



**CONSEIL  
LÉGISLATIF**

NEUGRAVIAT DE SAINT-CASTIN

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**LEGISLATIVE  
COUNCIL**

NEWGRAVIATE OF SAINT-CASTIN

# CASTINIAN CONSTITUTION

NEWGRAVIATE OF SAINT-CASTIN

[www.saintcastin.org](http://www.saintcastin.org)



**SAINT-CASTIN**  
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# Foreword by the Minister president

*We are honored to present to you the Castinian Constitution, the foundation of our state, the Newgraviate of Saint-Castin. This Constitution, adopted by our Legislative Council and approved by the late Newgrave Louis-Philippe I, embodies the values and principles of our nation.*

*The Castinian Constitution is a hereditary constitutional monarchy that combines democracy and parliamentarism. It recognizes the central role of the Newgrave as the head of state, exercising their powers in accordance with the Constitution and the laws in force.*

*It also establishes the structure of our state with two provinces: Outaragasipi and Valinois, with Tekakwitha as the capital. The Constitution guarantees individual freedom, freedom of religion, expression, and equality before the law.*

*It sets forth the duties of the state towards its citizens, such as education, social protection, administration of justice, and preservation of the environment. The State of Saint-Castin is committed to promoting the general well-being and ensuring the prosperity of the Newgravia House while respecting democratic principles and the rule of law.*

*The Castinian Constitution places particular importance on gender equality and the protection of the rights of the LGBT community. It recognizes the right of citizens to choose their gender, guarantees gender equality, and prohibits any form of discrimination based on sex or sexual orientation.*

*It establishes the role and powers of the Legislative Council, the representative body of the citizens of Saint-Castin. The Legislative Council actively participates in legislative decision-making, the conclusion of international treaties, the approval of the state budget, and the exercise of control over public administration.*

*The Castinian Constitution is the foundation of our nation, guaranteeing stability, justice, and respect for the fundamental rights of all citizens of Saint-Castin. Dive into its pages to discover its values and principles and appreciate its significance for our society. .*



A stylized red signature of Dominic Desaintes.

**Dominic Desaintes**

Minister president of Saint-Castin



# CASTINIAN CONSTITUTION

## PREAMBLE

We, Louis-Philippe I, by the grace of God, the reigning Newgrave of Saint-Castin, hereby proclaim that the Constitution of June 20, 2015, has been duly amended by Us, with the consent of our Legislative Council.

## CHAPTER ONE. NEWGRAVIATE

### Article 1.

1. The Newgraviate of Saint-Castin is a state composed of two provinces. Its objective is to enable the people residing within its borders to live free and in peace. The province of Outaragasipi consists of the cantons of Tekakwitha, Les Cépages-près-Saint-Lin, Cherrier, and Villemaison, while the province of Valinois consists of the cantons of Bouchard, Bagot, and Cap Saint-François.

2. Tekakwitha is the capital and the seat of the Legislative Council and the government.

### Article 2.

The Newgraviate is a hereditary constitutional monarchy with democratic and parliamentary foundations; the exercise of public power derives jointly from the Newgrave and those who act in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

### Article 3.

The hereditary succession to the throne within the Renatine dynasty of De la Voye-Boulanger – Legendre, the majority age of the Newgrave and the Crown Prince, as well as any regency, shall be governed by the Newgravial House in the form of a law of the Newgravial House.

#### Article 4.

1. Any modification of the state's borders can only result from a law. The modification of borders between cantons and the merger of existing cantons also require a decision made by the majority of citizens residing therein and having the right to vote.

2. Each canton has the right to secede from the state. The decision to initiate a secession procedure must be made by the majority of citizens residing in the canton and eligible to vote. Secession shall be governed by law or, where applicable, by treaty. In the latter case, a second referendum must be held in the canton after the conclusion of negotiations.

#### Article 5.

The national colors are blue, green, and red.

#### Article 6.

The French and Montagnais languages are the national and official languages. English has an official administrative status.

### **CHAPTER II. THE NEWGRAVE**

#### Article 7.

1. The Newgrave is the head of state and exercises their right to public power in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and other laws.

2. The Newgrave is not subject to the jurisdiction of courts and is not legally liable. The same applies to any member of the Newgravial House serving as head of state.

#### Article 8.

Treaties involving the transfer of territory or the alienation of state property, treaties relating to the disposition of sovereign rights or sovereign powers, treaties by which a new burden is to be assumed by the Newgrave or members of the government, or treaties by which an obligation infringing upon the rights of citizens is to be contracted, require the approval of the Legislative Council for their validity.

#### Article 9.

The consent of the Newgrave is necessary for a law to be valid.

#### Article 10.

Emergency decrees cannot annul all or part of the Constitution; they can only limit the possibilities of implementing certain clauses. Emergency decrees cannot restrict the right of any person to life, the prohibition of torture and inhuman treatment, the prohibition of slavery and forced labor, or derogate from the principle of "no punishment without law." Emergency decrees cease to apply no later than six months after their promulgation.

#### Article 11.

The Newgrave appoints judges in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution.

#### Article 12.

1. The Newgrave has the right of pardon, the right to reduce and commute final sentences, and the right to discontinue ongoing investigation
2. The exercise of the Newgrave's right of pardon or reduction of sentence in favor of a member of the Government convicted of acts committed in the exercise of their duties shall only be carried out upon the proposal of the Legislative Council.

#### Article 13.

Before receiving the hereditary oath of allegiance to Newgravial honor and dignity, a new Newgrave shall make a written declaration to govern the Newgraviate of Saint-Castin in accordance with the Constitution and other laws, to maintain its integrity, and to observe Newgravial rights inseparably and uniformly.

#### Article 14.

In the event of temporary impediment or for the purpose of preparing the Newgravial succession, the Newgrave may entrust, for their representation, the exercise of their sovereign rights to the heir of their house who has reached majority.

#### Article 15.

For a motion of censure against the Newgrave to be valid, it must be presented by at least two-thirds of citizens and must be accompanied by a statement of reasons. The Legislative Council shall make a recommendation on this matter at its next session and order a referendum. If the motion is accepted by referendum, it shall be sent to the Newgrave for exa-

mination in light of the Newgravia House law. The Newgrave shall inform the Legislative Council within six months of the decision taken in accordance with this law.

### **CHAPTER III. DUTIES OF THE STATE.**

#### **Article 16.**

The supreme duty of the State is to promote the general well-being of the population. To this end, the State ensures the development and observance of the law and protects the religious, moral, and economic interests of the people.

#### **Article 17.**

The State devotes particular effort to the education and training of the people. This education must be organized and administered in such a way as to provide young people, through the joint action of the family, the school, and the Church, with religious and moral education, a patriotic spirit, and skills for future professional pursuits.

#### **Article 18.**

1. The entire educational system is placed under the control of the State, without prejudice to the inviolability of religious doctrine.
2. Compulsory education is general.
3. The State ensures that compulsory primary education is provided free of charge and in sufficient quantity in public schools.
4. No one may deprive children under their supervision of the level of education provided in public primary schools.

#### **Article 19.**

The State supports and promotes education and training.

#### **Article 19.**

1. The State protects the right to work and ensures the well-being of workers, especially women and minors employed in craft and industrial enterprises.
2. Sundays and public holidays recognized by the State are official days of rest, without

prejudice to legal provisions regarding Sunday rest and public holidays.

#### Article 20.

The State exercises sovereign rights over water, in accordance with current or future legislation. The use, transportation, and conservation of water shall be regulated and promoted by law, taking into account technological advancements. The law on electric power shall be subject to legislative provisions.

#### Article 21.

The State exercises sovereign rights over hunting, fishing, and mining, and protects the interests of agriculture and cantonal finances through the enactment of related laws.

#### Article 22.

The State regulates currency and public credit.

#### Article 23.

1. The State ensures the establishment, through legislative means, of a fair taxation system in which a minimum subsistence level is exempted and higher wealth or income is subjected to higher taxation.

2. The State should aim, as far as possible, to increase its financial capacity, including by exploring new sources of revenue to cover public service expenses.

#### Article 24.

Public assistance falls within the competence of the cantons in accordance with special laws. The State exercises oversight. It may provide appropriate assistance to the cantons, particularly to ensure adequate care for citizens.

#### Article 25.

1. The State ensures the establishment of a judicial procedure and the prompt execution of judgments guaranteeing substantive rights, as well as the establishment of an administrative justice system respecting the same principles.

2. The professional practice of representing parties is governed by law.

## **CHAPTER IV. GENERAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS.**

### **Article 26.**

1. Every citizen has the right, subject to compliance with specific legislative provisions, to freely settle anywhere within the national territory and to acquire property of any kind.
2. The right of foreigners to establish themselves is governed by international treaties or, where applicable, by the principle of reciprocity.
3. Persons residing within the territory of the Newgraviate are required to observe its laws and benefit from the protection of this Constitution and other laws.

### **Article 27.**

1. Every citizen enjoys civil rights in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.
2. Every citizen who is duly domiciled in the country, has reached the age of eighteen, and has not been deprived of their electoral rights, holds political rights in relation to the affairs of the country.

### **Article 28.**

The acquisition and loss of nationality are governed by law.

### **Article 29.**

1. All citizens are equal before the law. Public employment is equally accessible to them when they meet the conditions required by law.
2. All genders and sexual identities are equal in rights.
3. The rights of foreigners are primarily governed by international treaties and, failing that, by the principle of reciprocity.

### **Article 30.**

1. Personal freedom, inviolability of the home, and confidentiality of writings and correspondence are guaranteed.
2. Except in cases determined by law and legally prescribed forms, no one may be arrested or detained, no home searches, personal searches, searches of correspondence or writings, or seizure of letters or writings may be conducted.



3. Persons who have been unlawfully or unjustly arrested, as well as those who have been wrongfully convicted, have the right to full compensation determined by the court at the expense of the State. The laws determine when and to what extent the State has recourse against third parties.

#### Article 31.

No one shall be denied access to their natural judge; special courts shall not be created.

2. Sanctions may only be incurred or imposed in accordance with the law.

3. In criminal matters, the rights of the defense are guaranteed to the accused.

#### Article 32.

1. The inviolability of private property is guaranteed; confiscation may only occur in cases provided for by law.

2. Copyright and intellectual property rights are governed by law.

#### Article 33.

1. When the public interest requires it, any property of any category may be transferred or encumbered, subject to appropriate compensation, which, in the event of a dispute, shall be determined by the court.

2. The expropriation procedure is governed by law.

#### Article 34.

Trade and crafts are free within the limits set by law; the creation of commercial and industrial monopolies is not authorized by law.

#### Article 35.

Freedom of religion and conscience is guaranteed to all.

#### Article 36.

The enjoyment of civil and political rights is independent of religious denomination; this shall not prejudice civic obligations.

#### Article 37.

Everyone has the right, within the limits of the law and good morals, to freely express their opinions and thoughts, verbally, in writing, through publication, or through figurative representation; censorship may only be exercised over public performances and shows.

#### Article 37.

Freedom of association and assembly is guaranteed within the limits set by law.

#### Article 38.

The right to petition the Legislative Council is guaranteed; not only individuals affected by their rights or interests but also cantons and legal persons have the opportunity to express their wishes and requests through a member of the Legislative Council.

#### Article 39.

The right to recourse is guaranteed. Every citizen has the right to appeal against procedures or methods of an authority that are deemed unconstitutional, illegal, or contrary to regulations and detrimental to their rights or interests, to the immediately higher authority, and to pursue it, if necessary, to the highest court, to the extent that there is no legal rule on appeals. The higher authority is obliged, if it rejects the appeal brought before it, to inform the petitioner of the reasons for its decision.

#### Article 40.

1. Every man capable of bearing arms has the obligation, until the age of sixty, to participate in the defense of the country in times of danger.
2. Outside of this case, armed formations may only be created and maintained to the extent that they are deemed necessary for the exercise of police service and the maintenance of internal order. The law will specify the applicable provisions in this regard.

### **CHAPTER V. THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

#### Article 41.

1. The Legislative Council is the legitimate representative body of all citizens and, as such, its task, in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution, is to represent and defend the

rights and interests of the people in relation to the Government, and to promote, as far as possible, the prosperity of the Newgraviate and the House of Newgrave by faithfully adhering to the principles contained in this Constitution.

2. The powers belonging to the Legislative Council may only be exercised within its lawfully constituted assembly.

#### Article 42.

1. The Legislative Council is composed of five councillors whom the Newgrave appoints from among the citizens of Saint-Castin following a consultative referendum. The number of members of the Legislative Council is set at 5. The Legislative Council discusses, amends, and votes on the laws of Saint-Castin according to the process described in the law.

2. A consultative referendum must take place one week before the official appointment.

3. The distribution of seats is determined among the electoral groups that have obtained at least eight percent of the valid votes nationwide in the previous consultative referendum.

4. The function of a member of the judiciary is incompatible with the function of a member of the Legislative Council.

5. A special law shall specify the procedure for referendums.

#### Article 43.

1. The term of office in the Legislative Council is two years. Reappointment is allowed.

#### Article 44.

1. The Newgrave has the power, subject to the provision contained in the following paragraph, to convene and adjourn the Legislative Council and, for serious reasons that must be communicated to the assembly each time, to suspend it for three months or dissolve it. Suspension, closure, or dissolution can only be declared before the meeting of the Legislative Council.

#### Article 45.

1. The Legislative Council is regularly convened at the beginning of each year by a Newgravial decree designating the place, day, and time of the assembly.

2. During the year, the president sets the sessions.

4. Substitutes participate in one or more successive sessions in case of the incapacity of a councillor from their electoral group, replacing the councillor who is unable to attend and vote.

#### Article 46.

In the event of the dissolution of the Legislative Council, a referendum must be held within six weeks. Newly appointed councillors must be convened within fourteen days.

#### Article 47.

1. In the event of a change of reign, the Legislative Council must be convened in an extraordinary session within thirty days to receive from the new Newgrave the declaration provided for in Article 13 and to swear the hereditary oath of allegiance.

#### Article 48.

Councillors must personally appear at the seat of the Government in accordance with the received summons. If a councillor is unable to appear, they must submit the reasons for their impediment to the government in a timely manner for the first summons, and thereafter.

#### Article 49.

1. The session of the Legislative Council is opened by the Newgrave himself or by an agent, with the required solemnity. All new members shall take the following oath before the Newgrave or his agent: "I solemnly swear to abide by the Constitution of the State and the laws in force and to work in the Legislative Council for the good of the country, without ulterior motives, with full consciousness, may God help me!"

2. Elected members subsequently take their oath before the President of the Council.

#### Article 50.

The session of the Legislative Council is adjourned by the Newgrave himself or by his agent.

#### Article 51.

1. Members of the Legislative Council always vote in accordance with their oath and their convictions. They shall never be held accountable for their vote; they shall only be responsible for the statements made during the sessions of the Legislative Council or in its committees before the Legislative Council itself, and they may in no case be prosecuted for such statements.

2. The published internal regulations shall contain rules on disciplinary power.

## Article 52.

1. For a decision of the Legislative Council to be valid, a quorum of at least two-thirds of the legal number of councillors and an absolute majority of the members present are required, as this Constitution or the internal regulations do not provide otherwise. The same applies to elections to be conducted by the Legislative Council.
2. In the event of a tie, the president of the Legislative Council has the casting vote, after three rounds of voting for elections, and in all other cases, after one round of voting.

## Article 53.

1. The State Court hears appeals in electoral matters.
2. The Legislative Council verifies the validity of the election of its members and the election as such, based on the election reports or based on a possible decision of the State Court (validation).

## Article 54.

The Legislative Council establishes its internal regulations in the form of a decision, in compliance with the provisions of this Constitution.

## Article 55.

Councillors receive allowances and travel allowances from the Treasury, which shall be determined by law.

## Article 56.

At the forefront, the following matters are part of the powers of the Legislative Council:

- a) constitutional participation in the legislative power;
- b) participation in the conclusion of international treaties;
- c) setting the annual budget and consenting to taxation and other public levies;
- d) voting on credits, guarantees, and loans payable by the State, as well as on the purchase and sale of state assets;
- e) voting on the annual report of accounts prepared by the government relating to the entire public administration;
- f) filing petitions and appeals and exercising control over the public administration in general;

- g) legal proceedings before the State Court against government members for violations of the Constitution or other laws;
- h) deciding to vote against the government or any of its members.

#### Article 57.

1. The Legislative Council has the right to oversee the entire public administration, including the administration of justice. The Legislative Council exercises this right, in particular, through an investigative commission elected by itself. Its power of review does not extend to court judgments or functions attributed to the Newgrave.
2. At any time, it is free to directly bring to the attention of the Newgrave or the Government any deficiencies or abuses observed in the administration, through warnings or complaints, and to request their cessation. The results of the inquiry opened on this matter and the measures taken on that basis must be communicated to the Legislative Council.
4. The government representative shall be heard and is obliged to respond to the interpellations of the councillors.

#### Article 58.

The Legislative Council has the ability to establish investigative commissions. It is required to do so when members of the Legislative Council representing at least one-quarter of the legal number of councillors request it.

#### Article 59.

1. No law can be promulgated, modified, or declared authentic without the assistance of the Legislative Council. Each law requires, for its validity, in addition to the vote of the Legislative Council, the sanction of the Newgrave and the countersignature of the responsible head of government or their representative. If the Newgrave does not sanction the law within six months, it is considered rejected.
2. Furthermore, a popular consultation (referendum) may take place in accordance with the provisions of the following article.

#### Article 60.

1. The Legislative Council is authorized to organize a popular consultation on the adoption of certain principles set forth in a law to be enacted.
2. The popular consultation takes place by canton; the absolute majority of valid votes cast

across the territory decides the acceptance or rejection of the adopted law.

5. Laws that may be subject to a referendum are presented to the Newgrave for sanction once the popular consultation has been conducted or at the expiration of the thirty-day period provided to request recourse to the popular consultation.

6. In the event of the Legislative Council rejecting a bill drafted and submitted to it by popular initiative and accompanied, where applicable, by a proposal to cover the costs, that proposal must be presented to the popular consultation. The acceptance of the proposal by the voters in this case replaces the vote of the Legislative Council required for the adoption of a law.

7. A law shall specify the provisions regarding the referendum.

#### Article 61.

1. Any decision of the Legislative Council regarding the ratification of an international treaty is subject to a popular consultation when the Legislative Council so decides or when, within thirty days of the official publication of the decision of the Legislative Council, at least one-quarter of the voters or at least four cantons request it.

2. Through a popular consultation, the acceptance or rejection of the decision of the Legislative Council is decided by the absolute majority of valid votes cast across the territory.

3. A law shall specify the provisions regarding the above referendum.

#### Article 62.

1. In the absence of specific provisions, a law comes into effect eight days after its publication in the Official Journal.

2. The methods and content of the publication of laws, budget laws, international treaties, regulations, decisions emanating from international organizations, and legal provisions applicable based on international treaties are determined by the legislative authority. For legal provisions applicable in the Newgraviate of Saint-Castin based on international treaties, simplified forms of publication may be provided, such as a reference to foreign legal collections.

#### Article 63.

The government administers the state budget in accordance with the principles it establishes in agreement with the Legislative Council.

## **CHAPTER VI. LGBT RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY AND SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS.**

### **Article 64**

Citizens have the right to choose their gender.

### **Article 65**

Same-sex marriages or unions are not restricted and are subject to the same regulations as all other marriages.

### **Article 66**

All genders are equal, and no one should be subjected to discrimination based on their gender or sexual orientation.

### **Article 67**

Acts that may disrupt peaceful coexistence between genders are prohibited.

### **Article 68**

Public statements that are homophobic, transphobic, or sexist are subject to fines, penalties, and an unfavorable judgment from the court. Penalties may be imposed on offending citizens.

### **Article 69**

Considering transgender individuals, bisexuality, and homosexuality as vice, illness, or deviant behavior is a crime against the nation, equity, and public order.

## **CHAPTER VIII. MARRIAGE AND FAMILY, NATURAL AND ADOPTED CHILDREN.**

### **Article 70**

Marriage and family are placed under the special protection of the State.



## Article 71

Raising and educating children is a natural right and primary obligation of parents. The state community oversees how these tasks are carried out.

## Article 72

Children cannot be separated from their families against the will of those with parental authority, except by law in cases of neglect or when children are at risk of being abandoned for other reasons.

## Article 73

1. All mothers and fathers with dependent children have the right to protection and assistance from the community.
2. Legislation must provide natural and adopted children with the same conditions as legitimate children regarding their physical and moral development and social status.
3. Adoptive parents have the same rights as biological parents.

## CHAPTER VII. COURTS

### Article 74

1. The highest court in the Newgraviate of Saint-Castin is the Castinian Supreme Court.
2. The government shall enact laws legislating the justice system within one year after the adoption of the constitution by the Castinian Legislative Assembly and acceptance by the reigning Newgrave.

## CHAPTER IX. DEFENSE FORCES

### Article 75.

1. The Castinian Newgravial Defense Forces have the sole and exclusive purpose of protecting the Castinian territory.
2. The Castinian Newgravial Defense Forces shall not engage in or intervene outside the territory of Saint-Castin.
3. The command of the Castinian Newgravial Defense Forces is under the Ministry of Defense.

## **CHAPTER X. PROTECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION.**

### **Article 76.**

1. This Constitution generally serves as the fundamental law of the country upon its publication.
2. Universally recognized interpretations and amendments to this fundamental law can be requested by both the government and the Legislative Council or by popular initiative. They require unanimity of the present members of the Legislative Council or a three-quarters majority expressed in two consecutive sessions of the Legislative Council or, if applicable, through a referendum, and in all cases subsequent agreement of the Newgrave.

## **CHAPTER XI. FINAL PROVISIONS.**

### **Article 77.**

All laws, regulations, and statutory provisions contradicting an explicit provision of this Constitution are hereby repealed and rendered ineffective; any statutory provision that is not in accordance with the spirit of this fundamental law shall be subject to constitutional revision.

### **Article 78.**

1. My government is responsible for the implementation of this Constitution.
2. The Government is tasked with carefully preparing the laws prescribed by this Constitution and conducting the process in accordance with the Constitution.

Adopted on October 1, 2020 in Tekakwitha.



# CONSEIL LÉGISLATIF

NEUGRAVIAT DE SAINT-CASTIN

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# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

NEWGRAVIATE OF SAINT-CASTIN

A snowy owl is shown in flight, wings spread wide, against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. Below the owl, a lush green forest covers rolling hills, with a winding river or stream visible in the foreground. In the far background, dark, forested mountains rise under the sky.

**"ALL ORIGINS  
IN ONE NATION"**

[www.saintcastin.org](http://www.saintcastin.org)



**SAINT-CASTIN**  
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