

2025 Leadership Contest Rules

BC greens

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Introduction

Thank you for participating in the BC Green Party's leadership contest - an exciting opportunity to shape the future of our party and the broader Green movement in British Columbia.

As contestants, you are stepping into a pivotal moment in our history, bringing bold ideas, fresh energy, and a steadfast commitment to our six core principles: participatory democracy, sustainability, social justice, respect for diversity, ecological wisdom, and non-violence. Your campaign will help move us toward the next chapter for the BC Greens and the province as a whole.

If you're ready to roll up your sleeves and take on this challenge, now is your time.

Applications are now available. The deadline to submit an application is May 31, 2025. Voting will take place from September 13 to September 23, 2025. For more information or to request an application, please email leadership.contest@bcgreens.ca.

We look forward to a respectful, inspiring, and impactful contest. Let's make this a race that reflects our shared values and vision for a better British Columbia.

Sincerely,

Alex Pope
Acting Co-Chair, Provincial Council
BC Green Party

Farrukh Chishtie
Acting Co-Chair, Provincial Council
BC Green Party

Part one – Interpretation

1. Definitions

a. In this document:

“Adjudicator” means an Impartial, independent officer appointed by the Leadership Contest Committee to investigate allegations of noncompliance made against a Leadership Campaign.

“Basic Contact Information” means an individual’s (1) name, (2) mailing address, (3) landline phone number, (4) mobile phone number, and (5) email address.

“BC Green Party” or **“the Party”** means the Green Party Political Association of British Columbia.

“Business Day” means 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday to Thursday, excluding public holidays. The BC Green Party works on a four-day workweek (Monday to Thursday). While some Party staff may be available on Fridays, this is not guaranteed.

“Campaign Fee” or **“Fee”** means a payment made by the Leadership Applicant or Contestant to the BC Green Party as laid out in Section 18.

“Campaign Manager” means the individual appointed by the Leadership Contestant to run their Campaign.

“Campaign Officer” means a Leadership Contestant, their financial agent, or their campaign manager.

“Campaign Spending Limit” means the total amount that a Leadership Campaign can spend. Exceptions may apply. See Section 22.a for more details.

“Chief Electoral Officer” means the Impartial, independent officer appointed by the Leadership Contest Committee to oversee the voter registration and voting processes for the Leadership Contest. See Section 6 for more details. Note that this is a BC Green Party position, different from the Chief Electoral Officer at the head of Elections BC, who is the non-partisan, independent official who oversees provincial elections in British Columbia.

“Contestant Application” or **“Application”** means the application package that a Leadership Applicant must complete and submit to enter the Leadership Contest.

“Contestant Representative” means an individual appointed by a Campaign Officer to observe the counting and tabulating of ballots, and the retrieval of electronic ballot results to protect the integrity and fairness of the Vote.

“Compliance” means adherence to the Leadership Contest Rules, the [BC Green Party Constitution and Bylaws, Elections BC](#) regulations, the [BC Election Act](#) and all other relevant authorities identified in Section 8.

“Compliance Deposit” means the refundable fee as defined in Section 18.a.ii. as a guarantee of adherence to the Leadership Contest Rules.

“Direct Contributions” means a Financial Contribution made directly to a Leadership Contestant’s bank account. See Section 21.d.ii for more details.

“Disinformation” means false or inaccurate information that is distributed with the intention of misleading or manipulating people.

“Electorate” means the body of individuals who are eligible to vote in the Leadership Vote.

“Eligible Voter” or **“Voter”** means a Party Member who meets all requirements to vote in the Leadership Contest as defined in Section 32.

“Financial Agent” means the individual appointed by the Leadership Contestant to ensure that a Leadership Campaign’s finances comply with the [BC Election Act](#) and to report the Campaign’s finances to the BC Green Party and [Elections BC](#).

“Financial Contribution” means a monetary donation to a Leadership Contestant. See Section 21 for more details.

“Financing Report Guide” means the Leadership Contestant Financing Report Completion Guide published by [Elections BC](#).

“Fine” means a monetary penalty issued by the Leadership Contest Committee for noncompliance with the Rules as laid out in Section 30.a.iv.

“Guide for Financial Agents” means the [Guide for Financial Agents Appointed Under the Election Act](#) published by [Elections BC](#).

“Impartial” means conducting oneself, including in written and oral representations, in a manner that does not, to the reasonable observer with an understanding of the context of the conduct, show personal preference for, or opposition to, a particular Leadership Contestant or Leadership Campaign.

“Routed Contributions” means a Financial Contribution made to the BC Green Party for a Leadership Contestant. See Section 21.d.i for more details.

“Internal Party Position” means any official role, whether elected, hired or appointed by the BC Green Party, which contributes to the party’s internal functions. These roles include, but are not limited to: interim leader, deputy leader, member of the Provincial Council or a (sub)committee thereof, Ombudsperson, staff member, contractor, and any position on a Riding Association executive. “Internal Party Position” does not include Members of the Legislative Assembly or caucus roles.

“Leadership Applicant” or **“Applicant”** means an individual who has submitted their Contestant Application to the Leadership Contest Committee, but whose application has not yet been accepted or declined.

“Leadership Campaign” or **“Campaign”** means all activities, staff members, contractors and volunteers associated with a Leadership Contestant.

“Leadership Contestant” or **“Contestant”** means an individual whose Contestant Application has been accepted by the Leadership Contest Committee.

“Leadership Contest Committee” or **“LCC”** means the committee responsible for planning, organizing and carrying out the Leadership Contest as set forth in Section 5.

“Leadership Contest” or **“the Contest”** means all activities associated with the 2025 process of electing a new leader of the BC Green Party.

“Leadership Contest Rules” or **“the Rules”** means the rules and regulations set forth in this document.

“Leadership Prospect” or **“Prospect”** means an individual who is giving consideration to running as a Leadership Contestant or who has requested a Contestant Application but has not yet submitted it.

“Leadership Vote” or **“the Vote”** means the casting of ballots in the Leadership Contest.

“Mass communication” means any message communicated directly to multiple individuals via mail, email, phone, text message, interactive voice response (“IVR”), or automated phone system (“APS”).

“Malinformation” means information that is based on truth, but is grossly exaggerated or presented out of context with the intention of misleading or manipulating people.

“Misinformation” means false, inaccurate or grossly exaggerated information that is distributed without an intention to mislead or manipulate people.

“Official Event” means an event organized by the Leadership Contest Committee.

Party Member” or **“Member”** means a member in good standing of the BC Green Party (as defined in Sections 2 and 3 of the [BC Green Party Bylaws](#)).

“Personal Information” has the same meaning as in the [BC Personal Information Protection Act](#).

“Provincial Council” means the member-elected governance body of the BC Green Party.

“Voters List” means a list of Eligible Voters available to Leadership Campaigns for the purpose of voter outreach as defined in Section 24.

2. Introduction

- a. These Leadership Contest Rules were passed by Provincial Council on February 24, 2025 pursuant to Sections 12.1.8. and 12.2. of the [BC Green Party Constitution and Bylaws](#).
- b. These Rules will be applied without discrimination on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, or mental or physical ability.
- c. Leadership Prospects who face systemic barriers that may disadvantage their candidacy in the Leadership Contest are encouraged to contact the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (edcommittee@bcgreens.ca) to discuss how the Party may be able to provide supports and accommodations.
- d. Provincial Council authorizes the Leadership Contest Committee to amend these Rules or issue additional rules as necessary to conduct a fair and equitable Leadership Contest.
 - i. Any change to these Rules must be communicated to all Campaign Officials within 24 hours.

3. Interpretive conflicts

- a. In cases of a conflict between the Contest Rules and the following authorities, the following authorities prevail:
 - i. The [BC Societies Act](#);
 - ii. The [BC Election Act](#);
 - iii. The [BC Personal Information Protection Act](#);
 - iv. [Elections BC](#);
 - v. The [Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission](#); and
 - vi. The [BC Green Party Constitution and Bylaws](#).

4. Liabilities

- a. No failure of Party staff members, contractors, members of Provincial Council, members of the Leadership Contest Committee, the Chief Electoral Officer, or other appointees to fulfill obligations set out in the Rules will be seen as invalidating the Rules or Leadership Contest.
- b. The BC Green Party shall indemnify and hold harmless all Party staff members, contractors, members of Provincial Council, members of the Leadership Contest Committee, the Chief Electoral Officer, and other appointees against any liability incurred by reason of action taken by them, in good faith, within the scope of their duties regarding these Rules and the Leadership Contest.

Part two – Roles and eligibility

5. Leadership Contest Committee

- a. The Leadership Contest Committee is a committee appointed by the Provincial Council on January 27, 2025. It:
 - i. Is responsible for the planning, organizing and carrying out the 2025 leadership contest; and
 - ii. Has the authority to interpret, administer and enforce the Contest Rules.
- b. The Leadership Contest Committee may nominate new members of the committee for approval by Provincial Council.
- c. All members of the Leadership Contest Committee must:
 - i. Be Party Members in good standing; and
 - ii. Remain impartial for the duration of their appointment.

6. Chief Electoral Officer

- a. The Chief Electoral Officer is an impartial, independent individual appointed by the Leadership Contest Committee to plan and administer the voting process, including:
 - i. Voter registration, including the power to accept or reject applications for Party membership;
 - ii. Ballot distribution and collection;
 - iii. Manual counting and tabulation of ballots if applicable;
 - iv. Retrieval of automatic voting results from software or a service provider;
 - v. Certification of the vote results.
- b. The Chief Electoral Officer:
 - i. Must be a Party Member in good standing;
 - ii. May not be:
 - 1. A sitting member of the Provincial Council;
 - 2. A sitting member of the Leadership Contest Committee; or
 - 3. A staff member of the Party, the BC Green Caucus, or a constituency office.
 - iii. Must remain impartial for the duration of their appointment.

7. Contestant eligibility

- a. An individual may stand as a Leadership Contestant if they:
 - i. Complete in good faith the Contestant Application to the satisfaction of the Leadership Contest Committee, as outlined in Section 15;
 - ii. Are a Party Member in good standing as of the date of application;
 - iii. Are eligible for election to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia under the **BC Election Act** (see **Section 52.1**) as of the date that the Leadership Vote ends (see Section 33.a);
 - iv. Consistently uphold and seek to advance the Party's **Six core principles** and **Vision, mission and value statements**; and
 - v. Are not deemed to have engaged in conduct that could bring the Party into disrepute.
- b. As per the **BC Green Party Constitution and ByLaws** (see Section 8.4), an Interim Leader is not eligible to stand for a Leadership Contest.
 - i. In order to be eligible for the Leadership Contest, an Interim Leader may resign from their position ninety (90) days prior to the Leadership Vote or on the date their Application is accepted, whichever is earlier.
- c. A Leadership Contestant may withdraw from the Leadership Contest by informing the Chair of the Leadership Contest Committee in writing.
 - i. All Fees that are due on or before the date of withdrawal remain due.

Part three – Code of conduct

8. Obligations

- a. All Leadership Prospects, Applicants, Contestants, and Campaign Officers are:
 - i. Subject to any and all regulations put forth in or by the following authorities:
 1. The **BC Societies Act**;
 2. The **BC Election Act**;
 3. The **BC Personal Information Protection Act**;
 4. **Elections BC**;
 5. The **Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission**; and
 6. The **BC Green Party Constitution and Bylaws**.
 - ii. Responsible for ensuring that their Leadership Campaigns adhere to any and all regulations put forth in or by the authorities listed above (Section 8.a.i.1-8.a.i.6).

9. Conflict of interest

- a. Leadership Prospects holding an Internal Party Position must avoid conflicts of interest by recusing or withdrawing themselves from any discussion related to the Leadership Contest.
- b. Except where noted below, a Leadership Contestant must take a leave of absence for the duration of the Leadership Contest from any Internal Party Position within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notice of the acceptance of their Contestant Application.
 - i. As per the **BC Green Party Constitution and Bylaws** (see Section 8.4), an interim leader must resign from their position to be eligible as a Leadership Contestant.

10. Campaign conduct

- a. All Leadership Contestants must agree to:
 - i. Act in good faith;
 - ii. Run a respectful Campaign that engages other Contestants on issues but does not use ad hominem attacks;
 - iii. Conduct themselves and their Campaigns in a manner that positively portrays the BC Green Party, including its Members and officials responsible for the Leadership Contest;
 - iv. Adhere to the BC Green Party's:
 1. **Privacy Policy**;
 2. **Code of Ethics**;
 3. **Code of Representative Conduct**; and
 4. The authorities identified in Section 8.a.i.1-8.a.i.6.
 - v. Ensure their Leadership Campaigns adhere to the BC Green Party's:
 1. **Code of Ethics**;
 2. **Respectful Workplace Policy**; and
 3. **Safe Spaces Participants' Guide**
- b. Leadership Campaigns must be safe spaces for everyone without discrimination on the basis of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, or mental or physical ability.
- c. Leadership Campaigns may not coordinate or collude with third-party organizations to campaign for or against a Leadership Contestant.
- d. Leadership Campaigns must agree to support the successful Leadership Contestant as leader of the BC Green Party.

11. Communications and advertising

- a. Leadership Campaigns must respect a Voter's opt-out status for all communication methods, including mail, email, phone, and text message.
- b. The Leadership Contest Committee will set a monthly limit for the number of Mass Communications each Leadership Campaign may send to its lists.
 - i. The limit for each month will be communicated to Campaign Officials by the middle of the preceding month.
 - ii. Leadership Campaigns must send the Leadership Contest Committee a copy of every Mass Communication issued.
- c. All advertisements must comply with the [BC Election Act, Elections BC \(see Guide for Financial Agents, page 65\)](#), and the Canadian Radio and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), including but not limited to ["Rules for unsolicited telecommunications made on behalf of political entities"](#).
- d. A Leadership Contestant's website, social media bios, and advertisements must state that they represent the Leadership Contestant's views and do not necessarily represent the views of the Party.
- e. Leadership Campaigns may not use the BC Green Party logo or brand identity on any of their Campaign materials.

12. Collection, use and disclosure of personal information

- a. In the collection, use and disclosure of Personal Information, and Leadership Campaigns are bound by:
 - i. The [BC Personal Information Protection Act](#);
 - ii. Any and all recommendations made by the Information and Privacy Commissioner of BC in his report entitled [Full Disclosure: Political parties, campaign data, and voter consent](#); and
 - iii. The [BC Green Party privacy policy](#)
- b. Leadership Campaigns must transfer all Personal Information collected for the purposes of their Leadership Campaign to the BC Green Party within thirty (30) days of the completion of the Leadership Vote.
- c. Leadership Campaigns must destroy any and all Personal Information collected and retained by their Leadership Campaign within thirty-five (35) days of the completion of the Leadership Contest, except where retaining Personal Information is required by law.

13. Foreign interference

- a. Campaign Officers must make every reasonable effort to protect their Leadership Campaigns from foreign interference. See [“Foreign Interference Threats to Canada’s Democratic Process”](#) and [“Threats to Election Integrity”](#) for more information.
- b. Campaign Officers must attend any workshops or training on foreign interference that the Leadership Contest Committee identifies as mandatory.
- c. Leadership Campaigns must make reasonable efforts to avoid creating or distributing Misinformation and must not spread Malinformation or Disinformation.

Part four – Becoming a contestant

14. Consideration

- a. Leadership Prospects and Leadership Applicants may not publicly disclose their intention to seek the Party’s leadership.
- b. Leadership Prospects can meet with members of the Leadership Contest Committee and others to understand the Leadership Contest, explore the role of a political party leader, and consider their compatibility with the BC Green Party.
- c. Leadership Prospects are required to sign a confidentiality and non-disclosure agreement before the Leadership Contest Committee will provide a Contestant Application and supplemental information.

15. Application

- a. Contestant Applications may be submitted to the Leadership Contest Committee from February 27 to May 31, 2025.
- b. To apply to be a Leadership Contestant, an individual must submit the following to the Leadership Contest Committee:
 - i. A fully completed Contestant Application; and
 - ii. A cheque or money transfer for the full amount of the non-refundable application Fee as outlined in Section 18.a.i.
- c. Leadership Contestants must submit written nominations from at least one hundred (100) Party Members within twenty-eight (28) days of the Contestant Application being accepted.
 - i. The exact method of collection will be determined by Party staff.
 - ii. Signatories must be Party Members in good standing when the nomination form is submitted to the Leadership Contest Committee.

- iii. Party Members may sign more than one Leadership Contestant's nomination form.
- iv. The Leadership Contest Committee will verify the Membership status of nominators.
- d. The Contestant Application and nomination form will remain confidential to the Leadership Contestant and their designate(s), the Leadership Contest Committee, the Chief Electoral Officer, designated Party staff, BC Green MLAs, and authorized Impartial third-party service providers (see Section 16).
 - i. In the case of an appeal, the Contestant Application may be shared with Provincial Council (see Section 17).

16. Application review

- a. The Leadership Contest Committee will review a Contestant Application for an Applicant's eligibility for the Leadership Contest as described in Section 7.
 - i. This review will include:
 1. Analysis of the written Application;
 2. Backcheck of the Applicant's social media, education, employment, criminal record, legal proceedings, and other relevant history; and
 3. An initial and final interview.
- b. The Leadership Contest Committee may choose to forego aspects of an Applicant's backcheck if a backcheck has already been conducted for the Applicant within the last two (2) years as part of an application for MLA candidacy or candidacy for an Internal Party Position.
- c. The Leadership Contest Committee may delegate aspects of its review of an Application to Party staff and Impartial third parties.
- d. Following its review, the Leadership Contest Committee will make a decision whether to accept or deny a Contestant Application ("Contestant Application Decision").
- e. The Leadership Contest Committee will endeavour to communicate a Contestant Application Decision to an Applicant by email within twelve (12) Business Days of receipt of the Application and Application Fee.
 - i. The Leadership Contest Committee is under no obligation to communicate to the Applicant its reason(s) for denying an Application but may choose to do so where the Leadership Contest Committee considers it is able to do so without compromising its legal obligations to protect confidentiality and Personal Information.
 - ii. A decision to accept or deny a Contestant Application is not an adjudicative decision but rather is a discretionary decision made on behalf of the Party by the

Leadership Contest Committee that is not subject to appeal, review or challenge except as provided in Section 17 herein.

- f. Upon acceptance by the Leadership Contest Committee, Leadership Contestants must immediately:
 - i. Take a leave of absence from all Internal Party Positions (see Section 9.b);
 - ii. Officially appoint their Financial Agent with [Elections BC](#) (see Section 20.a);
 - iii. Open a bank account specifically for their Leadership Campaign (see Section 20.c);
 - iv. Begin payment of the remaining Fees (see Section 18.a.ii, 18.a.iii, and 18.a.iv); and
 - v. Meet with a member of the Leadership Contest Committee to review all legal, regulatory and procedural obligations of the Leadership Contest (see Section 19).
- g. Leadership Contestants may not publicly disclose their intention to seek the Party's leadership until they have met all requirements outlined above in Section 16.f.
 - i. Leadership Contestants must inform the Leadership Contest Committee of any official candidacy announcement at least four (4) business days prior to the event.
- h. Leadership Contestants may not accept Financial Contributions until they have met all requirements outlined above in Section 16.f.

17. Appeals of contestant application decisions

- a. A decision by the Leadership Contest Committee to decline a Contestant Application may be appealed to Provincial Council if a written request for an appeal is made by the Applicant to the Chair of Provincial Council within forty-eight (48) hours of the Applicant receiving notice that their Contestant Application has been denied.
 - i. Decisions on appeal will be issued within seven (7) days of receipt by the Chair of Provincial Council of the written request for an appeal.
 - ii. Decisions on appeal may be made without:
 - 1. A meeting with the appellant; or
 - 2. A formal meeting of Provincial Council.
 - iii. Decisions on appeal will be made by a majority vote of Provincial Council, which may be held via email.
 - iv. A decision on appeal by Provincial Council is not an adjudicative decision but rather is a discretionary decision made on behalf of the Party and is a final decision not subject to appeal, review or challenge.

18. Fees

- a. The following Fees are non-negotiable for Leadership Contestants and must be paid to the BC Green Party:
 - i. Non-refundable Application Fee: \$1,000;
 1. The Non-refundable Application Fee is a payment for processing the Application and not subject to campaign finance regulations. It is not a donation to the Party and does not contribute to the Leadership Contestant's annual contribution limit to the Party, nor does it qualify for a tax receipt.
 - ii. Compliance Deposit: \$5,000 due within ten (10) days of the Contestant Application being accepted;
 1. Fines issued by the Leadership Contest Committee (see Section 30.a.iv) will be deducted from the Compliance Deposit.
 - a. If a Fine is issued, the Leadership Contestant must replenish the Compliance Deposit to maintain a balance of \$5,000 within seven (7) days.
 2. The Compliance Deposit less any outstanding Fines will be returned to the Leadership Contestant eight (8) Business Days after the conclusion of the Leadership Vote.
 - iii. Non-refundable Campaign Fee of \$15,000, divided into three (3) payments:
 1. \$5,000 due within twenty-eight (28) days of the Contestant Application being accepted;
 2. \$5,000 due no later than June 30, 2025; and
 3. \$5,000 due no later than July 31, 2025.
 - iv. Fundraising Fee: 25% of all funds raised by a Leadership Campaign with exception to:
 1. Financial contributions raised by a Leadership Campaign to pay the Fees outlined in Sections 18.a.ii and 18.a.iii; and
 2. Membership dues raised by a Leadership Campaign.
- b. In the case that a Leadership Contestant falls into arrears on any Fee, the Leadership Contest Committee may suspend their participation in the Leadership Contest.
 - i. The Leadership Contest Committee will issue warnings regarding arrears as it deems necessary.

19. Onboarding

- a. The Chair of the Leadership Contest Committee, or their designate, will meet with the Campaign Officers within fourteen (14) days of the acceptance of their Contestant Application to review rules and regulations associated with the Leadership Contest, including, but not limited to Leadership Contest Rules, BC Green Party privacy regulations and policies, [Elections BC](#) finance reporting, and other logistical details.
 - i. The Campaign Officers are responsible for ensuring all relevant information is communicated to their Leadership Campaign.
- b. Once the Leadership Contestant is approved, any communication with their Financial Agent or Campaign Manager will be considered as communication with the Leadership Contestant themselves.

Part five – Campaign finances

20. Financial Agent and bank account

- a. Upon approval of the Contestant Application, each Leadership Contestant must officially appoint a Financial Agent who is responsible for ensuring that a Leadership Campaign's finances comply with the [BC Election Act](#) and for reporting the Campaign's finances to the BC Green Party and [Elections BC \(see Guide for Financial Agents, page 12\)](#).
- b. The Financial Agent must:
 1. Be a Party Member in good standing as of the date of Contestant Applications; and
 2. Meet all requirements set out by the [BC Election Act](#) and [Elections BC \(see Guide for Financial Agents, page 12\)](#).
- c. Upon approval of the Contestant Application, each Leadership Contestant must open a bank account specifically for their Leadership Contest as required by the [BC Election Act](#) and [Elections BC \(see Guide for Financial Agents, page 18\)](#).
 - i. All monetary transactions for the Contestant's Leadership Campaign must be processed through this bank account.
- d. Leadership Campaigns may not apply for or accept loans from any source.
 - i. Purchases with a credit card are not considered a "loan" for the purposes of Section 20.d.

21. Financial contributions

- a. Leadership Campaigns may only accept financial contributions from an individual who is:
 - i. A resident of BC; and
 - ii. A Canadian citizen or permanent resident.
- b. Leadership Campaigns must ensure that every contributor attests that they meet the requirements set out in Section 21.a at the time of their Financial Contribution.
- c. The 2025 contribution limit for each individual contributor is:
 - i. \$1,484.38, inclusive of all Financial Contributions made to MLA nomination contestants, riding associations, and the BC Green Party; and
 - ii. \$1,200 to each individual Leadership Contestant.
- d. Anonymous financial contributions can only be accepted in response to a general solicitation at a Leadership Campaign function.
 - i. A Leadership Campaign may not accept anonymous contributions of \$50 or more from an individual contributor. For clarity, the maximum allowable anonymous contribution per individual contributor is \$49.99, not \$50.
 - ii. In order to report anonymous contributions to [Elections BC](#), a Leadership Campaign must track the total amount of anonymous contributions per function.
 - iii. A Leadership Campaign may collect a maximum total of \$3,000 in anonymous contributions.
- e. Leadership Campaigns may accept all other financial contributions in two ways:
 - i. Routed Contributions for a Leadership Contestant through the BC Green Party:
 1. Weekly, by the end of the day on Thursdays, the Party will transfer (1) Routed Contributions less the fundraising Fee (see Section 21.d.i) from the previous seven (7) days to the Leadership Campaign's bank account and (2) the Basic Contact Information of the donors of said Financial Contributions.
 - a. The Party will provide a donation page on its website for each Leadership Campaign to accept Routed Contributions online.
 - b. Cheques must be made payable to the BC Green Party, with the Leadership Contestant's name in the memo line.
 - c. The Party will also accept Routed Contributions by PayPal and e-transfer. The Leadership Contestant's name must be recorded clearly on the transaction.
 2. Routed Contributions are eligible for a tax receipt issued by the BC Green Party.
 3. Routed Contributions will be reported to [Elections BC](#) by the Party as part of its regular reporting schedule.
 - a. The Financial Agent must report the financial transfers from the Party in their financial reporting.

- ii. Direct Contributions to the Leadership Campaign's bank account.
 - 1. As per the [BC Election Act](#), Direct Contributions are not eligible for a tax receipt.
 - 2. The Leadership Contestant is responsible for all financial reporting of Direct Contributions.

22. Expenses

- a. The Campaign Spending Limit is \$200,000.
 - i. The following expenses are not subject to the Campaign Spending Limit:
 - 1. Fees set out in Section 18;
 - 2. Payments made to the Leadership Contestant to replace or supplement lost income;
 - 3. Payments made to childcare or dependent care costs for which the Leadership Contestant is normally responsible;
 - 4. Accommodations due to disability; and
 - 5. Auditor's fees.
- b. All expenses incurred by a Leadership Campaign must be paid within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the Vote.
 - i. Leadership Contestants are responsible for raising all Financial Contributions necessary to cover their Campaign expenses in full.
- c. Failure of a Leadership Contestant to comply with Campaign finance rules may result in the Contestant being disqualified for future Party positions and contests.

23. Reporting

- a. On the seventh (7th) day of every month, the Leadership Contestant's Financial Agent must:
 - i. Report to the Leadership Contest Committee a list of Direct Contributions and the Basic Contact Information of each Direct Contributor received in the preceding calendar month;
 - ii. Pay to the BC Green Party the Fundraising Fee as outlined in Section 18.a.iv for all Direct Contributions received in the preceding calendar month.
 - iii. Report to the Leadership Contest Committee a list of expenses incurred in the preceding calendar month;
- b. As required by the [BC Election Act](#), an auditor's report is required for an [Elections BC](#) campaign finance report listing contributions or expenses totalling \$10,000 or more ([see Guide for Financial Agents, pages 15-17](#)).
- c. Leadership Contestants must submit a copy of their [Elections BC](#) campaign finance report and auditor's report (if applicable):

- i. To the Leadership Contest Committee within sixty (60) days of the completion of the Leadership Contest; and
 - ii. To **Elections BC** within ninety (90) days of the completion of the Leadership Contest.
- d. Funds remaining in a Leadership Contestant’s bank account after all Leadership Campaign liabilities have been paid (“Remainder”) must be transferred to the BC Green Party.
 - i. In the event that a Leadership Contestant runs as a BC Green MLA candidate in the next general election or in a by-election before the next general election, the Party will transfer an amount equal to the Contestant’s Remainder to their MLA candidate bank account.

Part six – Campaigns

24. Voters lists

- a. The Voters List will include:
 - i. Basic Contact Information;
 - ii. Opt-out status for communication methods;
 - iii. Riding;
 - iv. Membership expiry date.
- b. The Chief Electoral Officer will provide a provisional Voters List to Leadership Contestants on the following dates:
 - i. Upon completion of Contestant onboarding (see Section 19);
 - ii. By the end of every Thursday up to and including Thurs. Aug. 14, 2025.
- c. The Chief Electoral Officer will provide the final Voters List to Leadership Contestants on Thurs. Aug. 28, 2025.

25. Website

- a. The Party will provide each Leadership Contestant with the following features on the Party’s website:
 - i. Contestant information, including contact information and a link to the Contestant’s website; and
 - ii. A donation page for Routed Contributions (see Section 21.d.i.1.a) including new membership signups.

26. Membership signups

- a. Leadership Campaigns are strongly encouraged to promote new Party membership signups as a way to increase the number of their enfranchised supporters.
 - i. The Chief Electoral Officer may verify the identity of new Party memberships at their discretion.
- b. Party Memberships and Membership dues may only be processed by the Party.
 - i. Leadership Campaigns may collect and submit the required Personal Information on authorized Party forms and appropriate Membership dues to the Party for processing.
 - 1. Party Memberships will not be considered active until processed by the Party.
- c. Leadership Campaigns may not suggest or promote membership signups where they know or ought to reasonably know that those purchasing memberships are not eligible to become Party Members.
- d. Membership dues must be paid individually by the prospective Party Member.
- e. Each Party Member who intends to vote online must register their own unique email address with the Party.

27. Official events

- a. The Leadership Contest Committee will hold at least one Official Event that is a debate.
 - i. The Leadership Contest Committee will consult Campaign Officers on:
 - 1. The date for the debate; and
 - 2. The rules of the debate.
- b. The Leadership Contest Committee may hold additional Official Events at their discretion.
 - i. The Leadership Contest Committee will consult Leadership Officers on the dates for Official Events.
 - 1. Contestants should advise the Leadership Contest Committee of dates of cultural or religious observance upon acceptance of the Contestant's Application.
- c. Leadership Contestants must attend all Official Events except in extenuating circumstances with the permission of the Leadership Contest Committee.
- d. Leadership Campaigns are responsible for their own travel, accommodation, food and incidentals associated with attending Official Events.
- e. The Party will be responsible for the costs associated with hosting and advertising Official Events.

- f. Leadership Contestants are encouraged, but not required, to attend events organized by BC Green Party riding associations (RAs) and other groups.
 - i. RAs must give equal notice, consideration and opportunity to all Leadership Contestants.

Part seven – Disputes

28. Allegations of noncompliance

- a. The Leadership Contest Committee, Chief Electoral Officer, and all Campaign Officers (in each case, a “Challenger”) have the right to raise allegations that a Leadership Campaign was or is in noncompliance with the Rules.
 - i. Allegations must be made in good faith to support the fairness and equity of the Leadership Contest.
 - ii. Allegations may not be made with the intention of causing distraction, confusion or burden for an opposing Leadership Campaign.
 - iii. Allegations may not be made anonymously.
- b. Campaign Officers must submit allegations, including all supporting documents and evidence, in writing by email to the Leadership Contest Committee (“Written Submissions”).
 - i. The onus of proof is on the Challenger as represented by their Written Submissions.

29. Reviews

- a. The Leadership Contest Committee will forward the Written Submissions to an impartial Adjudicator for review:
 - i. Allegations regarding voter eligibility will be forwarded to the Chief Electoral Officer;
 - 1. Allegations regarding voter eligibility will not be accepted after Aug. 21, 2025, when the final Voters List will be prepared.
 - ii. Allegations regarding any other aspect of the Rules will be forwarded to the Party’s legal counsel.
- b. Adjudicators will:
 - i. Investigate the allegations (“Compliance Investigations”);
 - 1. Adjudicators are not obliged to receive representations other than the initial submission from the Challenger.
 - ii. Render a decision as to the merits of the allegation(s) (“Compliance Decisions”); and
 - iii. In the event of noncompliance with the Rules, recommend to the Leadership Contest Committee penalty(ies) and remedial action(s) proportional to the severity of the noncompliance (“Recommendations”).

- c. Adjudicators will complete their Investigations, Compliance Decisions and Recommendations within seven (7) days of receiving a copy of the Written Submissions.
- d. Adjudicators may request and receive support from Party staff for investigating an allegation, but not for the deliberation or rendering of Compliance Decisions or Recommendations.
- e. Leadership Campaigns are required to cooperate with Investigations and comply with penalties and remedial actions.
- f. In the event that an Adjudicator determines an allegation was made frivolously or in violation of Sections 28.a.i, 28.a.ii, or 28.a.iii, the Adjudicator may recommend penalty(ies) and remedial action(s) against the Challenger.
- g. Within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of an Adjudicator's Compliance Decision, the Leadership Contest Committee will:
 - i. Approve or amend the recommended penalty(ies) and remedial action(s); and
 - ii. Communicate to those Leadership Contestants whom the Leadership Contest Committee, in its sole discretion, considers ought to be informed of:
 - 1. The Compliance Decision;
 - 2. the Recommendations, or any of them, if applicable.

30. Penalties

- a. Leadership Contestants may be subject to the following penalties if they are found to be or have been in noncompliance with the Rules:
 - i. A letter of caution or warning;
 - ii. Public notification of the Campaign's noncompliance with the Rules, and any penalties and remedial actions imposed;
 - iii. Notification of the appropriate authorities;
 - iv. A fine of up to \$5,000;
 - v. Suspension of a Leadership Contestant from the Leadership Race for a set period of time;
 - vi. Disqualification of a Leadership Contestant from the Leadership Race.
 - 1. All Fees that are due on or before the date of a suspension or expulsion remain due.
 - vii. Recommendation to Provincial Council that a Campaign Officer be expelled as a Member of the Party.

31. Appeals of compliance decisions and recommendations

- a. Leadership Contestants may not appeal Compliance Decisions or Recommendations made by the Chief Electoral Officer.
- b. Leadership Contestants may appeal to Provincial Council all other Compliance Decisions and Recommendations by writing jointly to the Chair of Provincial Council and one of the Party's two Ombuds within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving notice of the Compliance Decision or Recommendation that is the subject of the appeal.
 - i. Decisions on appeal will be issued within seven (7) days of receipt of the appeal.
 - ii. Decisions on appeal will be made by a majority vote of Provincial Council and the Ombud, which may be held via email.
 - iii. Decisions may be made without:
 1. A meeting with the appellant; or
 2. A formal meeting of Provincial Council.
 - iv. A decision on appeal by Provincial Council is not an adjudicative decision but rather is a discretionary decision made on behalf of the Party and is a final decision not subject to appeal, review or challenge.

Part eight – Leadership vote

32. Electorate

- a. All Party Members in good standing (see [BC Green Party Constitution and Bylaws](#), Section 2) as of Aug. 10, 2025 are eligible to participate in the Leadership Vote.
- b. The Leadership Contest Committee must provide notice of the Leadership Vote to the Electorate at least sixty (60) days before the beginning of the Vote.
 - i. The notice must include:
 1. Names of Leadership Contestants;
 2. Links to or URLs of the Leadership Contestants' websites; and
 3. Information on how to vote.

33. Voting

- a. The Leadership Vote will begin on the evening of Sept. 13, 2025 and end at 11:59 PM (Pacific time) on Sept. 23, 2025.
- b. The election of the Leader will use a one-voter, one-vote system of ranked ballots.
 - i. The ballot will include an option of "None of the above".
 - ii. A ballot is valid if at least one option is selected.
 - iii. Proxy voting is not permitted.

- c. In the event that there is only one Leadership Contestant by the deadline for Contestant Applications, the Vote will proceed at an earlier date to be determined by the Leadership Contest Committee.
 - i. All Fees must be paid by the Leadership Contestant before the Vote is initiated.
- d. In the event of a tie, the Contestant with the most first-preference votes will win.
 - i. In the event of another tie, a runoff vote will be held with only the tied contestants.
- e. The Vote will be conducted primarily by online ballot.
 - i. The Leadership Contest Committee will explore additional voting methods to ensure the Vote is accessible to all Eligible Voters.
- f. The Leadership Contest Committee may appoint an Impartial third-party service provider(s) to fairly and securely administer aspects of the vote.

34. Results

- a. Leadership Campaigns may appoint up to two (2) Contestant Representatives (“scrutineers”) to:
 - i. Observe the counting and tabulating of any ballots that are not automatically counted and tabulated by software or a service provider;
 - ii. Observe the retrieval of voting results from automatically-counted and tabulated ballots; and
 - iii. Review the breakdown of votes by round.
- b. The Chief Electoral Officer will certify the results of the Leadership Vote after all ballots have been counted and tabulated.
 - i. The certified results of the Leadership Vote are final and binding.
- c. Contestants will:
 - i. Be notified of the results of the Leadership Vote before the results are made public; and
 - ii. Receive an official certified copy of the results, broken down by round.
- d. The Leadership Contest Committee will publicly announce the following information on Sept. 24, 2025:
 - i. Number of Eligible Voters;
 - ii. Number of ballots received; and
 - iii. Result of each round of the Vote, including the number and percentage of votes.

Appendix I: Contestants elected to public office

1. Priority of public office

- a. Leadership Contestants who are currently serving a term in elected public office must prioritize the work of their public office over their Leadership Campaign.
- b. For BC Green Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), the priorities of their elected office include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - i. Their constituents;
 - ii. The Cooperation and Responsible Government Accord (CARGA);
 - iii. Sittings of the Legislative Assembly; and
 - iv. Official caucus roles (for example, House Leader, Caucus Chair, etc.).
- c. The BC Green Caucus may develop additional rules for MLAs who are Leadership Contestants.

2. Public-office resources

- a. Leadership Contestants are prohibited from using any public-office resource for their Leadership Campaign. This includes, but is not limited to, staff time, office space, IT equipment, photography, videography, and travel funding.

Appendix II: Impartiality of Party positions

1. Provincial Council, committees, ombuds, staff and contractors

- a. Members of Provincial Council, members of the Leadership Contest Committee and other committees of Provincial Council, ombuds, and employees and contractors of the BC Green Party must remain impartial during the Leadership Contest. They may not actively support or oppose a Leadership Contestant or Leadership Campaign, including making Financial Contributions and volunteering. Voting is a private activity and not restricted by this clause.
- b. Knowledge of a Leadership Prospect's or Applicant's intention to seek the leadership of the Party must be held in confidence.

2. Riding associations and their executives

- a. Riding Associations (RAs) or RA Executives must remain Impartial during the Leadership Contest. They may not actively support or oppose a Leadership Contestant or Leadership Campaign, including making Financial Contributions and volunteering.
- b. RAs may not transfer funds to a Leadership Campaign.
- c. Members of the Executive of a Riding Association may support a Leadership Contestant or Leadership Campaign in their capacity as a private Party Member.
 1. RA executive members supporting a Leadership Contestant or Leadership Campaign may not use their RA, RA Executive or their position on the RA executive to influence Voters.

Appendix III: Important dates

Fixed dates

Date		§
February 27, 2025	Leadership Contest Rules released and Contestant Applications may be requested and submitted	15.a
March 22-23, 2025	BC Green Party policy convention and AGM	N/A
May 31, 2025	Deadline to submit a Contestant Application	15.a
August 10, 2025	Deadline to become a Party Member and be eligible to participate in the Leadership Vote	32.a
August 14, 2025	Last provisional Voters List provided to Leadership Contestants	24.b.ii
August 21, 2025	Deadline to raise allegations of noncompliance regarding the Voters List	29.a.i.1
August 28, 2025	Final Voters List provided to Leadership Contestants	24.c
September 13, 2025 Evening	Voting opens	33.a
September 23, 2025 11:59 PM (Pacific time)	Voting closes	33.a
September 24, 2025	Results of the Leadership Contest announced	34.d
October 7, 2025	Compliance deposits returned to Leadership Contestants	18.a.ii.2
October 23, 2025	Deadline to transfer all Personal Information collected by a Leadership Campaign to the BC Green Party	12.b
	Deadline to pay all Campaign expenses.	22.b
October 28, 2025	Deadline to destroy all Personal Information collected by a Leadership Campaign	12.c
November 22, 2025	Financial reports, including auditor's report if applicable, due to the BC Green Party	23.c.i
December 22, 2025	Financial reports, including auditor's report if applicable, due to Elections BC	23.c.ii

Relative dates

Applications

Deadline		§
Application submission + 12 Business Days*	Acceptance or denial of Contestant Application	16.e
Upon Application approval	<p>Contestants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Take a leave of absence from all Internal Party Positions · Officially appoint Financial Agent with Elections BC · Open a bank account specifically for Leadership Campaign · Begin payment of the remaining Fees · Meet with a member of the Leadership Contest Committee to review all legal, regulatory and procedural obligations of the Leadership Contest 	16.f
Application approval + 14 days	Contestant's onboarding meeting with Leadership Contest Committee	19
Application approval + 28 days	All nominations due	15.c
Application denial + 72 hours	Appeal submission	17.a
Submission of appeal + 7 days	Final decision on appeal	17.a.i

Disputes

Deadline		§
Allegation submission + 7 days	Compliance Decision and Recommendation(s) submitted to Leadership Contest Committee	29.c
Decision and Recommendation(s) submission + 48 hours	Communication of Compliance Decision and Recommendation(s) to Leadership Contestants	29.g
Communication of Compliance Decision + 48 hours	Appeal submission	31.b
Appeal submission + 7 days	Final Decision on appeal	31.b.i

*Every effort will be made to meet this deadline.

Appendix IV: Finances and fundraising

Fees

Fee	Amount	Due	Returned?	Paid from	Subject to expense limit?	§
Application Fee	\$1,000	Upon Application submission	No	Personal	No	18.a.i
Compliance Fee	\$5,000	Application approval + 10 days	Less outstanding penalties on Oct. 7, 2025	Fundraising	No	18.a.ii
Campaign Fee 1	\$5,000	Application approval + 28 days	No	Fundraising	No	18.a.iii.1
Campaign Fee 2	\$5,000	June 30, 2025	No	Fundraising	No	18.a.iii.2
Campaign Fee 3	\$5,000	July 31, 2025	No	Fundraising	No	18.a.iii.3
Fundraising Fees*	25%	See chart below	No	Fundraising	No	18.a.iv

*Not applicable to Financial Contributions raised to pay Campaign Fees, and a contributor's membership dues (see Section 18.a.iv.1).

Comparison chart: Routed vs. direct contributions

	Routed Contributions	Direct Contributions
Definition	A Financial Contribution made to the BC Green Party for a Leadership Contestant	A Financial Contribution made directly to a Leadership Contestant's bank account
Payment methods	BC Green website (credit card), PayPal (credit card or bank debit), cheque, e-transfer	According to the discretion of the Campaign Officials
Transfer to Leadership Contestant	Weekly by the end of the day on Thursdays	N/A
Contribution limit	\$1,484.38 total, inclusive of all Financial Contributions made to MLA nomination contestants, riding associations, and the BC Green Party	\$1,200 per Leadership Contestant
Tax receipt?	Yes. Provided by the financial agent for the BC Green Party at the time of donation Note that monthly donors receive one tax receipt for all their monthly donations at the beginning of the next calendar year	No
Fundraising Fee?	Yes	Yes
Fundraising Fee deadline	Automatically deducted before the Contribution is transferred to the Contestant	First Tuesday of every month for all Direct Contributions raised in the previous month
Report to Elections BC?	Yes, by the financial agent for the BC Green Party Note that transfers from the BC Green Party to the Leadership Contestant must be reported by the financial agent for the Leadership Contestant	Yes, by the financial agent for the Leadership Contestant

Appendix V: BC Green vision, mission and values

Approved by Provincial Council on March 23, 2022.

Vision statement

A sustainable province where everyone can thrive.

Mission statement

To form a government dedicated to creating vibrant and sustainable environmental, social and economic systems.

Value statements

1. Evidence: Our work is informed by scientific data and research.
2. Collaboration: Our work brings different perspectives to the table.
3. Care and compassion: Our work is focused on people's health and well-being.
4. Trust and integrity: Our work builds a just and inclusive democracy.

BC greens

Sustainability • Respect for diversity • Participatory democracy •
Ecological wisdom • Social justice • Non-violence