

15. INTERNAL AFFAIRS

15.1 PARTY COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

15.1.1 Regional Conferences

BE IT RESOLVED that a number of geographically manageable regions be defined and that annual regional conferences be held in a major centre of each region with the conference locale and sponsorship rotating from year to year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that resolutions from these 113 conferences be submitted to the Provincial or Federal Conventions of the party.

Convention, 1972

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.1.2 Women's Policy Committee

The present NDP program calling for improved daycare facilities, equal pay for equal work and the removal of abortion laws from the Criminal Code has emerged as dealing with the main issues in the women's movement. We must encourage NDP women to become actively involved in community coalitions organized around issues which are already part of our party's program. We must also draw into our riding associations those women already active in women's extra-parliamentary political activities. In addition to finding women to stand on executives and to run in elections as candidates, more women must become active in the policy making operations of our party. We must educate women about our platform, and take steps to implement the planks of it.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NDP establish a permanent, official body named the Women's Committee on Policy, with access to the resources of the party and empowered to:

- ▶ Carry out education activities within the party, such as calling conferences to discuss policy and to initiate actions on women's issues as outlined in our program (i.e.. 24-hour day-care facilities, equal pay for equal work, right and access to abortion and birth control, massive unionization of women);
- ▶ Actively support women's and community groups which conduct campaigns around the above issues;

- ▶ Provide resources to riding associations, trade unions and other groups, such as educational material, speakers, etc.;
- ▶ Enable women candidates to run not just token campaigns but also in winnable ridings, in order to develop spokeswomen for the party.

Convention, 1972

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.1.4 Policy Review Committee

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

The mandate of the Policy Review Committee, whether in opposition or in government, would be:

- ▶ To monitor the activities of the ONDP legislative caucus;
- ▶ To bring to the Party's attention any perceived discrepancy between ONDP policy and the conduct of our caucus;
- ▶ To review proposed government legislation in terms of Party policy;
- ▶ To aid the government in passing legislation consistent with Party policy; and
- ▶ To inform the Party of any legislation which is or seems to be inconsistent with Party policy.

The Policy Review Committee to consist of the following members:

- ▶ A chairperson and three members to be elected at Provincial Council, with gender parity;
- ▶ The Provincial Secretary (ex officio)
- ▶ The Provincial President (ex officio)

The Committee elections to be held following each provincial convention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a representative of the Policy Review Committee make a report to each and every Provincial Council meeting as to the performance of the government with respect to NDP policy

The Committee be empowered to:

- ▶ Make recommendations;
- ▶ Attempt to conciliate and resolve differences between various sections of the Party with regard to policy position and interpretation.

Provincial Council, December 1986

Convention, 1988

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.1.5 Affirmative Action Program

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ONDP adopt the Affirmative Action Program set out as follows:

Affirmative Action Program for the ONDP

Women are poorly represented in the ONDP electoral base, in riding leadership, as provincial officers, and as candidates and campaign managers. There has been improvement in some areas in recent years, but not sufficient to begin to approach parity. The adoption of a formal strategy is therefore necessary, and the following recommendations aim to achieve the equal participation of women at all levels of party activity.

Electoral Base

Policies of a particular relevance to women should be highlighted on a continuing basis, i.e.

- ▶ In the Legislature and caucus communications
- ▶ In party literature and communications
- ▶ In party organizing strategy and caucus planning and priorities.

It is further recommended that a supplement incorporating a permanent women's section be included with the regular publication of the New Democrat, with final editorial input being the sole responsibility of the ONDP Women's Committee, thus becoming a vehicle of communication for this committee.

Party Structure

Ridings are urged to adopt by-laws requiring equal (at least 50%) representation of women on their executives and convention delegations.

The party should require ridings to apportion their delegates and alternates to Provincial Council between the sexes, as follows:

- ▶ If they are entitled to one delegate, the position should be rotated annually between female and male members. When the delegate is female, the alternate should be male, and vice versa.
- ▶ If they are entitled to two delegates and alternates, one delegate and one alternate should be female and one delegate and one alternate should be male.
- ▶ If they are entitled to more than two delegates, the above principles of parity and rotation should apply.

The composition of the Provincial Executive and each committee of the Provincial Executive and Council should be constituted with equal (at least 50%) female representation.

The Party should organize a leadership skills program geared to women's political involvement in the ridings, Provincial Council and other areas of party activity.

The Party should code the membership by gender, so that this data is readily available, and mailings should be sent to all women members after this information is available.

Public Office

The Leader, Caucus Members, party officials and staff would seek out potential women candidates in all our strong provincial ridings, in consultation with the ONDP Women's Committee, riding executives, and local NDP women's action committees where these exist.

Ridings are urged to recognize and assist with the costs of child care and household management for candidates and campaign workers.

The Party should organize a series of candidate workshops on an ongoing basis, to help women pursue nominations and to train women as candidates and campaign managers.

Convention, 1982

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.1.6 Ethnic Liaison

BE IT RESOLVED that the ONDP direct the Ethnic Liaison member of the Provincial Executive to research and develop strategy to encourage newcomers to Canada to participate in the ONDP;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NDP address itself to the issue of racism and discrimination by considering the issue in the development of all its policies and progress, such as affirmative action, education and outreach to allow ethnic minorities—women and men—to achieve their goals within the political system of the NDP.

Convention, 1984

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.1.7 Affirmative Action—Staff

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the ONDP extend its affirmative action program to paid employees at all levels including those of the Leader, Caucus members, Party officials, election campaigning and all other paid positions in the Party, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ONDP at all levels who are in a position to hire present for approval by Provincial Council their plan, within one year, for implementing an affirmative action program which proportionately includes women, ethnic minorities and visible minorities and native peoples and the disabled.

Provincial Council, December 1986

Convention, 1988

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.1.8 Inclusion of Trans-identified in LGB Committee

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP allow the addition of the word “Trans-identified” to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Committee title.

Informational note: From 2007-2014, Constitutional Amendments were erroneously added to the policy book under items 15.1.11 through 15.1.27. These were removed in 2017.

15.1.9 Strengthening the ONDP Partnership With Our Allies in the Labour Movement

WHEREAS organized Labour is a founding partner in the Ontario NDP and an integral partner in our ongoing fight for economic and social justice.

BE IT RESOLVED That the Ontario NDP strike an executive committee dedicated to strengthening our partnership with the Ontario Labour movement, growing Party membership within Labour and increasing organizational capacity as we work towards our common goals.

Convention 2017

15.1.10 Permanent Virtual Provincial Council

Whereas digital access to decision making processes empowers members to participate in a way that helps overcome geographic and socioeconomic barriers; and

Whereas the Ontario New Democratic Party is, fundamentally, a grassroots democratic party;
And

Whereas an online platform ensures greater participation of Ontario NDP members while lowering the costs of participation; therefore

Be it resolved that the Ontario New Democratic Party conduct research into the feasibility of using an online platform for at least one Provincial council meeting per year; and

Be it further resolved that the Provincial Council disseminate a proposal via email prior to the next Council meeting following Convention to local RAs soliciting feedback on a proposal to digitize some Provincial Council meetings.

Convention 2022

15.2 PARTY ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

15.2.2 Municipal Elections—Party Participation

BE IT RESOLVED that:

The objectives to be achieved by the ONDP through increased participation in municipal politics are:

- ▶ Implement progressive policy at the municipal level. Major decisions are being made at the municipal level that have a very significant impact on the fabric of our daily lives. The budgets and corresponding taxation are large, and how they are being raised and spent is a process in which New Democrats need to have more input.
- ▶ Increasing the number of New Democrats who make these decisions can only improve the social and economic well-being of our communities. In other words, there are important decisions being made and we need our political perspective to be heard and implemented in the municipal council chambers of Ontario.

Strengthen NDP organizations:

The NDP as a political movement is only as strong as our organizational ability to deliver our message. Municipal elections are another opportunity for the Party to focus its activity and development as an organization.

Develop the potential among New Democrats for leadership and leadership positions:

- ▶ The strength of the NDP is its people: the quality of our candidates and the people who run and work in election campaigns. These people are developed and found through election campaigns. Municipal campaigns should not be overlooked as a recruitment opportunity for the Party.

Expand fund raising contacts for the Party:

- ▶ Running a political party and elections is an expensive operation. The broader our range of political activities, the broader will be our base of workers and contacts and the broader our sources of financial support.

Party involvement:

A Municipal Support Committee would be established by the Party which would provide support to local municipal campaigns by:

- ▶ Schools for candidates and organizers Providing leaflet and sign assistance
- ▶ Providing speakers' notes and background materials
- ▶ Assisting in candidate search
- ▶ Developing municipal campaign models. To achieve this the Municipal Support Committee would be responsible for setting a budget and program to be recommended to the Provincial Executive and Council for approval.

Funding:

The Municipal Support Committee would be responsible for central fund raising through separate municipal fund and account. This fund would be used to finance the central activities. It would be funded through separate municipal fund raising, not through a transfer of existing provincial or federal funds.

The local municipal organization as a group would take financial responsibility for the local campaign, not the candidate.

The Committee would also ensure that the government is being lobbied to extend a tax credit system for political contributions to the municipal level.

A Process for candidate election and rules and responsibilities of the municipal organizations:

- ▶ Provincial riding associations shall take responsibility for the municipal jurisdiction or establish an organization to take responsibility. In urban areas this is best accomplished by a ward organization (as per Article 4, Affiliated Organizations in the Constitution).
- ▶ Membership lists would be made available by the Party at the local level to approved candidates and municipal organizations for the purposes of seeking nomination.
- ▶ The local members collectively would have the option of deciding whether or not they run a campaign. This provision is to allow the membership of the local organization to decide that although a member of the Party wants to be our candidate, the local Party members may decide that it is not appropriate to finance such a campaign either for strategic reasons or simply because the potential candidate is not suitable.
- ▶ Party members who undergo this process must agree to abide by the decision of the meeting with the clear intention being that the Party will not support the process of NDP members running against each other. The nominating body may support a set of policies, strategies, and accountability procedures to meet local and regional needs. In jurisdictions where members choose not to nominate a candidate, lists, funds, and assistance will not be made available. The rules for nomination as per the Constitution will apply.

Convention, 1988

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.2.3 Affiliated Unions

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provincial Executive, all riding associations, and all affiliated union locals undertake a concerted campaign to secure the affiliation of all trade union locals in Ontario which have not yet indicated their formal support of the New Democratic Party.

Provincial Council, December 1970

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.2.4 The Immigrant and the Party

Immigrants represent a large percentage of the Canadian population. They belong, for the most part, to the working class, and to a greater extent than Canadian workers they are the object of a massive exploitation in the fields of labour, education, social security. Traditionally they have been a reservoir of cheap labour upon which the economic capitalistic system of this country could draw in order to strengthen and develop.

The situation of most immigrants is aggravated by the social, cultural and political isolation in which they live. As a result, they are prevented from taking part in and contributing to the process of political change which is taking place in this country.

The New Democratic Party has done little to enlist the active contribution of immigrants to its work and through it to Canadian society as a whole.

The time has come for the NDP to realize the extent of the human potential existing within the immigrant communities and to satisfy their search for social and economic justice. The NDP can become the means by which hundreds of thousands of immigrant workers will recognize the strong links which exist between them and the Canadian working class. Canadian and immigrant workers have common aspirations, but it is only by drawing them into a common struggle in a spirit of solidarity that they will contribute to the achievement of a socialist society in Canada.

But in order for immigrants to be attracted to and become part of the NDP it is necessary for the Party to become relevant for them and their future. The NDP must consider immigrants an essential component of the Party and encourage and recognize their presence at all levels. Finally, the NDP must become known as the natural spokesman of immigrants and the interpreter to Canadians at large of the problems and aspirations of immigrants in the constant struggles to achieve a condition of equality for all in a democratic and socialist Canada.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that:

- ▶ The New Democratic Party will encourage the recruiting of immigrants, their participation in the Party structure at all levels, from the riding associations to provincial and federal bodies.
- ▶ A provincial organization be set up within the party to deal with immigrants and their problems, consisting of elected representatives and with adequate staff and financial resources.
- ▶ The party will co-ordinate political and parliamentary action at Queen's Park to publicize its concern and activity on behalf of immigrants, and adequate coverage of these activities be given in the New Democrat as well as the Ethnic Press.

Convention, 1972

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.2.5 Visible Minorities Participation

BE IT RESOLVED that the New Democratic Party adopt the following statement and undertake the indicated actions:

The New Democratic Party has always recognized the realities in Ontario which our policies on multiculturalism need to address. Full participation in Ontario life by members of visible minority communities must become an active priority for the provincial government.

The NDP further recognizes the importance of increasing ethno cultural participation in the Party itself. To this end, the New Democratic Party of Ontario should make a concerted effort at organizing and encouraging ethno cultural and racial minorities to take an active role in all Party functions. The Party should encourage affirmative action for ethno cultural and racial minorities in the following democratic institutions of the Party:

- ▶ Provincial Council
- ▶ Provincial Executive
- ▶ Local riding associations
- ▶ Local riding executives
- ▶ Convention delegations
- ▶ Party committees

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when resources become available, the Party should hire a full-time ethno cultural organizer.

Convention, 1986

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.2.6 Women's Organizer

That the ONDP hire immediately a full-time women's organizer.

Convention, 1980

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.2.8 Women's Organizer

BE IT RESOLVED that in order for the Ontario New Democratic Party to implement its 11 year old policy of hiring a Women's Organizer and in consideration of the Ontario New Democratic Party's current financial situation, that the Party start a special fundraising effort aimed at new sources of revenue intended to support the funding of a staff women's organizer, as a member of the bargaining unit, subject to the benefits and provisions of the collective agreement including seniority and layoff provisions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a committee be set up composed of the Women's Committee representative on Executive, the Provincial Secretary, a bargaining committee representative and the Party President whose responsibility is to develop proposals for implementing this resolution.

Convention, 1992

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.2.13 Building Vibrant Riding Associations

BE IT RESOLVED that the Party, to achieve the above, will implement a Riding Vitalization Program which will include:

- ▶ Hiring talented and dedicated Field Organizers and locating them in the regions across the province
- ▶ Providing 'Train the Trainer' Programs for Staff and Volunteers,
- ▶ Emphasizing techniques for Constituency Work that connect parliamentary and extra-parliamentary activism,
- ▶ Providing Training and Guidance Materials,
- ▶ Through Technologies and Information Exchange Meetings encouraging riding associations to share experiences and lessons, and
- ▶ Providing Leadership in early Candidate Selection, Development and Training, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Party will undertake a Dedicated Fundraising Campaign to raise the money necessary to Invest in the Riding Vitalization Program.

Convention, 2002

Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

15.2.14 Modern Tools for Constituency Associations.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP Executive shall establish an ad hoc Constituency Associations Modernization Committee ("the committee") to make recommendations on the implementation of tools and support for constituency associations including but not limited to:

- a) Websites with online donation capabilities;
- b) Email mailing lists;
- c) Social media;
- d) Electronic document management;
- e) Supporter information databases;
- f) VoIP with auto-dialling and customer relationship management integration; and
- g) Online collaboration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the committee shall consult with interested constituency associations, provincial staff, and relevant technology professionals in the development of the recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the committee shall consult with the federal NDP to seek opportunities for better integration, simplification, and cost management of the recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the committee's recommendations shall be presented to Provincial Council no later than eight months from this convention for a vote on the implementation of the recommendations.

Convention 2012

15.2.15 Riding Organizing, networking, democracy

Be it resolved that the ONDP facilitate riding organizing, networking and democracy with the following networking initiatives:

- i. Create subdomains in the Internet Domain Name System of the form:
 \${RIDING_ASSOCIATION}.\${NDP_PREFIX} eg. thornhill.ndp.on.ca, thornhill.ondp.ca, which is under local riding administrative authority
- ii. Develop common default templates for network presence for riding associations.

Convention 2012

15.2.16 French Language Materials

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP develop material, either electronically or physically, in both official languages that can be provided to all ridings at their request, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP establish a budget to provide quality Francophone resources in the next campaign.

Convention 2014

15.2.17 Education Session on Trans, Genderqueer and Non-Binary Identities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the New Democratic Party of Ontario create an education package and information session on Trans, genderqueer, and non-binary identities in order to further increase participation and promote inclusion within the Party.

Convention 2017

15.2.18 Equity-Seeking "Victory Funds"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Party help to establish and support "Victory Funds" that can be contributed to online specifically for the support of equity-seeking candidates to be administered by the respective equity-seeking Party committees. These funds, into which fundraising proceeds and monthly contributions could be specifically directed, should be established to be available for use to fund campaigns in the upcoming 2022 provincial election.

Convention 2019

15.3 PARTY FINANCING

15.3.1 Convention Fees

The Ontario NDP is committed to the principle of equality of opportunity for all sympathetic Ontarians to participate in Party affairs. The Party has confirmed this commitment by imposing a differential scale of fees for Party membership. This principle has not, however, been extended to include attendance at Provincial Conventions. The imposition of a flat delegate fee places a constraint on the attendance of groups such as pensioners, unemployed, students, and the working poor. A substantial delegate fee, plus the cost of transportation and accommodation, means that many members of groups cannot afford to attend Provincial Conventions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP adopt a differential scale of delegate fees, similar to that now employed in assessing membership fees, for future conventions.

Convention, 1978

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.3.3 Party Banking

RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP should conduct its financial and other transactions with non-profit making cooperatives as much as possible rather than with profit-making corporations.

FURTHER, that it encourage its constituency associations and all of its members to do likewise.

Convention, 1978

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.3.4 Party Funding

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the New Democratic Party of Ontario will continue to accept political donations from individual supporters, labour and cooperative organizations.

Convention, 1978

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.3.5b Business Contributions

BE IT RESOLVED that the ONDP will accept donations, as permitted by the Election Finances Act, from businesses which have 500 or fewer employees and are non-multinational corporations who maintain good employment and environmental practices, under the following conditions:

These donations will be accepted as a supplementary source of income, voluntarily given to the Party, with no ties or commitments from the Party to the donor;

No contributions will be accepted from businesses:

- ▶ That are on the boycott lists of the Ontario Federation of Labour or the Canadian Labour Congress;
- ▶ The primary products of which are weapons of mass destruction or their delivery systems;

The Provincial Executive will give final approval to any donation where the Provincial Secretary has reason to question the amount or source of any donation.

Provincial Council, June 1992

Amended Convention, 1996

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.4 POLICY FORMULATION

Guidelines for General Policy Statements and Resolutions

(This is the ONDP Policy Process Review Adopted by Provincial Convention 1991.)

The New Democratic Party of Ontario has undertaken a comprehensive review of its policy-making structure. The aim of this overhaul is to ensure a democratic policy process that will involve as many party members as possible in a meaningful way. It should also produce a policy book which is a coherent working document that guides caucus members, candidates and other party spokespersons in their day to day work and is also suitable for distribution to the general public. In short, the aim is to have a policy book of which all New Democrats can be proud.

Many in the Party have become frustrated in trying to work with the present policy book. It is often out of date, contains contradictions and, worst of all, does not form a coherent whole. In addition, the process by which this policy is adopted is often less than meaningful. Ridings must be involved in policy not just in the immediate run up to a convention but all the time.

Provincial Council has agreed that the heart of the policy book should be comprised of "General Policy Statements". These statements will be thematic overviews of each of 16 policy areas-General Policy Statements will establish our basic approach in each relevant policy area in roughly 2,000 to 4,000 words. They will not spell out specific areas in a detailed or time-specific way-that is the job of individual resolutions-but they will be precise enough to give a meaningful interpretation to democratic socialist principles within the given policy area.

The Resolutions and General Policy Statements Committee sees the transition to a policy process centred on general policy statements as taking place over three conventions. In other words, all policy areas would have. general policy statements and complementing resolutions by the end of the 1994 convention.

Process

For the process to work, riding activists need to support the new system and be ready to actively participate in the grassroots process of developing general policy statements that is envisioned below. We see the process as working like this:

For the 1990 Convention, the Economic, Environment, Rural Affairs, Labour, and possibly the Education, Task Forces are working to produce general policy statements after consultation with the ridings.

This consultation, to be followed at succeeding conventions, will involve a minimum of:

- ▶ Task forces would be struck by Council.
- ▶ Two policy sessions at Provincial Council, one with workshops to introduce a draft statement and get feedback, and another to debate/amend/pass the document after council delegates have had a chance to get feedback from the ridings/affiliates. Activists should also have the ability to make written or oral submissions to the task force through the mail or by phone.
- ▶ Other outreach, possibly including task force travel, mailings to the general membership, etc., as resources allow.
- ▶ General policy statements will only proceed to Convention if they are ratified by Council prior to Convention. It is vital that these documents not “spring out of the blue” but be the product of a consensus building process throughout the Party which culminates in Convention.

Amendment Procedure

General policy statements will be circulated to Convention delegates as part of the Convention Resolutions book. Ridings and individual registered delegates will have the opportunity to submit proposed amendments to the Convention Resolutions and General Policy Statements Committee until 12 days prior to Convention.

The Convention Resolutions and General Policy Statements Committee will prioritize these amendments and give each delegate a copy of all amendments submitted, plus the order of priority, when they register at Convention.

General policy statement amendment prioritization will be subject to the usual resolution appeals procedure.

On the floor, the Chair will entertain debate on amendments in the order they have been given priority. Passage of an amendment does not cause the General Policy Statement to leave the floor. This is a change from the usual convention resolution procedure that is made possible by advance submission of amendments and the need to possibly consider a number of amendments.

Sub-amendments could be moved but they would be treated as referrals as per the current resolutions process. If passed, they would return to the floor later in the Convention in a special time slot.

Amendments and General Policy Statements themselves require 50% plus one of delegates present and voting to pass.

Normally, the General Policy Statement will be reviewed every six years. Council will approve the process and determine the nature of the review. This review is not a sunset clause in that the General Policy Statement does not have to be passed again, but it offers a built-in opportunity to ensure our policy is up-to-date.

General Policy Statements are subject to amendment by Convention only. To allow flexibility and to respond to political need, amendments can take place at any Convention.

Resolutions

The process of ridings and affiliates submitting resolutions will continue to be a crucial part of how the ONDP develops policy.

Resolutions should ideally complement existing General Policy Statements. The Convention Resolutions and General Policy Statements Committee will take this into account when priorities are decided.

Resolutions should call for action, be relevant and topical. Resolutions should not be written as “draft legislation”.

When necessary, they should avoid referencing specific individuals or statistics. It is also helpful to avoid excessive use of WHEREAS or any use of acronyms.

As is present practice, two months prior to Convention, ridings and affiliates will be asked to submit resolutions for prioritization by the Convention Resolutions and General Policy Statements Committee.

Convention delegates can appeal Resolutions Committee prioritization to the Appeals Committee.

As is also current practice, delegates will not be able to amend resolutions directly on the floor. They can only refer resolutions back to the Resolutions Committee with instructions. Referred resolutions should return to the floor on the last day of Convention.

Ridings and affiliates are encouraged to continue to submit policy resolutions in subject areas that have not yet been through the General Policy Statement process in the same manner that they have in the past.

During the 1991 Convention, we will continue the process of dispensing resolutions that either contradict or repeat policy. Task Forces are to recommend existing resolutions to be deleted. The deletions will be discussed as part of the Resolutions Committee Report. This will be extended to include deletion of resolutions made redundant by the content of the General Policy Statement.

Policy resolutions will be removed from the policy book three regular conventions after their original date of adoption, as of the 2004 ONDP Convention. General Policy Statements will not automatically be removed from the policy book.

As is currently the case, the Resolutions and General Policy Statements Committee will recommend the disposition of resolutions the purpose of which has been accomplished.

During the 1991 convention, resolutions that are presently covered by Internal Affairs and have to deal with the management of the Party should be written in the form of motions calling on the party to undertake action impacting on the internal management of the Party.

Structure

The re-organizing and re-structuring of the policy book is an essential piece of the policy renewal process.

The policy book should be organized on the basis of the following specific policy areas:

- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Arts, Culture and Communication
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Economy
- ▶ Electoral Reform
- ▶ Environment, Energy and Natural Resources
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Housing
- ▶ Justice, Human Rights, Law Enforcement, Equality
- ▶ Labour
- ▶ Aboriginal Rights, Bilingualism, Multiculturalism
- ▶ Rural Affairs
- ▶ Social Policy
- ▶ Transportation
- ▶ Urban Affairs
- ▶ Internal Affairs

Convention, 1991

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.4.1 Policy Formulation Proposal

BE IT RESOLVED that:

A revised policy book be produced as soon as possible following each convention.

All resolutions contained in the revised policy book will be numbered by subject matter.

Resolutions presented to convention or council must specify which existing resolutions they supersede or amend (if any),

The Policy and Resolutions Committee will be responsible for reviewing existing policy and proposing to the Convention the deletion of redundant or superseded resolutions.

Convention, 1980

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.4.2 Government Accountability

BE IT RESOLVED that:

- ▶ An Ontario New Democratic Party government must follow the established fundamental policies of the Ontario New Democratic Party.
- ▶ Any proposed significant variance by the government from established fundamental Party policy must be preceded by the matter being brought before Convention or Provincial Council for full consultation.

Convention, 1992

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.4.4 Single Issue Campaigns

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP Executive identify single policy issues that will receive popular support and organize fund raising around concrete and immediate actions that the party, led by our caucus members, can become involved in, both inside and outside the legislature.

Convention, 2000

Convention 2009 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2019 (reaffirmed)

15.4.5 Convention Resolution Procedures

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP investigate the convention resolution procedures of other party sections and propose a new procedure for Ontario NDP conventions with the goal of increasing the number of resolutions which are debated and dealt with at convention.

Convention, 2000

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.4.6 Policy Book – Resolutions Sunsetting

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Paragraph 10 under the “Resolutions” section of ONDP Resolution 15.4 be deleted and replaced by the following:

“Policy resolutions will be removed from the policy book three regular conventions after their original date of adoption, as of the 2004 ONDP Convention. General Policy Statements will not automatically be removed from the policy book.”

Convention, 2002

Convention 2012 (reaffirmed)

15.4.7 Omnibus Restoration Resolution

(Amended Convention 2017)

WHEREAS the Guidelines for General Policy Statements and Resolutions (Section 15.4 of the Ontario NDP Policy Book) includes a provision requiring that resolutions be sunsetted as follows:

10. Policy Resolutions will be removed from the policy book after three regular conventions after their original date of adoption, as of the 2004 Ontario NDP Convention General Policy Statements will not automatically be removed from the policy book; and

WHEREAS any resolutions passed at the 2007 Convention, if not re-affirmed, will be sunsetted after this convention.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following resolutions, which would otherwise be removed from the policy book, be re-affirmed as policy of the Ontario NDP:

1.3.8 Food Safety First

3.3.6 Education of Health Professionals

3.3.14 Defend Public Post-secondary Institutions

3.4.11 Literacy Resolution

3.4.17 Public Education Funding

4.1.21 Stimulus and Jobs for Ontario Workers

5.1 DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE: ELECTORAL REFORM

6.1 GENERAL POLICY STATEMENT: ENVIRONMENT

6.2.8 Transportation of Nuclear Fuel

6.2.10 Synthetic Chemical Pesticides & Fertilizers

6.2.18 Land Users Rights Under the Mining Act

7.2.16 Community Health Centres

9.3.5 Corrections Facilities¹²²

9.4.23 Safe Communities

10.1 DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE: LABOUR

10.3.17 WCB Bill of Rights

12.3.9 Child Care

12.3.10 Removal of Fees for Out-of-Country Adoptions

13.3.2 Roads

14.2.5 Oppose Continued Downloading

15.4.4 Single Issue Campaigns

Informational Note: The following resolutions will be permitted to sunset, as they are outdated, often referring to specific governments no longer in power, numbered targets that are out of date, campaigns that are no longer active or issues which are no longer relevant.

4.1.22 Jobs Outdated - Refers to outdated strategies and target numbers and a \$10.25 minimum wage.

4.1.23 US Steel Shutdown Outdated

4.1.24 Forestry Outdated

4.4.2 General Motors Outdated - refers to McGuinty and Howard Hampton

4.6.20 Raise Ontario Tax Exemption Outdated

5.1.13 Number of Provincial Ridings Outdated - Ridings have been redistributed

5.1.21 Political Party Financing Outdated - Action called for in resolution already taken.

6.2.7 Walkerton Outdated - Refers to Harris government

6.6.13 Green Energy Strategy Outdated - Refers to old government targets

8.3.8 Reinstatement of Rent Control Legislation Outdated - Action called for in resolution already taken.

15.5.9 The Road Ahead Consultations Outdated - Refers to 2009 consultation in preparation for 2011 Campaign

15.4.8 Inherent Dignity And Worth

- ▶ BE IT RESOLVED that a subcommittee of the Ontario New Democratic Party Provincial Council be immediately struck to include members from various equity seeking committees to rewrite social policy to better reflect the visions and principles of equality, worth and inclusion for all people by:
- ▶ Focusing more on abilities rather than disabilities
- ▶ Substituting the term “persons with disabilities and disabling conditions” wherever the term disabled or handicapped appear in Section 12.2 of Ontario New Democratic Party Social Policy
- ▶ Replacing terms and references that are not inclusive with language which reflects equality, full inclusion, dignity and worth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rewrite proposed by this subcommittee be submitted by the General Policy & Resolutions Committee at the next convention for adoption by delegates.

Convention 2012

15.4.9 Party Messaging and Positioning

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the ONDP ensure its messages and positioning do not echo or fuel the anti-tax and anti-social spending messages of the right, and reassert that it is the role of a social democratic party to popularize a vision of a better world for all and to constantly strive to form a government for the purpose of realizing that vision.

Convention 2014

15.5 MISCELLANEOUS INTERNAL MATTERS

15.5.1 Membership Lists

BE IT RESOLVED that the executive of the Ontario NDP not give our membership lists to any other organization without the specific approval of the Provincial Council.

Convention, 1986

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.5.3 Policy Task Force Reports

BE IT RESOLVED that the following procedure govern the Task Force process:

- ▶ Convention delegates would not normally be expected to deal with the entire task force report in the limited time available at convention.
- ▶ Task force reports must be reviewed by Provincial Council at least twice before being passed in principle by Council. At this point, the report becomes an official party discussion paper.
- ▶ Official party discussion papers would be circulated and generally used as a resource and focal point for the development of convention resolutions within the party.
- ▶ Specific resolutions drafted by delegating bodies from the substance of the report that define or alter existing policy could be debated by the convention.
- ▶ Resolutions passed at the convention would be included in the policy book, the entire task force report would not.

Convention, 1984

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2017 (reaffirmed)

15.5.4 Provincial Council Meeting Location

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that at least two Council meetings a year be held outside Metro Toronto, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this schedule be published as far in advance as possible to give the local riding association as much notice as possible.

Convention, 1986

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.5.5 ONDP Calendar

BE IT RESOLVED that Party members assist the Party in compiling a calendar of religious holy days by informing Provincial Office by September 1 of each year, of holy days within their respective religion's calendar year.

Convention, 1998

Convention, 2004 (reaffirmed)

Convention 2014 (reaffirmed)

15.5.10 Amendment to the Anti-Harassment Policy

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the ONDP Anti-Harassment Policy be amended to explicitly include 'gender identity'.

Convention 2012

15.5.11 Equity Review

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ONDP strike an Equity Review Committee with a mandate to evaluate structural equity within the party and make recommendations which represent the democratic principles of this party; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the recommendations include means to actualize practices of diversity and gender balance among the elected leadership positions within the party and the candidate selection process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this review be conducted by the Equity Review Committee in consultation with Ontario NDP members, Equity Committees, Council delegates, Constituency Executives and sister parties from other provinces and be presented for consideration at the 2014 Ontario NDP Convention.

Convention 2012

15.5.12 Developing the Ontario NDP into a year-round political social movement

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario NDP will act to develop itself as a year-round social activist movement to grow momentum

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Ontario NDP will develop and provide inexpensive planning and organisational tools with resources to riding associations, regional councils, city-wide, campus, and youth clubs to help develop political activism and establish events

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Ontario NDP will establish a standing committee for activism & organizing to develop and promote the necessary tools required to build our party.

Convention 2012

15.5.13 Accessibility of NDP and Associated Offices

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario NDP develop and follow a policy that all permanent offices associated with the party be totally accessible to all and that prior to entering into a contract an accessibility audit similar to that of the CAW or OPSEU be done and the building meet the established criteria.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every effort will be made to meet accessibility requirements for campaign offices.

Convention 2012

15.5.14 Non Compete Agreement

Be It Resolved that the New Democratic Party of Ontario reject and refuse any proposals to form an official coalition with any political party in Ontario.

Be it Further Resolved that the New Democratic Party of Ontario reject discussions of any non-compete agreements with any political party in Ontario.

Convention 2014

15.5.15 Organization and Consolidation of the Policy Book

BE IT RESOLVED that the Policy Resolutions and Statements Committee (PRSC) and the Constitution and By-laws Committee (CBC) shall carry out the following actions:

1. With regards to internal policies and procedures:

- ▶ The PRSC shall review the Policy Book and identify resolutions and directives on internal policies, protocols, and procedures.
- ▶ The PRSC shall advise the CBC of those internal policies, protocols, and procedures identified in the Policy Book.
- ▶ The CBC shall review the Party's significant minutes and identify resolutions and directives on internal policies, protocols, and procedures.
- ▶ The CBC shall prepare resolutions for adoption into the By-laws of all internal policies, protocols, and procedures identified by the PRSC and the CBC that are not currently in the By-laws.

2. With regards to statements:

- ▶ The PRSC shall review the Policy Book and identify statements of the Party outlining our position on a specific issue or event that has occurred or is occurring.
- ▶ The PRSC shall consolidate those statements into a draft "Statements Record".
- ▶ Each statement in the Statements Record shall include as meta-data: the date the statement was made, the category of the statement, and any relevant index terms in the statement.

3. With regards to policies:

- ▶ The PRSC shall review the Policy Book and identify policies stating a belief of the Party.
- ▶ The PRSC shall note and disregard policies which are clearly no longer of relevance.

- ▶ The PRSC shall take the identified policies and organize them into actionable categories, shaped upon the method of structure for the federal Policy Book.
 - ▶ The PRSC shall take those remaining policies and consolidate, into a draft of a new Policy Book, overly verbose or pedantic policies into concise and easy-to-comprehend policies, based on the language: "Ontario New Democrats believe".
4. The By-law amendments prepared by the CBC, and the draft Statements Record and the draft new Policy Book prepared by the PRSC shall be presented to the Provincial Council, whom shall vote separately on the adoption of the By-law amendments, the Statements Record, and the new Policy Book.
 5. The presentation and vote by the Provincial Council shall occur no later than the last Provincial Council meeting for 2015.
 6. Following adoption by Provincial Council, the Ontario NDP shall publish on the internet a complete policy book in searchable file format with an index.

Convention 2014

15.5.16 Membership

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial executive convene a working group to conduct a complete review of our current approach and procedures, consult

with staff and ridings on barriers, needs and suggestions and develop a report with recommendations for improvements in the way we do membership work, including the retention of members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group research and consider different ways of doing membership work including regional blitzes, the PACrat model (teams who visit ridings to conduct membership campaigns during specified periods and train local activists) and the five star plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the group investigate ways of reducing duplication and multiple calls through better coordination and communications and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group develop a terms of reference and timeline for completing its work to present to the next provincial council meeting following the November, 2014 convention.

Convention 2014

15.5.17 Replacing the Term Aboriginal with Indigenous

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ONDP replace the outdated "Aboriginal" word with the more correct word being "Indigenous", or to state as close as possible to a given groups' actual identity, in all of their written correspondence and committee names.

Convention 2019

15.5.18 Ensuring the Conclusion of All Harassment Investigations

BE IT RESOLVED, that any member who has a harassment complaint lodged against them who quits the Party for any reason during the investigation, consequently ending the investigation, is not permitted to rejoin the Party until the conclusion of said investigation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all materials pertaining to the investigation be kept confidential until the conclusion of the investigation.

Convention 2019