

a guide for

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

of the

NEW SAROVIAN EMPIRE



SARHOLM 323 AS



A Guide for Members of the Legislative Assemblies

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Introduction

Congratulations on your election into the Provincial Legislative Assembly! As a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), your responsibilities are simple - you along with your colleagues will work towards the betterment of your province. The choices you make directly impact the lives of Sarovian citizens within your province. From shaping *ordinances*, or provincial policies, your decisions will affect everything from the economy to public services, education, and of course, Sarovian culture. In short, you hold the power of activity or inactivity and the education of your citizens.

Your role goes beyond simply voting. You will help craft policies, debate their merits, and offer criticism and amendments when needed. You will be given multiple smaller roles within the Assembly, and genuinely offer advice. You will be expected to not only listen but to take action. You'll be expected to help and advocate for the behalf of the people who elected you. As an MLA, your words can spark movements, and your votes can either create or dissolve policy. The Assembly is not just about authority; it's about service to the people who elected you.

As Prime Minister, I welcome you to your provincial assembly - we will be working closely, I am certain.

*D. Alberos
Lorde Lovelle*



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The Assembly

Every province has what is known as a *provincial legislative assembly* (PLA), usually titled after their province (ie, Vurgos Provincial Assembly). This Assembly has a variety of powers given to it by the federal government, including:

- Their electoral laws,
- Safeguarding of human & civil rights,
- Manage events, festivals, holidays & more,
- Partially oversee provincial education (public schools),
- Collect provincial taxes & provincial finances,
- Manage their own police forces,
- Management of natural resources (via *Leda Declaration*)
- Establish provincial medals & awards, and
- Similar items.

They do all this via the passing of *provincial ordinances* - policies simply written & posted in Discord. No documents are needed. Ordinances are passed via a majority vote (again, on Discord), and approved by the Lord-Lieutenant (a ceremonial representative).

When an election occurs, the MLAs will compete for who will be *Chief-Minister*, or ***Ministoro-Leddor***. When they are all elected, they will vote for who they think should be Chief-Minister, who wins by majority vote.



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The Chief Minister

The Chief Minister is the most important person within any province, and they have some unique roles that aren't inherently apparent. The Chief Minister is responsible for being a liaison (a connector) between the federal government and the Prime Minister, and their province. This means advocating for things.

The Chief Minister's primary job is passing the provincial budget. The province is responsible for getting money - via taxes or by donations or by the federal government - and using that money. This money goes towards anything the province wants, but usually:

- Parties & events
- Holidays
- Paying teachers
- Giving money & bonuses for schools
- Developing resources (*ala Leda Declaration*)
- Lotteries & contests
- And much more.

The Chief Minister is the "tag holder" of the province - their job is to plan the provincial events. These can be **in-game** (such as parties, get-togethers, holidays, parades, towering, archery contests, races, tournaments etc) or **Discord-based** (such as lotteries, movie nights, writing/art contests, clubs for discussions, political advocacy groups, education contests) and more.



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The Lord-Lieutenant

The Lord-Lieutenant (or *Lorde-Doiamera*) is the ceremonial leader of the province, appointed by the federal government to represent the power & wishes of the *Rozirre*. Since the provinces are not in the Sarovian Constitution, the Charter of the Provinces Act applies a loophole that the Lord-Lieutenants are similar to Governor-Generals and can approve the laws that the Chief Minister and the MLAs agree to on behalf of the *Rozirre*.

The Lord-Lieutenant is *always* a member of the Peerage, and is usually a Peer that comes from that province (such as the Lord-Lieutenant for Vurgos may be the *Duc eui Vurgos* or another Vurgos-based title, such as Nira, Scotia, etc.)

The Lord-Lieutenant serves on the command of the *Rozirre*, through the federal government, and their job is to handle the elections and the ceremonial roles of government, such as approving all provincial ordinances (as long as they are legal), calling for elections, making the MLAs and Chief Minister swear the Oath of Allegiance when they are sworn in, and more. The Lord-Lieutenant is politically neutral and serves as an “unofficial Speaker” - there is no Speaker in the provinces, and the provinces are trusted to direct and handle the debates and discussions of the day by themselves. If any MLA needs legal clarification or needs a discussion to cool down, the Lord-Lieutenant may order them to be quiet for a period of time or clarify any questions.



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The Leda Declaration

The Leda Declaration is a document that Sarovia and many other nations have agreed to, mainly in the Commonwealth. It is the reason why we have taxes and why events cost money. In short, all the nations who agree to the Leda Declaration agree to a system where every province/territory in Graal (Ol'West, Classic) and Roblox, as well as other games that are added via signing the Declaration, is allocated some sort of resource. These resources have a general price or value, that fluctuates over time. These resources also have certain "powers", or put even more simply, nations will compete to obtain certain amount of resources. Having less than their required amount of resources may inflict heavy Saro fines on the government, or even fines on the entire population.

There are three categories of resources - **food** (fish, meat, grains), **material** (steel, brick, lead), and **luxury goods** (spices, gems, cotton). Having enough food allows the Discord server to grow. Having enough material allows the nation to go to war. Having enough luxury goods means the population isn't fined every day. **It is highly encouraged to go take a Masters Degree from Universette Consteynnos in Public Administration to learn more!**

Governments can, according to the Declaration, "develop" their resource by spending 10,000Sr. Doing this increases the value by 5 permanently. According to the Provincial Charters Act, provinces are directly responsible for the management of developing resources. This means if you're reading this - **it's your job to work towards developing resources!**

Resource development is critical. If Sarovia doesn't have enough resources, we could be in serious danger. Provinces should lobby the federal government and ask for money so that they can choose to develop their resources. Additionally, provinces can raise taxes to raise the money themselves. The #1 and #2 jobs of an MLA are education in the public schools and the development of resources!



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Provincial Ordinances

Provinces can, with a simple majority vote at any time, pass what is known as a *provincial ordinance*. This is not a law in the way you might think it is (ie, making something illegal or criminal to do). Instead, ordinances are more like policies, resolutions or decisions the province is making within their powers.

An example is below:

A province **cannot** make an ordinance to declare murder illegal. It is not within their power. If they do so, the federal government will challenge and strike down the ordinance. A province **can** make an ordinance that declares if someone is murdered, the murderer is fined and the money goes to the family of the victim. A province **cannot** make an ordinance telling their provincial police what punishments to recommend, but an ordinance **can** recommend the police investigate certain activities.

A general rule to determine if it is a **law** vs an **ordinance** is what it effects. If it affects things being legal/illegal, it is not within the province's authority. Provinces are encouraged to either seek legal opinions via the courts or to simply pass the ordinance anyway, even if it is not legal, and the courts will strike it down afterwards.



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Provincial Schools & Teaching

All MLAs serve a dual role within their province as an official professor for their provincial school. All MLAs serve on the provincial School Board, a channel in the province often named after the province (ie, #vurgos-school-board). This school board consists of volunteers and civil servants, as well as the federal government Minister of Education.

MLAs ensure all citizens enter the provincial public school system and graduate. Graduating the provincial public school is a mandatory prerequisite to all sorts of Sarovian perks, such citizenship and utilising the Saro-Gralat exchange, enrolment in universities or colleges, being a commissioned officer, serving in government, and more.

MLAs will be given a list of the subjects they are required to teach, and will take turns teaching students. One day of the school is also an optional province-specific day, depending on legislation. Teaching will be done over Discord via the school channel, and will be done by simply explaining the concepts, and mandating students respond per lesson acknowledging they understand it.

Sarovians are mandated to take the Sarovian citizenship form after public school. Students are then mandated to pass a 15 question multiple choice exam, directly given by an instructor through Discord DMs. The Ministry of Education will provide 30 questions, of which 15 will remain a backup series of questions in the event of suspected cheating.