for the removal of the Notwithstanding Clause (S.33) and a limit to provincial constitution modifications (S.45) that diminish the national Constitution as a whole.

The Party supports the valid enactment of a French language version of the Constitution to reaffirm Canada's bilingual foundation. In addition, it will oppose any illegitimate changes that alter the operation of federal institutions or remove the official status of English in the province. The Party also repudiates the unconstitutional agreement that allows Quebec to formally assist in the selection of the province's share of Supreme Court of Canada ("SCC") justices.

Regarding Canada's territorial integrity, the Party supports the SCC's Reference re Secession of Quebec judgment, and calls for the repeal of Bill 99, An Act respecting the exercise of the fundamental rights and prerogatives of the Québec people and the Québec State.

## **Principle 3: Bilingualism**

The Party is committed to symmetrical Canadian bilingualism, in particular the guarantee of full linguistic rights for the two recognized official language minorities of Canada: The English-speaking minority of the Province of Quebec, and the French-speaking minority living outside Quebec. The Party also believes that newcomers settling in Quebec must have their Canadian official language of choice respected.

The Party will advocate for a national framework to ensure the consistent delivery of government services in English and French at the federal, provincial and territorial levels. It rejects coercive language legislation, and favours incentivizing and promoting both official languages in the public and private spheres. The Party asserts that both French and English are official languages of Quebec at the provincial level.

## **Principle 4: Educational Choice**

The Party firmly believes that every Quebec resident, regardless of mother tongue, has the inalienable right to educational choice from daycare to CEGEP and university studies. It believes that a parent and/or guardian should have the right, where numbers warrant, to send their children to the school of their choosing, regardless of country of origin, Canadian province of origin, or mother tongue.

The Party fully supports expanding educational choice in Quebec by invoking S.23(1)(a) of the Canadian Charter. Furthermore, the Party believes that all children for whom English is either the mother tongue or First Official Language Spoken (FOLS) have the right to English schooling in Quebec.

## **Principle 5: Prosperity for all Quebecers**

The Party believes that Quebec's socio-economic prosperity depends on eliminating state-driven discrimination against its residents, reimagining the state's role in the economy, investing in the health and well-being of all Quebecers, and removing constraints to labour mobility, entrepreneurship, and capital investment. The Party supports open markets, free enterprise, and Quebec's engagement in the global economy. It will also address Quebecers' cost-of-living, income security, and labour market fairness concerns.

### **Principle 6: Rapprochement and Reconciliation**

The Party believes in Quebecers' unity of purpose and social cohesion. As such, it asserts that all Quebecers, be they Canadian citizens, permanent residents or new arrivals, deserve fair and equitable treatment before the law. The Party also supports expanded reconciliation efforts between Indigenous peoples (First Nations, Inuit, Métis) in Quebec and non-indigenous Quebecers. rapprochement (goodwill and cooperation) between English-speaking and French-speaking Quebecers, as well as enhanced governmental efforts to welcome and better integrate newcomers into society.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

A qualified elector in Quebec, who pledges to defend a unified Canadian state may become a member. Anyone who has been a member for 3 months may vote in Party elections, nominations, conventions and other relevant matters.

An ally of the Party may become a recognized supporter, to encourage youth, other Canadians and former residents of Quebec to join in Party activities.

In addition, the Party will seek alliances with organizations who share our love for Canada and Quebec, and our core principles.

Party members are grouped into electoral Riding or Regional Associations recognized by the Party's Board of Directors.

Such members are committed to adhering to the present Constitution, the Party Principles, to its conditions, as well as to by-laws which may be adopted by the Party.

Members must conduct themselves with integrity, respect their fellow members, and commit to build the Party in a constructive manner.

Association members must reside in the Riding or Regional Association for which they are a member. Party members of the National Assembly or candidates may be ex-officio members of the riding they represent, even if domiciled elsewhere.

Membership acceptance, disciplinary measures or termination is at the sole discretion of the Board.

### ***Discipline of Members***

The Board shall have authority to suspend or expel any member from the Party for any one or more of the following grounds:

- a) violating any provision of the articles, by-laws, or written policies of the Party;
- b) carrying out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Party as determined by the Board in its sole discretion;
- c) for any other reason that the Board in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the purpose of the Party.

### ***Effect of Termination of Membership***

Subject to the articles, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the member, including any rights in the property, automatically cease to exist.

### **THE PARTY LEADER**

The Party Leader is the Party's official spokesperson, its leading voice on policy matters, and is responsible for its relationship with the general public. The Leader plays a defining role in all Party activities, including development and communication of the Party Platform.

### **GOVERNANCE**

The Board of Directors is the ultimate governing body of the Party.

The Board is responsible for the overall management, strategy, finances and operations of the Party.

The Board is responsible for the vision, mission and strategic planning. They have oversight of the Executive Committee and Regional Associations.

They are responsible for all communications, social media and website.

Overall, party funds, budgets and expenses remain within the responsibility of the board.

The Board appoints the administrative Élections Quebec roles of Official agent, Official representative and the two Executive officials and the Auditor.

The Board will name a Chairperson among the Directors, the Chairperson will chair all meetings, and the Chairperson cannot vote other than to break a tie. All Board decisions will be made by a resolution adopted by a simple majority except for adding Directors, which must be unanimous. Quorum is achieved with a minimum of four Board members present. The Board may add other Directors as needed to pursue the Party's objectives.

The Board appoints the President, who oversees the Party's operations and operational committees, and the Party Leader, who determines political strategy, policy and candidates, and the Secretary, who oversees the Party's financial and legal affairs, and will occupy or delegate the roles of Official Agent and Official Representative with Élections Quebec.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- a) to oversee the Party's long term strategy, vision and mission;
- b) to adopt the Party's budgets and financial statements;
- c) to identify the main risks inherent in the Party's activities and to evaluate the implementation of risk management strategies including, as necessary, the purchase of liability insurance;
- d) to form the committees necessary for the sound administration of Party business, and to grant these institutions the power to delegate some of their authority;
- e) to exercise a general power of supervision, control, and intervention in order to ensure that the Constitution is respected and, in this regard, to investigate and proceed with the suspension or dismissal of any member or person, employee or volunteer, who holds a position within the Party, or to place an Association under guardianship, or to take other disciplinary action;
- f) to suspend or remove any member for gross misrepresentation of Party policies, personal attacks against Party members, or for deliberately causing harm to the Party's reputation.
- g) to ensure that a culture of integrity and respect is maintained throughout the organization;
- h) to prepare content and gather the information necessary to develop the general positions assumed by the Party;
- i) to define the methodology for carrying out the plans and programs proposed and to ensure they be respected;
- j) to appoint, except as set out in the specific provisions of this Constitution, individuals to non-elected positions within the Party;
- k) to appoint the auditors;
- l) an Executive Committee may be appointed to assist the Board in an advisory and operational capacity;
- m) Regional Associations may be formed to assist the Board in developing the Party;
- n) if deemed beneficial for Party members, to recommend a merger with another political party.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee, is formed by the Board, and is responsible for executing the operational requirements of the Party, as provided by the Board.

They are responsible to ensure that the Code of Conduct is respected at all times, responsible for the integration of new candidates to the Party and campaign management.

Provide feedback on policy decisions, make recommendations in a constructive manner.

All members of the Executive Committee should be ready to serve on different committees as required for the Party.

## **REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

The Regional Associations, are formed by the Board, and are responsible for developing a defined territory in Quebec to increase memberships, recruit candidates, host events, raise awareness of the Party and raise funds for Party operations.

They are responsible to recruit volunteers to assist with events, by-elections and election within their territory.

They must ensure that all Party Communication reaches their members.

## **BORROWING POWERS**

The Board of the Party may,

- a) borrow money on the credit of the Party;
- b) issue, reissue, sell, pledge or hypothecate debt obligations of the Party;
- c) give a guarantee on behalf and mortgage, hypothecate, pledge or otherwise create a security interest in all or any property of the party owned or subsequently acquired, to secure any debt obligation of the Party.

## **AMENDING PROCEDURES**

The Constitution may be amended by a simple majority of the general membership at a convention or another meeting as determined by the Board.

## **CONVENTION**

By March 1st 2025, the Board will name a Convention Planning Subcommittee which will develop a Convention Plan Recommendation to the Board by July 1, 2025.