

## 4.5.6 Provincial Elections

BCNU Policy and Procedures Manual (v. 3.9)

Section	Effective Date (dd-mm-yy)	Revision Date (dd-mm-yy)	Date Approved (dd-mm-yy)	Page	Applicability	Subject
4.5.6	20-01-16	16-03-17	20-01-16	1 of 2	<input type="checkbox"/> BCNU Members <input type="checkbox"/> Employees / Staff	Provincial Elections
<b>Policy</b>	To ensure a fair, democratic process for Provincial elections.					
<b>Procedure</b>	<p><b>Election Process:</b></p> <p><b>Provincial Nominations Committee</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Provincial Nominations Committee, comprised of 5 members, is elected by the delegates to the Annual Convention of the Union every three (3) years. The call for nomination for the Provincial Nomination Committee shall occur (10) ten weeks prior to the first day of Convention. The Provincial Returning Officer shall oversee the Provincial Nomination Committee election. The President shall declare elected to office the five (5) candidates who receive the largest number of votes. If there are only five (5) candidates for these positions, the vote shall be dispensed with and the President shall declare those candidates elected. The group shall elect their own chairperson.</li> <li>The Provincial Nominations Committee members may not run for an elected position on the Provincial or Regional Executive Committees. Should a Nominations Committee member wish to run for such an elected position, they must step down from their role on the Provincial Nominations Committee.</li> </ol> <p><b>Provincial Executive</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Provincial Nominations Committee Chairperson shall conduct and oversee the election, including reporting the results of the election to the President.</li> <li>The entire election timeline, including the nomination, official campaigning and voting periods, shall not be more than 10 weeks in length.</li> <li>The Provincial Nominations Committee will determine the voting method as well as the election timeline and present their recommendation to Council for approval.</li> <li>BCNU climate goals shall be respected and maintained throughout the entire election process.</li> <li>At least six (6) weeks in advance of the Provincial election, the Provincial Nominations Committee Chairperson shall issue a call for nominations in a manner aimed at reaching as many members as possible. All documents related to the election will be posted for potential candidates to review.</li> <li>Nominations will close 14 days prior to the election or longer as determined by the Provincial Nomination Committee.</li> <li>Any Member in good standing may submit a Provincial Nominations Form. Late submissions will not be accepted.</li> <li>The Nominations Committee Chairperson shall ensure candidates are Members in Good Standing, and that there are no outstanding issues between BCNU and the candidates which might impact Provincial representation. Should untoward information be forthcoming, this information shall be shared with members. The candidates shall be informed in advance of such disclosure.</li> <li>The Nominations Committee will receive and approve the Biographical Sketch and Statement of Objectives from each candidate. These will be published in electronic/printed form and made available to the membership.</li> <li>Candidate Responsibilities during the election will be defined by the Provincial Nominations Committee.</li> </ol>					
	<i>(cont.)</i>					

11. Candidates shall be funded, including travel, wage replacement and accommodation as per existing Finance policies:
  - a) to attend the All Candidates Meeting(s) held at the BCNU Convention; and
  - b) to participate during the election timeframe in a provincial opportunity for member interaction, such as one or more telephone town halls which would be based at the BCNU provincial office.
12. The Provincial Nominations Committee will investigate, resolve and remedy election process complaints received on the Election Complaints Form.
13. In the event of a tie vote, the Provincial Nominations Committee Chairperson shall conduct a run-off vote between the tied candidates, lasting no longer than seven days.
14. If there is only one nomination for any given office, the Provincial Nominations Committee Chairperson shall declare that candidate elected by acclamation.
15. Any vacancy occurring in an elected office, except the President's, with more than one (1) year remaining in the term shall be filled by having a special election.
16. Any vacancy occurring in an elected office, with less than or equal to one (1) year remaining in the term, shall be filled by appointment as selected by the Council, following a call for expressions of interest for the position.

**Special Election**

Any vacancy occurring in an elected office, except the President, with more than one (1) year remaining in the term shall be filled by having a special election. The Special Election Process will follow the General Election Process. The election time line will be determined by Provincial Nomination Committee and be approved by the Council prior to the Special Provincial election.

**Provincial Executive Member Terms**

The term shall be for three (3) years.