



**PC Party of Nova Scotia
Rules and Procedures for Leadership Debates**

As approved by the Leadership Selection Committee
on April 27, 2018 and revised on May 14, 2018.

Introduction

1. The Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia (the “Party”) will host six debates leading up to the Leadership Convention on October 26, 2018 to allow PC party members and supporters to hear from the Leadership Candidates.

The debates will be held from 7 pm to 8:30 pm at the following dates and locations:

Date	Community	Riding	Venue
May 24, 2018	Middleton	Annapolis	NSCC Middleton Campus
June 21, 2018	Dartmouth	Dartmouth South	Alderney Landing Theatre
July 12, 2018	Tusket	Argyle-Barrington	Tusket Community Hall
August 9, 2018	Whitney Pier	Sydney-Whitney Pier	Polish Village Hall
September 11, 2018	Bridgewater	Lunenburg West	Best Western Plus
October 10, 2018	Truro	Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River	Colchester Branch 026 Royal Canadian Legion

Locations of debates may change.

Participation in Debates

2. In order to participate in first debate, a prospective leadership candidate must have applied to the Accreditation Committee and paid the initial deposit as per the Leadership Selection Rules. In order to participate in subsequent debates, a prospective leadership candidate must have been approved by the Accreditation Committee as a leadership candidate (“Leadership Candidate”).
3. Participation in all debates is mandatory for every leadership candidate who has announced an intention to run, except as a result of personal emergency or illness. A penalty of up to \$1,000.00 per debate may be levied by the Leadership Selection Committee against any candidate who does not participate.

Appointment of Officials

4. Each Leadership Candidate shall appoint a designated Facilitator to liaise with the Party in all debate matters.
5. The Party has established a Debate Committee that shall be responsible for deciding all matters regarding the debates that are not addressed by these Rules.
6. The Debate Committee shall appoint a moderator or moderators for each debate.
7. A draw (or draws) will be held on a date communicated by the Debate Committee to determine each of the following:

- (a) Position on stage and order of introduction;
- (b) Order of opening remarks;
- (c) Lead responses to questions;
- (d) Order of closing remarks; and
- (e) Any other matters the Committee decides should be determined by draw.

The Committee shall decide the manner of the draw (or draws) and may determine to treat each debate as a fresh event or may take into account the outcome of prior draws for prior debates in determining draw order.

8. The draw(s) will be held at a date communicated by the Debate Committee, with the following present for the draw(s) at the Party office:

- a. the Chair of the Debate Committee or designate;
- b. one of the Leadership Selection Co-Chairs or designate;
- c. the Party's Executive Director or designate;
- d. the Facilitator for each Leadership Candidate or designate.

The facilitators for the Leadership Candidates may choose to participate via conference call.

9. Ten (10) days before each debate, the Debate Committee will advise the Leadership Candidates of the main themes of the debate.

10. The format of the debates shall be as follows:

- (a) The debate shall be no more than 90 minutes in length.
- (b) Each Leadership Candidate will be introduced by name.
- (c) The moderator will explain the format of the debate.
- (d) Each Leadership Candidate will make an opening statement of two (2) minutes each, in order determined by draw.
- (e) The Moderator will address three (3) different themes during each debate – health care, education and the economy.
- (f) Two (2) questions at each debate may be chosen by the Debate Committee from submissions from the audience. Questions will be collected in boxes in each location.
- (g) Questions will be presented through the Moderator.
- (h) The moderator will ask the first question to the first candidate and let them respond for two (2) minutes.
- (i) All remaining leadership Candidates will be given an opportunity to respond for two (2) minutes, in order determined by draw.
- (j) During the debate, each candidate will be allotted three 30 second rebuttal opportunities, to be used during the debate.
- (k) Each Leadership Candidate will make a closing statement of one (1) minute, in order determined by draw.
- (l) The debate will conclude with remarks by the moderator.

11. The Debate Committee reserves the right to modify the above format in order to improve the dialogue of the debate should it feel necessary. The Debate Committee will endeavor to provide the Leadership Candidates' Facilitators with notice of any changes at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to each debate. In the event of circumstances immediately prior to the debate such as (but not limited to) absence of a candidate or change in venue, the Debate Committee will provide notice of changes as soon as reasonably practicable.

Setting of debate

12. Each Leadership Candidate or their Facilitator shall be permitted an opportunity to inspect the facilities where the Debate will be held, between 5 pm and 5:45 pm on the day of the debate.
13. When a Leadership Candidate has fifteen (15) seconds remaining in their opening speech, concluding speech, or any other time allocated to them during the debate, the candidate shall be provided with a visible warning. The moderator will identify this signal prior to the commencement of the debate.
14. When a Leadership Candidate has exhausted his/her time for their opening statement, concluding statement, or any other time allocated to them during the debate, the candidate shall be given a visible cue, and their microphone will be turned off.
15. Water will be provided for all Leadership Candidates while they are on stage.
16. An area will be provided for post-debate media scrums for interested Leadership Candidates. The order at which Leadership Candidates will offer comments at the scrum will be on a first come, first serve basis.
17. Six (6) seats will be reserved for each Leadership Candidate in the debate audience.

Posters, demonstrations, materials

18. Each leadership candidate will be permitted to post five (5) posters not to exceed nine (9) square feet in the debate room. The posters cannot be located on or behind the state.
19. Distribution of brochures, buttons, and other swag items will be permitted before and after the debate.

Musical instruments, noisemakers, megaphones, bullhorns, "ThunderStix", placards, banners or other items designed to be held up or waved, or used to create, convert or amplify sound in any manner to signify support or opposition for a particular Leadership Candidate or cause, or which obstructs the view or encumber the hearing of attending guests, will not be permitted inside the debate room.