



U of T Liberals Constitution

BE IT ENACTED as the Constitution of the University of Toronto Liberals as follows:

Ratified and Amended as per "ARTICLE IX" as of April 15, 2005.

ARTICLE I – CITATION

The name of the Club shall be the University of Toronto Liberals.

ARTICLE II – INTERPRETATION

1. In this constitution and in all resolutions of the Committee unless the context otherwise requires:
 - a. "Club" or "UTL" or "UofT Liberals" means the University of Toronto Liberals;
 - b. "Committee" means the executive Committee of the Club;
 - c. "OYL" means the Young Liberals of Ontario;
 - d. "LPC(O)" means the Liberals Party of Canada (Ontario);
 - e. "OLP" means the Ontario Liberal Party;
 - f. "LPC" means the Liberal Party of Canada;
 - g. "University" means the University of Toronto;
 - h. "member" means a member in good standing of the Club;
 - i. "officer" means an officer of the Executive Committee of the Club;
 - j. "executive" means the officers of the Executive Committee of the Club;
 - k. "constitution" means the constitution of the Club as amended.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Club shall be:

1. To facilitate and promote participation in the democratic process.
2. To promote and make more widely known Liberal principles and



- policies.
3. To assist in the election of Liberals to Parliament and the Legislature.
 4. To develop and determine Liberal policy that reflects the concerns and ideas of club members.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

1. Eligibility

Any person who is a registered student, faculty, staff or alumni of the University and who duly applies for membership and pays the applicable fee, shall be admitted as a voting member of the Club.

2. Transfer of Membership

Any person may transfer his membership from one OYL student club to another in the same membership year provided he/she obtains the approval of the OYL Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V – THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Powers

Subject to a majority of votes cast at any general meeting, the affairs of the Club shall be managed and directed by the Executive Committee.

2. Composition

Elected voting members:

- a. the thirteen (13) officers,

Voting member ex officio

- b. the immediate past president,

Non-voting members ex officio –

- c. the President of the UTM Liberals,
- d. the President of the UofT Scarborough Campus Young Liberals.

3. Officers of the Committee

The officers of the Committee shall be as follows:

- a. the President
- b. the Vice-President Federal



- c. the Vice-President Provincial
- d. the Vice-President Communications
- e. the Treasurer
- f. the Policy Director
- g. the Recruitment Director
- h. the Membership Secretary
- i. the Community Outreach Director
- j. the Elections Preparedness Director
- k. the Multiculturalism Director
- l. the Scarborough Representative
- m. the Mississauga Representative

4. Qualification of Officers

The qualification of each officer shall be that he/she is a member of the Club.

5. Election of Officers

- a. All officers shall be elected by secret ballot at the general meeting to elect officers.
- b. Candidates for office shall be nominated and seconded by the members present.
- c. The candidate receiving the majority of the votes cast for any position shall be considered elected.
- d. An absent member may be nominated for election provided a written acceptance is received and accepted by the chair of the meeting. Letters should contain either a signature of an individual, or have a printed e-mail identification on the letter. Challenges to the authenticity of such letters must be made prior to the election of officers and shall be ruled on by the chair.
- e. Voting for officers in absentia or by proxy is forbidden.
- f. Candidate for offices shall give notice to the President seven (7) days prior to the general meeting for elect officers.

6. Resignation of Officers

An officer may resign upon giving notice thereof in writing to the Committee, and such resignation becomes effective in accordance with its terms or upon its acceptance by the Committee.

7. Removal of Officers

- a. The members may remove an officer at any general meeting, provided the Committee is notified at least ten (10) days in



advance of the general meeting at which a motion to remove is to be considered.

- b. A petition signed by not less than fifteen (15) members shall precipitate a motion of removal.
- c. An officer shall be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote cast upon the motion of removal so precipitated.
- d. Following the removal of an officer at a general meeting, the members may, pursuant to Article V (5) of this constitution, elect a qualified person to fill the vacancy.
- e. Offences justifying removal shall include failure to carry out specified constitutional duty or duties expressly assigned by the Committee pursuant to Article VI.
- f. Should an officer fail to attend three Committee meetings in succession, or five Committee meetings total, his/her position shall be declared vacant, unless the Committee grants the officer leave of absence.
- g. Should the report of an officer submitted at the Accountability Meeting be rejected by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present, his position shall be declared vacant, and the members may elect a qualified person to fill the vacancy.

8. Vacancies of Officers

Where a vacancy occurs by resignation, removal, disqualification, or otherwise as the case may be, and a quorum of executives remains, the Committee may appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy. If there is not a quorum of executives in office, the executives remaining shall forthwith call a general meeting to fill the vacancies, and, in default or if there are no executives then in officer, the meeting may be called by an member of the Club or by the Executive Committee of the OYL.

9. Meetings of the Committee

Meetings of the Committee shall be held at least four times per year, at such place, at such time and on such day as the President or a Vice-President or any three (3) executives may determine, and the Vice-President Communications shall call such meetings when so directed. Notice of every meeting so called shall be given to each officer not less than seven (7) days prior to the time when the meeting is to be held, except that notice shall be unnecessary if a majority of executives have waived notice or otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting.



10. Quorum at Meetings of the Committee.

50% of all officers shall constitute quorum at all meetings of the Committee.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

1. The President

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Club. He/She shall, if present, preside as chair at all executive and general meetings, except the general meeting to elect officers. The President shall be spokesperson for the Club; he/she shall, when necessary, liaise with other campus organizations, and maintain communications with OYL, LPC(O), and OLP. And he/she shall otherwise be charged with the general supervision of the affairs of the Club.

2. The Vice-President Federal

The Vice-President Federal shall liaise with LPC(O) and the federal riding associations and MPs and MPPs in the ridings of Toronto Centre Rosedale and Trinity-Spadina. He/She shall also prepare the club for Federal election readiness. He/She shall also organize events and policy for the federal Party. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

3. The Vice-President Provincial

The Vice-President Provincial shall liaise with OLP and the provincial riding associations and MPs and MPPs in the ridings of Toronto Centre Rosedale and Trinity-Spadina. He/She shall also prepare the club for Provincial election readiness. He/She shall also organize events and policy for the provincial Party. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

4. The Vice-President Communications

The Vice President Communications shall notify all members of general meetings and Club events. He/She shall produce, post and distribute information, through electronic and other means advertising Club events and the Model Parliament. He/She shall arrange, when instructed, mailings to Club members, and endeavor



to maintain a contact person at each college and faculty. The Vice President Communications shall compile relevant comments or information to the appropriate officer. He/She will be responsible for ensuring the Club/s web page and e-mail lists are up-to-date and can help recruit new members. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

5. The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall maintain proper account of the Club finances. He/She shall deposit all monies received by the Club into the Club's bank account. He/She shall, under the direction of the Committee, supervise the collection and disbursement of the funds of the Club. He/She shall render to the Committee, whenever required, and to the members at every general meeting, and account of all his transactions as Treasurer and of the financial position of the Club. Together with the President, he/she shall affix his signature to checks against the Club's bank account. The Treasurer shall, after consultation with President and other officers, submit and annual budget to the Committee. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

6. Policy Director

The Policy Director shall provide policy statements for Club consideration. The Policy Director shall develop policy papers and resolutions for consideration at general meetings of the Club and at Liberal Party conventions. He/She shall transmit policy papers and resolution to Liberal caucus members where appropriate or when instructed by the Committee. He/She shall organize a policy conference. And he/she shall perform such other duties that are incidental to his office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

7. Recruitment Director

The Recruitment Director shall supervise and coordinate recruiting drives in the month of September and throughout the year, including the setting up of properly staffed recruiting tables at appropriate times and locations including Orientation Week activities. He/She shall obtain and store recruitment material and literature and distribute them appropriately. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to this office as may from time



to time be prescribed by the Committee.

8. Membership Secretary

The Membership Secretary shall coordinate membership renewal. He/She shall compile and maintain a current list of all the members of the Club. He/She shall distribute applications for membership, collect membership fees and transfer them to the Treasurer, and ensure compliance with Article II of this constitution. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to this office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

9. Community Outreach Director

The Community Outreach Director will facilitate community activities for the U of T Liberals with a focus on charities and social programs. The U of T Liberals is inherently a political organization, but must also undertake to foster positive ties with the community while improving society around them.

10. Election Preparedness Director

The Election Preparedness Director will liaise with the federal and provincial candidates in the riding and facilitate the U of T Liberals contribution to campaigns. He/She will be responsible for every aspect of the U of T Liberals campaign contribution including volunteer scheduling, policy contributions and event planning.

11. Multiculturalism Director

The Multiculturalism Director will be responsible for reaching out to the diverse multicultural community at U of T. He/She will be responsible for organizing events to inform these communities about the Liberal party, but also to hold information sessions to inform the executive about the distinctiveness of these groups.

12. The Scarborough Representative

The Scarborough Representative shall liaise with the U of T Scarborough Liberals Club as well as the riding clubs in the area. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to this office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

13. The Mississauga Representative



The Mississauga Representative shall liaise with the U of T Erindale Liberals Club as well as the riding clubs in the area. He/She shall perform such other duties that are incidental to this office as may from time to time be prescribed by the Committee.

ARTICLE VII – POLICY FORMULATION

1. Policy resolutions passed at any general meeting of the Club shall be the policy of the Club, subject to subsequent rescission, modification or amendment by a new resolution passed at any general meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – GENERAL MEETINGS

1. Mandatory General Meetings
 - a. A general meeting shall be held during the months of either October or November to receive and consider officer reports.
 - b. A general meeting shall be held between the December exam break and the February reading week.
 - c. A general meeting shall be held in either March or April, prior to the end of the final examination period, to elect officers, failing which, the Executive Committee of OYL shall have the authority to call such meeting at such time and place as it sees fit.

2. Calling of Additional General Meetings

Additional general meetings of the Club shall be held from time to time at such place, at such time and on such day as the Committee may determine.

3. Notification of General Meetings

Not less than fourteen (14) days advance notice of the general meeting to elect officer shall be given to all members of the Club. Failure to give such notice to OYL shall render the meeting a nullity if the OYL Executive Committee so declares. All members must be notified of all other meetings no less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting, unless under special considerations. Such considerations shall be deemed warranted by a majority of the Executive Committee.

4. Eligibility to Vote at General Meetings

Every person shall be entitled to vote at a general meeting who is a



member of the Club not less than seven (7) days prior to the calling of the meeting, provided that an immediate past member of the Club may renew his membership at the meeting.

5. Eligibility to Vote at Delegate Selection Meetings

A member shall not be eligible to vote at a general meeting to elect delegates to a national convention of LPC unless he/she was a member at the time of the official call of the convention.

6. Restriction of Delegate Selection Meetings to Academic Year

Delegate selection meetings must be convened during the academic year and specifically on those days when classes are in attendance any time between September 1st and May 20th.

7. Multiple Voting Prohibition

A member of the OYL may not vote in more than one student club during the academic year, as determined by the first vote cast by the member during that year.

8. Quorum at General Meetings

Fifteen percent (15%) of the members of the Club shall constitute a quorum at any general meeting of the Club. Quorum shall be determined at a meeting to elect officer by an individual calling for a quorum count, at which point the chair of the meeting shall make a ruling. If quorum is not present, a new meeting to elect officers shall be called for no later than twenty-one (21) days following the date of the scheduled meeting.

9. Submission of Club Data Following Annual General Meeting

Within two (2) weeks of the annual general meeting, the Club shall submit to the OYL the following:

- a. the constitution,
- b. the list of executives,
- c. the list of membership,
- d. the membership form,
- e. the minutes of the annual meeting,
- f. a list of those in attendance at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION



1. Notice and Submission of Amendments

Proposed amendments of the constitution, other than those proposed by a committee on the constitution, if there is one, must be submitted in writing to the President by at least two (2) members not less than two (2) weeks prior to the consideration of the amendments. A copy of the proposed amendments shall be mailed to each member together with notice of the general meeting at which the amendments are to be considered.

2. Amending Formula

The constitution may be amended at any general meeting by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present.

