

PREAMBLE

One Bermuda Alliance represents all Bermudians and will make decisions and take actions that will uphold the standards and fairness that Bermudians are known for. We do not believe that Bermudians want to be divided on the basis of race or class and we reject that approach.

One Bermuda Alliance is founded on the principles of **Opportunity, Responsibility, Integrity, Transparency, Fairness, Inclusiveness and Service.**

Opportunity. If you work hard and play by the rules then you should have the opportunity to succeed. Opportunity comes from ensuring:

- **Safety & Security** – We cannot move forward unless our communities are strong and secure, our families are protected and our children’s futures are bright. Ensuring a safe environment for all Bermudians is vital to the long-term strength and stability of our country. One Bermuda Alliance will take us there.
- **A Strong Economy** – Success for all Bermudians depends on our economic strength and financial independence. Renewing economic stability and making sound fiscal decisions are foundations of a healthy and strong democracy. One Bermuda Alliance will take us there.
- **Quality Public Education** – By significantly improving educational performance in the classroom today, we ensure a healthier and prosperous Bermuda for future generations. One Bermuda Alliance will take us there.

Responsibility. Government has a responsibility to live within its means and must be held accountable for its actions. But government cannot do it alone. We must pursue policies and programmes that encourage Bermudians to take responsibility for their own actions and for the care of their families. We will be committed stewards of Bermuda’s assets and resources.

Integrity. One Bermuda Alliance will have a zero tolerance policy for fraud and corruption in government. We will not tolerate the abuse of public power for private gain. We will ensure that no conflict arises, or could reasonably be perceived to arise, between our public duties and our private interests, financial or otherwise.

Transparency We are committed to transparency, open government and reform. We will hold ourselves to the higher ethical and moral standards and always act in the manner that provides the greatest good for all of Bermuda.

Fairness. One Bermuda Alliance will serve the many, not the few. Fairness to all will form the basis of our actions as a government. We will be guided by the

principle of non-discrimination and equal rights, and the overriding principle that all people are equal before the law.

Inclusiveness. One Bermuda Alliance embraces the diversity of the Bermudian community – a community that is tolerant of differences and demonstrates mutual respect for all. We will maintain an environment in which all people feel free to share ideas and information. We will be open minded and respectful of the views of other organizations and be collaborative in the best interests of Bermuda

Service. Political power belongs to the people and should only be entrusted to those who are prepared to serve our island home. We will work for the benefit of all Bermuda's people. Our job is to fulfil the expectations of those who have honoured us with their trust.

Members of the One Bermuda Alliance understand that our community is tired of politics as usual and putting political parties first at the expense of what is best for Bermuda. We will enhance our democracy by making our parliamentary system more inclusive, more transparent and more collaborative for the public and parliamentarians. We will hold ourselves to high ethical and moral standards and make sure that elected and appointed representatives lead by example and are accountable. We will draw from the widest possible membership for government appointments and make sure that those appointed understand their responsibilities and put Bermuda first.

Article 1: Name and Objectives

1.1 The official name of the organisation shall be the One Bermuda Alliance, hereinafter referred to as "the OBA".

1.2 The OBA's objectives are to

- (i) address crime, violence, gangs and drugs and ensure we have a modern justice system that is fair, sensible and accessible to all.
- (ii) Renew fiscal prudence in government by ensuring government lives within its means and reduces debt and the tax burden on individuals and businesses.
- (iii) Grow and diversify our economy to provide opportunities for current and future generations of Bermudians, while enhancing International Business and rejuvenating tourism.
- (iv) Ensure a level playing field and give a step up to those who need help to compete in Bermuda's economy.
- (v) Create a public education system that will provide our children with the skills and training they need to compete in the 21st century.
- (vi) Make healthcare more affordable and accessible and improve the quality for seniors and our community, while ensuring sustainability for future generations.
- (vii) Ensure environmental sustainability for present and future generations.

- (viii) Push for a society that is inclusive, embraces diversity and equal opportunity and protects everyone's human rights.
- (ix) Put Bermuda first to move Bermuda forward.
- (x) Work to transform the way we practice politics, the way we govern ourselves and the way in which Bermuda is governed.
- (xi) Organize itself to not only appeal to, but to include Bermudians from all walks of life who want to see a change in the way politics is conducted.
- (xii) Operate as a broad church – open to all who wish to join and abide by our principles and who are prepared to put Bermuda first.

Article 2: Activities and Membership

- 2.1 In furtherance of the objectives, the OBA;
- a) shall take part in democratic electoral processes.
 - b) may also work together with other organisations for particular purposes consistent with its objectives.
 - c) will raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person or persons whatsoever by way of subscription, donation or otherwise.
 - d) will publish, with or without charge, any items it sees fit.
 - e) may employ and pay people to supervise, organise and carry out the OBA's aims.
 - f) may purchase, lease or rent property necessary to carry out the OBA's aims and make arrangements for the management of any property acquired.
 - g) may invest any monies of the OBA not immediately required.
 - h) may do all such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of its ends.
- 2.2 Membership of the OBA is open to all persons who agree with the values and objectives of the OBA without discrimination as to age, ethnic origin, religion, disability, gender or sexual orientation, save that the minimum age for membership shall be sixteen.
- 2.3 Membership may be refused or withdrawn on one or more of the following grounds: (i) disagreement, evidenced by conduct, with the values and objectives of the OBA; (ii) the admission of the applicant would likely bring the OBA into disrepute; or (iii) membership of another political party in Bermuda.
- 2.4 Any person aggrieved by a refusal or withdrawal, shall have a right of appeal to the Discipline Committee.
- 2.5 An applicant for membership shall fill out and sign an application form confirming that the applicant subscribes to the values and objectives of the OBA. On such form being received by the Executive Committee ("EC") together with the relevant subscription amounts as set by the EC, such applicant shall become a member of the OBA and be listed on a membership roll. The process for subscriptions shall be agreed from time to time by the EC. Membership shall run from 1st January to 31st December and must be renewed annually.

- 2.6 Members shall be able to vote at OBA elections pursuant to rules proscribed by the EC or delegated committee from time to time and shall receive other benefits as decided by the EC from time to time. Only members who are registered on the Parliamentary Register can participate in elections for OBA Leader and Deputy Leader.
- 2.7 Members are in "good standing" if their subscriptions are up to date and they are not subject to any suspension or exclusion either from elected office or from standing as a candidate of any sort.

Article 3 - The Annual Conference

- 3.1 The OBA may hold an Annual Conference ("AC") annually at places and times decided by the EC. Only members in good standing may vote at the AC but it shall be open to guests. The AC's business will be to receive reports from the OBA Officers, receive the OBA's accounts and vote on OBA leadership (every two years) in addition to other matters as decided from time to time by the EC.
- 3.2 All motions at the AC may be passed by a simple majority of those voting. Procedures for submitting nominations and motions at the AC shall be determined by the EC from time to time.
- 3.3 The AC business may include the consideration of motions on OBA policy and strategy.
- 3.4 Motions carried shall have immediate and binding effect unless the motion says otherwise.
- 3.5 Motions for debate at the AC must be submitted in accordance with the procedures determined by the EC from time to time.
- 3.6 The EC may also summon other special conferences for specific purposes, which will be open to all OBA members in good standing. The EC shall determine procedures for convening and conducting such conferences from time to time.
- 3.7 A quorum for purposes of voting shall be a number no less than ten percent of OBA members in good standing.
- 3.8 Internet voting may be permissible with rules issued by the EC from time to time.

Article 4 - The Executive Committee

- 4.1 The Executive Committee is the governing committee of the OBA and shall comprise of the following: Chairperson, two Deputy Chairpersons, one Treasurer, one Secretary, the OBA Leader, OBA Deputy Leader and two others as elected by the Regional Officers who must be OBA members in good standing that are not MPs or Senators.
- 4.2 The EC shall control the day to day operations of the OBA and shall adhere to the following objectives:
 - i. full representation of the interests and views of members;

- ii. open and accountable fundraising and financing which are coordinated with other OBA activities and Regional activities designed to meet the OBA's overall objectives;
 - iii. democratic representation of the membership; and
 - iv. maintenance of a policy development process which encourages participation of all members to develop an OBA platform.
- 4.3 The EC may establish temporary and standing committees for the administration of the OBA and the development of policy or OBA promotion or business. Such committee chairs shall report to the EC as often as deemed necessary by the EC.
- 4.4 The EC may from time to time appoint ex-officio members. Ex-officio members shall not have a vote.
- 4.5 Election and selection to membership of the EC shall be restricted to members of the OBA in good standing. These members shall not be paid employees of the OBA.
- 4.6 The OBA Leader, Deputy Leader, Chairperson and the two Deputy Chairpersons shall be elected by members of the OBA in good standing pursuant to rules set by the EC and subject to the nomination process set below. The OBA Secretary and Treasurer shall be selected by the OBA Leader, Deputy Leader, Chairperson and Deputy Chairpersons. The Chairperson, Deputy Chairpersons, Treasurer and Secretary shall be the OBA Officers. The offices of OBA Leader, Deputy Leader and OBA Officers may only be held singly unless otherwise approved by the EC on a temporary basis.
- 4.7 If at any time the OBA membership of a serving EC member shall be suspended, that member shall automatically be suspended from the EC and shall not be entitled to resume his or her place on the EC until after the restoration of his or her OBA membership. If at any time the OBA membership of a serving EC member shall be revoked, that member shall automatically be expelled from the EC without the need for the EC to take any further action.
- 4.8 Members of the EC shall be elected/selected for a term not exceeding 2 years and shall be eligible for election/re-selection at the completion of the two year term.
- 4.9 The resignation of a member of the EC shall either be evidenced in writing and sent or given to the OBA Chairperson, or if given orally at an EC meeting it shall be minuted and those minutes shall be signed by the Chairperson or secretary next to the entry relating to the resignation.
- 4.10 Should a vacancy occur between elections, the EC may invite a non Parliamentary OBA member in good standing to fill the vacancy until the conclusion of the two year term.
- 4.11 Any six or more voting members of the EC may requisition an emergency meeting of the committee by calling on the OBA Secretary to summon one as soon as practicable. They must state the business to be discussed and any related motions to be put, and the agenda for the emergency meeting shall comprise this business and matters arising and no other.

- 4.12 Recommendation of an EC member to the Discipline Committee may be undertaken only by a resolution to that effect passed by at least two-thirds of the voting members present. These measures are in addition to the automatic suspension/expulsion from the committee per this constitution. Grounds for expulsion/suspension from the EC shall be the following:
- i. Public opposition outside the EC to measures duly approved by it if it is considered that the said public opposition has caused or is likely to cause the OBA or its leadership to be brought into public disrepute;
 - ii. Breaching of EC or OBA confidentiality;
 - iii. Persistent non-attendance at EC meetings without good cause;
 - iv. Unbecoming conduct in the course of EC meetings;
 - v. Speaking to or providing documents to the press or any other outside person, party or organisation about OBA internal matters, OBA policies, platforms or any related OBA business without prior authorisation from the OBA Leader, Deputy Leader or Chairperson; and
 - vi. Any other conduct deemed to be inappropriate by the EC.

Article 5 - Regions

- 5.1 The minimum number of Regional Committees (“RC”) shall be five and the maximum number shall be ten. The number of Regions and the areas covered by each Region shall be determined by the EC. The EC may from time to time amend the regional structure to take account of any change in circumstances.
- 5.2 RC’s shall consist of OBA members in good standing who reside in a Region as identified by the EC.
- 5.3 RC’s will co-ordinate campaigning and political activities in each Region subject to any direction from the EC or delegated committee. The Regions shall each use their best endeavours to create branch committees to run political activities in each constituency with rules to be agreed from time to time by the EC or delegated subcommittee.
- 5.4 The Regional Officers of a Region shall consist of a Chairperson, a Deputy Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The same person may hold the offices of Secretary and Treasurer. An Officer of a Region may also be a serving OBA Officer.
- 5.5 The Secretary shall maintain the records of the Region and the Treasurer shall keep proper books of accounts. The Treasurer shall present an Annual Report at the Annual General Meeting indicating money raised and sent to the EC Treasurer. 50% of funds raised by a RC shall be remitted to the EC.

- 5.6 The Officers of a Region shall be members of the OBA in good standing and shall be elected by the members of the OBA in the Region annually or as soon as practicable thereafter following rules set by the OBA Secretary in consultation with RC Secretaries.
- 5.7 The Chairperson of a Region may fill any casual vacancy among the Regional Officers of the Region through appointment of other OBA Members in good standing.
- 5.8 Within fourteen (14) days of the coming into effect of any changes to the Boundaries of the Electoral Districts, the EC will determine any changes to the number and extent of the Regions. The decision of the EC shall be final and binding. The EC shall have the discretion to appoint Regional Officers in any Region where a vacancy arises if not filled by the Regional Chairperson until the election of Regional Officers of such Regions.

Article 6 – OBA Leader

- 6.1 The OBA Leader shall lead the political direction of the OBA. The OBA Leader shall appoint an OBA Whip, recommend Senators for appointment by the Governor and may appoint a House Leader. The OBA Leader shall appoint Ministers or Shadow Ministers and Spokespersons from OBA members in good standing. The Ministers or Shadow Ministers shall liaise with the Spokespersons who shall chair policy Boards. It is the intent that Spokespersons shall speak often publicly on behalf of the OBA.
- 6.2 The OBA Leader shall be a full member of all committees and sub-committees and working groups set up by the EC or other groups and shall have a vote on each committee. All OBA members in good standing shall elect the OBA Leader with the rules for election to be set by the EC subject to those requirements below. The Leader's term of office shall run for two years. This term may be extended by the EC passing a motion by a two-thirds majority to enable the Leader to stay in post in order to fight a General Election.
- 6.3 A leadership election shall be called in the event of the OBA Leader's death, incapacity or resignation; on the passing of a vote of no confidence in the OBA Leader by the OBA Caucus if this is endorsed by a majority of OBA members in attendance at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the OBA; or on the OBA Leader's completion of his term of office or if two thirds of OBA MP's pass a vote of no confidence in the OBA Leader endorsed by the OBA Caucus.
- 6.4 In order to stand for election of Leader of the OBA, the candidate must be a MP and an adopted candidate not under disciplinary action. The candidate must have the support by way of signature of at least three (3) sitting MP's and at least seven (7) non-Parliamentary OBA members in good standing who shall not all be from the same Region. The signatures must be submitted in writing to the OBA Secretary within the time specified by the OBA Secretary.

- 6.5 If there is only one valid nomination for the post of OBA Leader the candidate nominated shall be declared OBA Leader without the need for a ballot. Any contested election for the leadership shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast subject to quorum requirements. Those eligible to vote shall be OBA members in good standing who are registered on the Parliamentary Registry at least 7 days before the last date for the receipt of ballot papers.
- 6.6 The Rules set out above shall apply mutatis mutandis to the Deputy OBA Leader, save that a candidate for Deputy OBA Leader may be an approved candidate and does not need to be an MP. If the person elected Deputy OBA Leader is not a sitting MP he/she shall be ranked first by the Candidate Selection Committee and will be appointed to the Senate by the OBA Leader immediately thereafter.

Article 7 - The OBA Deputy Leader

- 7.1 The OBA Deputy Leader shall act as the OBA Leader in the OBA Leader's absence or when the OBA Leader notifies the EC. The OBA Deputy Leader shall assist the OBA Leader in giving political direction to the OBA.
- 7.2 The Deputy Leader shall be a member of all OBA Committees and shall have a vote on each committee.

Article 8 - The OBA Secretary and OBA Treasurer

- 8.1 The OBA Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the administrative and other arrangements of the OBA comply with all legal requirements; for maintaining an up to date record of OBA members and in which Regions they fall and dealing with all matters relating to membership (including setting of membership fees in consultation with the EC) ; for the administration of leadership elections and elections to the EC (except when he or she is an adopted or approved candidate, when the EC shall nominate another of its members to carry out this task).
- 8.2 The Treasurer shall be responsible for managing the OBA's finances, for preparing annual accounts and presenting them for approval at the AC. He or she will carry out any other functions prescribed by statute in relation to the finances and financial reporting of the OBA. He or she will chair the Finance Committee. The Treasurer shall maintain a list of OBA donors and donations received by the EC and RC's.

Article 9 -The OBA Chairperson

- 9.1 The OBA Chairperson shall chair meetings of the EC, the Annual Conference and any Extraordinary General Meeting that may be called. The OBA Chairperson shall lead the EC in respect of the administrative side of the OBA and shall advise the Leader and Deputy Leader of the political views of the Regions. The OBA

Chairperson shall work with the OBA Leader in approving national statements of the OBA's policies and the manner of their communication.

- 9.2 The OBA Chairperson will work with the Regional Chairpersons in ensuring that all efforts are made to have active and properly constituted Regional Committees financially able to support a parliamentary election campaign. To that end, the OBA Chairperson may suggest to the EC the creation of paid administrative posts and may delegate roles to other EC members or temporary committees as he or she sees fit.
- 9.3 A leadership election shall be called in the event of the Chairperson's death, incapacity or resignation; on the passing of a vote of no confidence in the Chairperson by the OBA Caucus if this is endorsed by a majority of OBA members in attendance at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the OBA; or on the OBA Chairperson's completion of his term of office.
- 9.4 In order to stand for election as OBA Chairperson, the candidate must have the support by way of signature of at least two Regional Chairpersons and at least seven OBA members in good standing who are not from the same Region. The signatures must be submitted in writing to the OBA Secretary within the time specified by the OBA Secretary.
- 9.5 If there is only one valid nomination for the post of Chairperson the candidate nominated shall be declared Chairperson without the need for a ballot. Any contested election for the Chairperson shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes cast subject to quorum requirements. Those eligible to vote shall be OBA members in good standing at least 7 days before the last date for the receipt of ballot papers.

Article 10 - Standing and Temporary Committees

- 10.1 The standing committees set up by the EC shall include a Finance Committee, a Discipline Committee and a Candidate Selection Committee.
- 10.2 Temporary committees may be created from time to time per this Constitution.
- 10.3 The Finance Committee shall be chaired by the OBA Treasurer. Its responsibility will be to oversee the management of the OBA's finances. The OBA Treasurer shall appoint OBA members in good standing to the Finance Committee who shall not be Parliamentarians which shall include RC Treasurers. At no time should Parliamentarians be permitted to sign financial documents on behalf of the OBA.
- 10.4 The Discipline Committee shall be chaired by an OBA Officer as delegated by the EC from time to time. Its responsibility will be to discipline OBA members in addition to other duties as specified by this Constitution or delegated by the EC from time to time.

Article 11 -The Candidate Selection Committee and Process

- 11.1 The Candidate Selection Committee shall comprise of the OBA Leader, Deputy Leader and Chairperson who shall select four additional persons to the said committee who shall be OBA members in good standing who are not Parliamentarians or OBA Officers.
- 11.2 Potential candidates shall make a written application to the committee and shall make full disclosure of any fact, political or personal, that may have a bearing on their suitability for selection as a candidate. Candidates are under a continuing duty to disclose any facts to the EC or committee appointed by the EC that may have a bearing on their suitability to stand as a candidate.
- 11.3 The committee shall select candidates who will be eligible to stand for Parliamentary election for the OBA (“approved candidates”). Approved candidates will be ranked by the committee and then placed in individual constituencies upon which they will be called adopted candidates. Prior to adoption the committee shall consult with the Regional and Constituency leadership in the “to be” adopted constituency. Preference may be given to candidates who live in a particular constituency or have another connection in that constituency.
- 11.4 If the OBA membership residing in a particular constituency is not satisfied with the decision of the committee the OBA membership in that constituency may seek a primary election.
- 11.5 In order for there to be a primary election, at least 100 signatures of those persons on the parliamentary register for that constituency must be evidenced on a petition seeking a primary between the adopted candidate and the candidate preferred by the OBA members in that constituency, who must be an approved candidate. Rules for the primary shall be settled by the committee. A primary election shall take place within three months of the selection of the candidate in that constituency.
- 11.6 A candidate may be suspended from the approved or adopted list if, by a majority vote, the OBA Leader, OBA Whip and OBA Chairperson consider that there is good reason to do so. A suspended candidate will have the right to an appeal to the Candidate Selection Committee according to rules that shall be made from time to time by the said committee who may decide to de-select the candidate. If the candidate is de-selected they shall have the right of appeal to the Disciplinary Committee.
- 11.7 The list of adopted and approved candidates that has been selected by the Candidate Selection Committee shall not be changed other than by the death, resignation, disciplinary action or removal by a primary election of a candidate (subject always to clause 6.6 of this Constitution).
- 11.8 The Candidate Selection Committee shall set its own rules, procedure and primary rules and will notify the OBA from time to time subject to this Constitution.

Article 12 – Discipline

- 12.1 The EC shall establish a Discipline Committee that shall serve for twelve month terms comprising of an OBA Officer and up to five members from fully paid-up OBA members in good standing selected by the EC who shall not be Parliamentarians or serving members of the EC save for the selected OBA Officer who shall chair the meetings. The OBA Officer and a minimum of two members of the Discipline Committee shall conduct specific hearings in accordance with the appropriate rules which shall be made by the Discipline Committee from time to time. The member against whom disciplinary action is taken must be given a reasonable opportunity to put his views to the Discipline Committee, and also to question any member who has made allegations against him (which are relevant to the action). If the member against whom disciplinary action is to be taken is not at the meeting, he or she must be given a reasonable opportunity to attend on a subsequent occasion. Action can only be taken in his absence if the Discipline Committee is of the opinion that it would be fair and reasonable to do so in all the circumstances.
- 12.2 Selected members of the Discipline Committee must resign if elected/selected to the EC. The Discipline Committee may deal with all disciplinary action for all OBA members. Any OBA member in good standing who has a grievance against another OBA member must refer the issue to a OBA Officer, OBA Leader or Deputy Leader, upon which the EC shall meet and decide whether to refer the matter to the Discipline Committee.
- 12.3 The OBA Leader (Deputy Leader in absence of the OBA Leader) and OBA Whip shall have disciplinary discretion over Parliamentarians whose decision shall be final if it relates to their Parliamentary duties. The aforementioned may refer such disciplinary matters to the Discipline Committee.

Article 13 -The Caucus

- 13.1. The Caucus shall be the political debate and political decision making body of the OBA (subject to any decisions made at the AC or any EGM of the OBA members) and shall be comprised of the EC, OBA MP's, Senators, Regional officers and approved and adopted candidates and those people invited by the OBA Leader in consultation with the OBA Chairperson and Deputy OBA Leader. Caucus shall be chaired by a person elected annually by Caucus. The process for the election shall be decided by the OBA Secretary. In the absence of the Caucus Chairperson the Caucus shall elect another Caucus member to chair the Caucus meeting.
- 13.2 The Caucus may create subcommittees comprising of members in good standing to assist in political policy recommendations. Subcommittees shall meet as often as deemed necessary by the subcommittee members. Subcommittee chairpersons shall report to the Caucus as often as deemed by the Caucus.
- 13.3 The Caucus shall meet at least twelve times per year.

- 13.4 All Caucus and Caucus sub-committee discussions and documents shall remain confidential to Caucus members unless otherwise agreed by a majority of Caucus. Failure to do so will automatically result in a referral to the Discipline Committee.
- 13.5 A Caucus quorum shall be ten which can be waived by a two thirds majority of those in attendance.
- 13.6 The Caucus shall agree by majority its own procedure as suggested by the Caucus Chairperson. The Caucus shall elect a Caucus Secretary.

Article 14 - Campaign Committee

14.1 The EC may appoint a Campaign committee which shall include the OBA Leader, OBA Deputy Leader, OBA Chairperson and Treasurer and which shall be responsible for:

- (i) Preparing a budget for every campaign for approval by EC. No expense in excess of the approved budget shall be incurred by the Campaign Committee.
- (ii) Creating a Campaign strategy and managing the OBA election campaign and shall report to the EC as often as requested by the EC.

14.2 The Campaign Committee may create such subcommittees as are appropriate for campaign purposes.

Article 15 Constitution: Approval and Amendment

This Constitution may be amended from time to time but subject to the requirement that any amendment must be approved by a majority of a membership meeting at an AGM or SGM.