

## 2022 MFL ONLINE CONVENTION

### **RULES OF ORDER** (also available in the MFL's Convention Program)

The MFL's Convention Rules of Order are intended to assist delegates to have orderly, respectful and inclusive Convention debate and discussion, where all delegates have the opportunity to voice their perspectives and participate in collective decision making.

The Convention is the MFL's main governing body. Convention quorum is one-third (1/3) of registered delegates. Convention decisions are made by majority vote (50% +1), except for Constitutional amendments, which require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present and voting to pass.

The following Rules of Order are laid out in the MFL's Constitution Article 4, Section 15, with amendments having been made and approved by the MFL Executive Council to #3 and #10 to reflect the 2022 Online Convention format:

#### Article 4, Sections 15 (with amendments):

1. The President will Chair both regular and special conventions. The Executive Council will decide who else will Chair Convention.
2. Delegates must act respectfully toward each other - refer to Manitoba Federation of Labour "Policy on Code of Conduct" at Manitoba Federation of Labour events.
3. To speak at the MFL's Online Convention, delegates will use the ZOOM chat function to indicate if they wish to speak in favour (PRO) or against (CON) a resolution, or to raise a Point of Order, and will then wait to be recognized by the Chairperson. When recognized, delegates will begin by stating their name and affiliation, and only talk about the issue being discussed. Points of order will be recognized as quickly as possible. The Chairperson will alternate between recognizing PRO and CON speakers to a resolution; delegates will be queued-up in the order in which they indicated their intention to speak.
4. Speeches cannot be longer than three (3) minutes. Speeches to move a resolution can be as long as ten (10) minutes.

5. Delegates can speak only once on a subject. However, if everyone who wants to speak has spoken, delegates may have another turn.
6. Delegates will let others speak without interruption. Interruptions are only allowed when you want to ask about, or object to, what's going on (or calling a "Point of Order").
7. If the Chairperson calls a delegate to order, the delegate steps down until the Convention decides on the point raised.
8. If a delegate continues to act inappropriately, the Chairperson may silence the delegate. The delegate may then explain his/her/their actions to the Convention and then step down. The Convention then decides what to do.
9. When the Convention is to vote, the Chairperson describes what is to be voted on and asks: "Are you ready to end the debate and vote on the question?" If no delegate wants to speak, the delegates can vote (or "put the question").
10. Votes will be cast electronically using either ZOOM's polling feature or Simply Voting, as indicated by the Chairperson. There will be no standing votes, as voting results will be tabulated electronically. A majority (50%+1) of the delegates can demand a roll call vote (when delegates are called upon one by one and their votes are recorded).
11. Two (2) delegates can appeal the decision of the Chairperson. The Chairperson can explain the decision but the appeal is not debatable. The Chairperson will then ask: "Do the delegates agree with the Chairperson's decision?"
12. The Chairperson has the same rights as other delegates to vote on any question. If a vote is tied, the Chairperson will cast the deciding vote.
13. When a delegate moves to end debate (or "put the question"), there can be no discussion or amendments made. If a majority votes that, "the question be now put," the delegates vote on the original Motion with no more debate. If the Motion to end debate is defeated, the discussion can keep going.
14. A delegate cannot make a motion to refer (send back to committee) after speaking on the Motion.
15. A Motion to refer cannot be debated and is immediately voted on.

16. Convention decides whether to adopt Committee Reports. If a report is defeated, it may be sent back to the Committee to be reconsidered.
17. (A) When the Convention is discussing a Motion, the only other Motions that are allowed are (in order):
  - i. to end debate (“put the question”);
  - ii. to send the Motion to a Committee (to refer the Motion);
  - iii. to postpone for a set amount of time (table the Motion).

(B) If delegates defeat any of these Motions, the Motions cannot be reconsidered again until the next sitting of Convention.
18. After delegates have voted on a Motion, they may reconsider it under these conditions:
  - (A) if the delegate who wants the matter to be reconsidered voted with the majority;
  - (B) if Notice of Motion to reconsider is given at the next sitting of Convention; and
  - (C) two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates support the Notice of Motion.
19. The Executive Council will set the Convention hours.
20. Unless otherwise stated, *Bourinot’s Rules of Order* covers anything not outlined here in this Constitution.

The full Bourinot’s Rules of Order can be viewed here (thank you to USW for making them available online):

<https://usw1944.ca/system/files/en-bourinot-rules.pdf>

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