

Native Council of PEI

Youth Council Terms of Reference

Section 1: Mandate & Objectives

- 1.1.1 Encourage the development and establishment of infrastructure and programs/services directed at social, cultural and community needs of Aboriginal youth
- 1.1.2 To achieve Goals set by the Youth Council
- 1.1.3 To facilitate and develop leadership skills in Aboriginal Youth
- 1.1.4 To be respectful to others ideas and opinions
- 1.1.5 To raise awareness about Aboriginal Issues
- 1.1.6 To create and provide opportunities that may allow positive change for Aboriginal youth and their communities through empowerment, education, culture and training

Section 2: Youth Council Membership

2.1 6 Community Youth Representatives

- 2.1.1 Youth reps must be Aboriginal with the exception of one seat, which may be given to a non-Aboriginal representative
- 2.1.2 Elected members must be aged 12-29 and living off-reserve

2.2 1 Youth Board of Directors Representative

- 2.2.1 The elected Youth Board of Directors representative will also act as the Provincial Youth Representative
- 2.2.2 The elected Youth Board of Directors representative must be a citizen of the Native Council, aged 18-29 and active in the youth council activities/programming with a participation rate of 66%

2.3 Youth Representation for Youth Board of Director

- 2.3.1 If the Youth Board of Director is unable to attend a meeting, event or activity, a youth aged 16 years or older may be asked to represent the Youth Board of Director on their behalf. They won't have any authority to make decisions or elect changes unless instructed to do so by the Youth Board of Director. They are required to share information they obtained with the Youth Board of Director and Youth Council following the meeting, event or activity

Section 3: Selection Process

3.1 Youth Representative Selection

- 3.1.1 Elected at the Youth Annual General Assembly (AGA) or at a Special Youth Meeting
- 3.1.2 Youth members must be aged 12-29 in order to cast a vote

3.2 Elections for Community Youth Representative

- 3.2.1 Each candidate requires a nominator and a seconder from the floor
- 3.2.2 Each youth member has one vote, which will be conducted by secret ballot
- 3.2.3 The six candidates with the most votes will comprise the Community Youth Representatives that make up the Youth Council

3.3 Elections for Youth Board of Directors Representative

- 3.3.1 Each candidate requires a nominator and a seconder from the floor - Candidates will then be given 5 minutes for a speech and 10 minutes for question and answer
- 3.3.2 Each youth member has one vote, which will be conducted by secret ballot

3.4 Terms of Office

- 3.4.1 The Community Youth Representative's term of office will be 2 years
- 3.4.2 The Youth Board of Directors Representative's term of office will be 2 years

3.5 Removal

- 3.5.1 Youth Council members, including the Board of Directors representative, shall be subject to possible removal for such reasons as, but not limited to:
 - Negligence
 - Failure to perform duties and/or responsibilities as prescribed
 - Jeopardising the welfare of the Youth Council
 - Breaking Codes of Conduct
 - Unexplained absences from two or more meetings within a term
 - Drop in participation rate for youth council meetings, events and activities

Members will have an opportunity to address the Youth Council before their removal. Removal will be subject to a 2/3 vote by the Youth Council

- 3.5.2 Removed Youth Council members, excluding the Youth Board of Directors representative, may be replaced for the remainder of the term at any youth council meeting by a majority vote of the youth council. The removed Youth Board of Directors representative may be replaced for the remainder of the term at the next Youth AGA or Special Youth Meeting by following the election process

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities

- 4.1.1 Take youth ideas into consideration and make decisions as a group
- 4.1.2 Respect to all youth members, elders, NCPEI and outside organizations
- 4.1.3 Participate in as many events as possible
- 4.1.4 All rules are to be followed by all; including youth, elders and volunteers
- 4.1.5 Attend meetings and participate by providing input in planning activities/events
- 4.1.6 Report back to youth on Youth Council activities, and vice versa
- 4.1.7 Adhere to all rules and responsibilities while representing the Youth Council
- 4.1.8 Work in the best interests of all off reserve Aboriginal Youth

Section 5: Terminology and Clarification

- 5.1 An event shall not count towards any participation rate criteria if the event is unable to be attended by reason of gender, age, or medical condition (with doctor's note); or if the event is in a location where travel is not provided or reasonably expected (such as within the same city/town for walking, or within reasonable driving distance). Any questions shall be decided by Youth Council consensus.
- 5.2 In the event that no able or willing candidate for the Youth Board of Directors representative position has reached the required participation rate since the last election, an election shall be held without this requirement with another election to be held the following year if another able and willing candidate has reached the required participation rate. If no other candidate is able or willing at this second election, the current Youth Board of Directors representative shall remain to fulfill a full two year term.
- 5.3 The Youth Board of Directors representative is required to be a citizen of the NCPEI. As outlined in the NCPEI's Constitution and By-Laws, an individual can become a full-voting citizen by following NCPEI's citizenship process after fitting the following criteria: are living off-reserve, have lived on PEI as a permanent resident for the past six (6) months and are able to prove Aboriginal ancestry to the NCPEI Board of Directors; or is the spouse of someone with an Aboriginal child under the age of sixteen (16) and for as long as they remain a spouse and in the best interest of the child.
- 5.4 For the purposes of this document, any individual self-identifying or claiming to be Aboriginal shall be considered as such without need to have proven ancestry.
- 5.5 Any Youth Council member who becomes too old for their position during their term shall be removed and replaced at the next available time following the replacement process.
- 5.6 Any misinterpretation or questions concerning the definition of any terms set out in this document shall be resolved by Youth Council consensus. The decision reached by the Youth Council shall be considered as a temporary change that may be added to this section until the following AGA where it can be discussed and added to the Terms of Reference permanently.

Signatures

Community Youth Representative

Community Youth Representative

Community Youth Representative

Community Youth Representative

Community Youth Representative

Community Youth Representative

Youth Board of Directors Rep