

# The Federalist Party of Canada



Founder Decree

November 21, 2012

## **National bylaw:** National caucus bylaw

**Introduction:** A bylaw governing the block voting of the national caucus on the platform of the Federalist party of Canada.

Expires election day for the 42<sup>nd</sup> General election of the Parliament of Canada.  
(Expired Monday October 19, 2015; election day for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Federal election)

### **From the provisional constitution**

**12.3** Key resolutions need two third majorities to be passed in the National Assembly, National Congress, and the Federal council. Key resolutions are motioned in the National policy committee. These resolutions are in the National Party Platform and are binding upon a Federalist government and all Federalist MP's.

**12.4** Each Federalist MP can vote as they choose in the House of Commons. They may vote against key resolutions without penalty a number of times in each Parliament equal to the number of times they have been elected to the Commons. Key resolutions form the main policies to be supported by the Party. They are the major planks in the Party's manifesto issued for each federal general election.

As stated in article 12.4 each Federalist MP may vote as they choose in the House of Commons or that every vote is a free vote UNLESS the caucus is block voted and the MP's vote as a member of the party. This bylaw states how a vote in the House of Commons is declared a party vote and the Federalist MP's vote as a block in the House. The Senate caucus, if any, is never block voted.

### **Procedural votes**

**1.0** All procedural votes in the house are free votes and are never block voted.

**1.1** All disciplinary motions are free votes. All votes to confirm an appointment to federal office are free votes. All votes to dismiss a person from federal office are free votes.

## **Constitutional votes & Standing orders of the House**

**2.0** These votes are always free votes and cannot be block voted.

### **Confidence motions**

**3.0** All confidence and non-confidence motions are blocked voted and are never free votes. Federalist MP's are still entitled to their passes, see article 4.3 .

**3.1** The Leader shall ask the National Congress for confirmation that the House caucus shall be block voted either yes or no on the specified motion before the House of Commons. If the Congress in legislative session by a majority vote confirms then the caucus shall vote as per the block vote in the House.

**3.2** The Deputy leader can ask the Congress for confirmation of a block vote but this takes a two-thirds majority vote in the Congress.

**3.3** The first time in a Parliament that an MP votes against a block vote on a confidence motion they are suspended from caucus and the National Congress for 3 months. The second time they have their party membership suspended for 6 months. The third time the person is expelled from the Party.

### **Legislation**

**4.0** All legislative votes are free votes unless block voted.

**4.1** The Leader shall ask the National Congress for confirmation that the House caucus shall be block voted either yes or no on the specified motion before the House of commons. If the Congress in legislative session by a two-thirds majority vote confirms then the caucus shall vote as per the block vote in the House.

**4.2** The Deputy leader can ask the Congress for confirmation of a block vote but this takes a three quarters majority vote in the Congress.

**4.3** Each MP can vote without penalty against a Party vote in the House a number of times in each Parliament equal to the number of times they have been elected to the House of Commons. These votes without penalty are called passes.

**4.4** The first vote against a block vote on legislation with penalty and that penalty is suspension from the House caucus for three months. The second time is suspension from the caucus and National Congress for six months. The third time the penalty is suspension of party membership for one year. While suspended the member can not run in a nomination election. The fourth time is the loss of membership in the Federalist party of Canada.

**Summary:** All Federalist Members of Parliament are members of the Parliament of Canada first and not a Member of the Federalist Party. It is not the Party or its Leader that pays the salary of an MP but the taxpayers and voters of Canada.

Founder

*Barry Aulis*

