



# **The Constitution of the Waterloo Parliamentary Association and Committee**

**1<sup>st</sup> Edition**

**Administered on the 28th of December 2024.**

## ***Formation of the Association and Committee***

1. This is the documented establishment of the “Waterloo Parliamentary Association”, referred to as the “Association” hereafter, and its affiliated committee a.k.a the “Waterloo Parliamentary Committee” or “Waterloo Committee”, which shall be referred to as the “Committee” hereafter.
2. The Association, Committee, and its administration therein shall be bound by the limitations codified in this document.

## ***The Association***

1. The Association is established as an organisation of political parties that, instead of running as isolated parties, contribute to a single cause and function logistically as a single entity in parliament.
2. The Association shall be subject to the administration of the Association Board and Chair, as defined in *Schedule II*.
3. The Association shall be led by the Association Leader, who shall be elected as defined in *Schedule III*.
4. Association parties shall have an *Approved Association Name* which shall be the name under which the party operates for the duration of its membership to the Association.
5. The *Approved Association Name* shall be determined by the administration of the Association and the party wishing to join in conjunction.
6. Association parties shall have a party code that is used to represent the affiliation of its members of parliament.

## **The Committee**

1. The Committee is established as a collection of all members of the Association that sit in parliament, who have been elected as in *Schedule I*.
2. The Committee shall be the official location for discussion of parliamentary business and decision making regarding the parliamentary activities of the Association (in a non-administrative capacity).
3. The Committee shall contain a subdivision for the House of Lords, the House of Commons, and a Joint Committee.
4. The Parliamentary Committee shall be chaired by the Leader of the Parliamentary Association.

## **Schedule I**

### **Prior to the Election**

1. Any Association member shall be entitled to submit their intention to run for election to the House of Commons when such polling is called by the Chair.

### **Submitting Interest**

1. The member must provide the name of the constituency that they wish to run for.
2. The selected constituency must adhere to the regulations established in the *Constituency Legacy Act 2024*.
3. No Association member may run for the constituency of “Ville-Marie-Le Sud-Ouest-Île-des-Sœurs”.

### **Approval of the Chair**

1. The Chair may grant approval to members who have submitted interest.
2. If the member receives the approval of the Chair, they may run for their constituency representing their Association Party.
3. If a member does not receive the approval of the Chair, they shall be prohibited from running as an Association representative.

### **During the Election**

1. The member shall register with the Election Commission prior to the election, using the constituency by which they were granted approval prior to the election.
2. The member shall only be permitted to register their party affiliation as being the *Approved Associated Name* of the party from which they are seeking election in the Parliamentary Association.
3. Their party code shall be established by the Association.

### **After the Election**

1. All successfully elected members shall be subject to the administration of the Association.
2. Any association member may have their membership to said association revoked by the Chair.

**Revocation of Association Membership**

1. If an individual's association membership is revoked, they shall be disclaimed by the Association and become an independent member of parliament.
2. A disclaimed individual may retain their membership to their original association party.
3. A disclaimed association member may not represent their original association party in parliament until such a time as their membership is reinstated or the party leaves the association altogether.

## **Schedule II**

### **The Association Board**

1. The Association Board shall act as the administrative body of the Association, under the jurisdiction of the Chair as defined below.
2. The Board shall deliberate matters of administrative importance, and may decide to call an Association membership vote to resolve a matter.
3. The Board shall consist of the Association Chair, the Association Leader, Association Party Nominees (*as defined below*), and any other Association member appointed by the membership of the board in a two-thirds majority confirmation.
4. The Board may collectively resolve to perform any administrative act that is afforded to the Chair by an absolute majority, regardless of the vote of the Chair.
5. The Board may collectively resolve to overturn any administrative act that is performed by the chair by an absolute majority, in which the chair will not be able to vote.
6. In the result of a tie of a vote in which the Chair was allowed to participate, the Chair's vote shall be the deciding vote.
7. If there is a tie of results for a vote in which the Chair was not allowed to participate, the matter must be put to a vote of the Association membership.

### **Nomination to the Association Board**

1. Each Association party may nominate a single member to sit on the Association Board via their own internal party process.
2. This nominee shall typically be the elected leader of the Association party from which they came.
3. An Association party whose leader is elected as Association Leader may nominate another member to the board for the duration of the Association Leader's incumbency.

### **Removal from the Association Board**

1. Party Nominees may be removed from the Board by an absolute majority vote of the remaining board membership, excluding the nominee subject to removal.
2. If a nominee is removed, the party from which they came may nominate a new Board member.

3. Association parties may not re-nominate a removed Board member for three parliamentary terms.

#### ***The Association Chair***

1. The Association Chair is the administrative leader of the Association and supervisory power of all member parties.
2. The Association Chair shall be the ultimate authority over all member parties.

#### **Election of the Association Chair**

1. The Association Chair is appointed by the Association Board.
2. In the event that the Chair is removed or resigns, a new selection process shall be held by the Board in an executive meeting.

#### **Removal of the Association Chair**

1. The Association Chair may be removed by a two-thirds majority vote of the Association Board or wider Association membership should the Board resolve to open the matter to the membership.
2. The Chair may not vote on this matter under any circumstance.
3. The Board must call an executive meeting to deliberate the matter of removal exclusively before resolving to vote on the removal.
4. The Board may, in the aforementioned meeting, resolve to open the vote to all Association members.
5. The Board shall follow the will of the Association membership when deciding whether to deliberate removal.

#### ***The Association Leader***

1. The Association Leader is the elected parliamentary leader of the Association.
2. The Leader shall be responsible for administering the legislative direction and agenda of the Association at each general election.

#### **Nomination, Election, and Removal of the Leader**

1. The Leader can be elected as per *Schedule III*.
2. The Leader can be removed by a simple majority vote of the Association members.
3. The removal vote is to be called by the Association Chair.
4. The chair is expected to follow the will of the membership when calling this vote.

## **Schedule III**

### ***The Association Conference***

1. The Association conference shall be held at the “midterm” mark of each term.
2. The conference shall be used to discuss the legislative agenda, and develop the Association’s manifesto for the next election.
3. All Association members have equal contribution to this process.
4. The conference is overseen exclusively by the Chair.
5. Association parties may hold their own internal conferences according to their constitutions, in which they may elect their own party leader if they desire.

### ***The Designation Process***

1. Before an election cycle begins, the Association Chair shall call for the “Designation Process”.
2. The elected leaders of each Association party shall be placed on a ballot as the candidates for the Association Leadership.
3. The Association membership may then vote for a single candidate each round in a multi-round voting system.
4. The candidate with the fewest votes in each round is eliminated, until a simple majority vote is reached between the two final candidates to select the party “Leader”.
5. The victor of the final vote shall be named “Leader” upon an absolute majority approval of the Association board (excluding the previous Leader, the current candidate, and any other board member that was a candidate in the process bar the Chair).