

**CONSTITUTION**

**OF THE**

**NORTHERN TERRITORIES**

**FEDERATION OF LABOUR**

**(CLC)**

*(Chartered by the Canadian Labour Congress - May 18, 1980)*

As amended by Convention - June 4, 2014

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## *ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND LOCATION*

*Section 1.* This Federation shall be known as the "Northern Territories Federation of Labour" (hereinafter referred to as the Federation) and is chartered by the Canadian Labour Congress (hereinafter referred to as the Congress). It shall consist of organizations affiliated to or chartered by the Congress which become affiliated to this Federation. These organizations shall conform to the Constitution and the rules and regulations of this Federation as set forth herewith. The jurisdiction of this Federation shall be within the political and geographical boundaries of what is known as the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

## *ARTICLE 2 - PURPOSE*

*Section 1.* To support the principles and the policies of the Congress.

*Section 2.* To promote the interests of its affiliates and generally to advance the economic and social welfare of the workers in the Northern Territories and Nunavut.

*Section 3.* The purposes of this Federation are:

- (a) To assist affiliated organizations in extending the benefits of mutual assistance and collective bargaining to workers.
- (b) To assist in the organization of the unorganized into unions for their mutual aid, protection and advancement.

*Section 4.* To encourage without discrimination all workers to share in the full benefits of union organization.

- Section 5.* To secure territorial legislation which will safeguard and promote the principle of free collective bargaining, the rights of workers, and the security and welfare of all people.
- Section 6.* To protect and strengthen democratic institutions, to secure full recognition and enjoyment of the rights and liberties to which we are justly entitled, and to preserve and perpetuate the cherished traditions of democracy and working people.
- Section 7.* To promote the cause of peace and freedom in the world and to assist and cooperate with free and democratic labour movements throughout the world.
- Section 8.* To aid and encourage the sale and use of union-made goods and union services through the use of the Union Label and other symbols; to promote the labour press and other means of furthering the education of the labour movement.
- Section 9.* To protect the labour movement from any and all corrupt influences and from any agencies which are opposed to the basic principles of our democracy and free and democratic unionism.
- Section 10.* While preserving the independence of the labour movement from political control, to encourage workers to vote, to exercise their full rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and to perform their rightful part in the political life of the municipal, territorial and federal government.

## *ARTICLE 3 - MEMBERSHIP*

*Section 1.* The Federation shall be composed of:

- (1) local unions, branches and lodges of national and international unions, regional and territorial organizations affiliated to the Congress;
- (2) local unions within the territories chartered by the Congress;
- (3) labour councils within the territories chartered by the Congress;  
and
- (4) labour councils within the territories affiliated to the Federation and made up of members of local unions, branches or lodges affiliated to the Federation.

*Section 2.* Any organization affiliated with the Federation may be expelled by a two-thirds (2/3) majority roll call vote at Convention. Any decision to expel may be appealed to the Canadian Council of the Congress within two (2) months. The decision shall be in force and effect during appeal.

*Section 3.* It shall be the duty of each affiliated organization to furnish the Secretary of the Federation with the following:

- (a) All official reports which deal with matters within the purview of the Federation.
- (b) Such other reports as will facilitate and make more effective the work of the Federation.

- (c) A statement of their membership in good standing.
- (d) Copies of their Collective Agreements.

#### *ARTICLE 4 - MEETINGS*

*Section 1.* The Convention shall be the governing body of the Federation, and, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, its decisions shall be by majority vote.

*Section 2.* The regular convention of the Federation shall be held every third (3rd) year. The time and place shall be determined by the Executive Council which shall give at least one-hundred and twenty (120) calendar days' notice.

*Section 3.* (a) Special conventions may be called by direction of a regular convention, by order of the Executive Council, or on request of affiliated organizations representing a majority of the total membership of the Federation, as evidenced by the records of the Treasurer to the last Convention.



- (b) In the event a majority as provided in subsection(a) requests a special convention, the Executive Council shall issue a call for the special convention within thirty (30) calendar days' notice of such request and shall give all organizations thirty (30) calendar days' notice of the time and place for holding the special convention, together with a statement of the business to be considered at such convention.
- (c) Representation to special conventions shall be on the same basis as regular conventions.
- (d) Except as provided in subsection(b), a special convention shall exercise the same authority as regular conventions.

*Section 4.* Representation at conventions shall be:

From affiliated local unions, branches and lodges, two (2) delegates from fifty (50) or fewer members and one (1) additional delegate for each additional one-hundred (100) members or major fraction thereof. Labour councils shall be entitled to a maximum of two (2) delegates. Delegates to a convention of the Federation from labour councils shall be members of local unions, branches or lodges affiliated to the Federation.

*Section 5.* Not less than one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days prior to the opening of each regular convention and thirty (30) calendar days prior to each special convention, the Secretary will issue credentials to each affiliate. Credentials will be accepted for convention or a special convention up to the time that proceedings are called to order. A delegate must be a member of the local union, branch or lodge he or she represents at the Convention. Two (2) or more local unions, branches or lodges may combine to send a delegate, but such delegate shall be entitled to only one (1) vote on any question.

*Section 6.* The registration fee will be determined by the Executive Council of the Federation, and must be forwarded to the Secretary along with a copy of the delegate credential.

*Section 7.* Any organization suspended or expelled by the Congress or the Federation shall not, while under such penalty, be allowed representation in the Convention. Any organization which, on the opening date of the Convention is in arrears to the Federation shall not be seated as a delegate nor allowed representation or recognition in this Federation.

*Section 8.* Any organization which has not applied for a certificate of affiliation prior to a convention shall not be allowed representation in this Federation.

*Section 9.* Prior to the opening date of the Convention, the President, after consultation with the Executive Council, shall select from the credentials received in sufficient time, a Chair and members of a Committee on Credentials and a Committee on Resolutions. Such Committees shall consist of no fewer than three (3) members each. The Chair and members of these Committees shall be notified of their appointment and their acceptance secured. These two (2) Committees shall meet prior to the opening day of the Convention if deemed necessary, in which case

the members shall be remunerated for their out-of-pocket expenses and paid such honorarium for extra work involved as shall be recommended by the Finance Committee and approved by the Convention.

*Section 10.* The Secretary shall prepare a preliminary list of delegates from duplicate credentials received in sufficient time prior to the opening day of the Convention, and such delegates shall have power to transact the business of the Convention until the report of the Committee on Credentials has been received and adopted.

*Section 11.* Executive Council shall be deemed to be accredited delegates to the Convention with all rights and privileges. All candidates for office must be duly accredited delegates and present at the Convention unless absent on official business of the Federation or having been excused attendance at the Convention for other unavoidable cause, in which case written consent to nomination must be in the hands of the Secretary prior to the election.

*Section 12.* Officers of the Congress and invited fraternal delegates attending Conventions of the Federation shall be entitled to all rights of the delegates other than voting or standing for office.

*Section 13.* One-fourth (1/4) of the registered delegates at any Convention shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

*Section 14.* (a) Except as provided in subsection(c) of this Section, all resolutions, petitions and appeals other than those provided in Section 11 hereof, to be considered by any Convention of the Federation must be received by the Secretary twenty (20) calendar days immediately preceding the opening of the Convention.

- (b) Any resolution to be accepted must be submitted by the Executive Council or by an organization affiliated to the Federation and signed by the presiding Officer and Secretary. A resolution shall not deal with more than one (1) subject, shall refer to the action which is proposed, and shall contain not more than one-hundred and fifty (150) words.
- (c) Resolutions, petitions and appeals received or submitted contrary to the above shall be referred to the Executive Council and the Council may refer such proposals or proposal to the Convention with the understanding that consideration is dependent upon two-thirds (2/3) majority consent of the Convention.
- (d) Resolutions, petitions or appeals received for consideration by the Convention shall be classified as to nature, contents and subject matter, and referred to an appropriate Convention Committee, which shall report thereon to the Convention.

*Section 15.* Additional Convention Committees deemed necessary to deal with special matters which may arise shall be appointed by the President, after consultation with the Executive Council, before adjournment of the first (1st) session of the Convention.

*Section 16.* The *Committee on Credentials* shall pass on the validity of the credentials which have been received by the Federation and register those approved by the Committee. It shall report to the Convention on the first (1st) day thereof and subsequent days if necessary. Appeals from any decision of the Committee shall be placed before the Convention following adoption of the Committee's report.

*Section 17.* The *Resolutions Committee* shall consider all resolutions properly submitted by affiliated organizations except such as may be referred to other Committees by the Executive Council. This Committee shall have power to combine two (2) or more resolutions dealing with the same subject, to propose substitute resolutions, and to recommend that a resolution be deleted from the records. This Committee shall submit its report and recommendations to the Convention.

*Section 18.* The *Finance Committee* shall consider the financial standing of the Federation and make recommendations to the Executive Council upon any extra expenditures and fundraising ventures not otherwise provided for. They shall also recommend the per capita tax to be paid by affiliated organizations to the Federation in the forthcoming year.

*Section 19.* The Rules and Order of Business governing Conventions shall be:

- (1) The President, or in the absence or at the request of the President, a Vice-President, shall take the Chair at the time specified, at all regular and special conventions. In the absence of both the President and the President's designated representative, a Chair shall be chosen by the Executive Council.
- (2) No question of a sectarian character shall be discussed.
- (3) A delegate wishing to speak shall proceed to one (1) of the microphones provided for that purpose. When recognized by the Chair, the delegate shall give a suitable identification, including the organization represented and shall confine all remarks to the question at issue.
- (4) Speeches shall be limited to five (5) minutes except in moving a resolution, when the delegate shall be allowed ten (10) minutes.

- (5) A delegate shall not speak more than once upon a subject until all who wish to speak have had the opportunity to do so.
- (6) A delegate shall not interrupt another except it be to call to a Point of Order, Point of Information or Point of Privilege.
- (7) A delegate who has been called to order shall, at the request of the Chair, be seated until the question of order has been decided.
- (8) Any delegate persisting in unparliamentary conduct, shall be named by the Chair, and the conduct shall be submitted to the judgement of the Convention. In such case, the delegate whose conduct is in question should explain and then withdraw, and the Convention will determine what course to pursue in the matter.
- (9) When a question is put, the Chair, after announcing the question, shall ask: "Are you ready for the question?" If no delegate wishes to speak, the question shall be put.
- (10) Questions may be decided by a show of hands, or a standing vote, on the basis of one (1) vote per delegate. No proxy voting shall be permitted. A roll call vote may be determined by one-third (1/3) of the delegates present. In a roll call vote each delegate shall be entitled to one (1) vote.

- (11) Two (2) delegates may appeal the decision of the Chair. The question is not debatable. Either delegate challenging the Chair may briefly state the reason for the challenge. The Chair may make an explanation of the ruling. The question shall then be put, thus, "Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?"
- (12) The Chair shall have the same rights as other delegates to vote on any question. In the case of a tie vote, the Chair shall cast the deciding vote.
- (13) When the previous question is moved, no discussion or amendment of either Motion is permitted. If the majority vote that "the question now be put," the original Motion has to be put without debate. If the Motion to put the question is defeated, discussion will continue on the original Motion.
- (14) Committees may combine resolutions or prepare a composite to cover the intent of the question at issue. Reports of Committees are not subject to amendment except such as is acceptable to the Committee, but a Motion to refer to the Committee for reconsideration shall be in order. Any delegate may require that a Motion which was presented to the Committee in a correct manner from his or her Local shall be read to the Convention.
- (15) A delegate shall not move a Motion to refer, or move the previous question after he or she has spoken on the question at issue.
- (16) A Motion to refer is not debatable and when properly seconded the question shall be immediately put to the Convention.

- (17) If the report of a Committee is adopted it becomes the decision of the Convention. If defeated it may be referred to the Committee for reconsideration.
- (18) When a question is pending before the Convention, no Motion shall be in order except a Motion to refer, a Motion to put the question, or a Motion to postpone for a definite time. If any of the foregoing Motion is negated, it cannot be renewed until after an intermediate proceeding.
- (19) A Motion may be reconsidered provided the mover of the Motion to reconsider voted with the majority, and Notice of Motion is given for consideration at the next sitting. A Motion to reconsider shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority to pass.
- (20) The Executive Council is empowered to establish the hours of Convention.
- (21) In all matters not regulated by these Rules of Order, *Bourinot's Rules of Order* shall govern.

*Section 20.* Unless otherwise specified, any decision taken by the Convention shall take effect immediately upon adjournment of the Convention.



## ARTICLE 5 - OFFICERS

*Section 1.* The Officers of this Federation shall consist of a President, two (2) Territorial Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Youth Vice-President and six (6) Regional Vice-Presidents, who shall be elected on a geographical basis as follows:

(a) Dehcho/South Slave

*Fort Liard*  
*Fort Providence*  
*Fort Simpson*  
*Jean Marie River*  
*Kakisa*  
*Nahanni Butte*  
*Trout Lake (Saamba K'e)*  
*Wrigley*  
*Enterprise*  
*Fort Resolution*  
*Fort Smith*  
*Hay River*  
*Hay River Reserve*  
*Lutselk'e*

(b) Tłı̄chų/Sombe K'e

*Behchokų (Rae/Edzo)*  
*Diavik Mine*  
*Ekati Mine*  
*Gahcho Kuè Mine*  
*Gamèti (Rae Lakes)*  
*Snap Lake Mine*  
*Whati (Lac La Martre)*  
*Wekweèti (Snare Lakes)*  
*Dettah*  
*N'dilo*  
*Yellowknife (Sombe K'e)*

(c) Sahtu/Inuvik

*Colville Lake*  
*Deline (Fort Norman)*  
*K'asho Got'ine (Fort Good Hope)*  
*Norman Wells*  
*Tulita*  
*Aklavik*  
*Fort McPherson (Teel'it zheh)*  
*Inuvik*  
*Paulatuk*  
*Sachs Harbour (Ikahuak)*  
*Tsiigehtchic (Arctic Red River)*  
*Tuktoyaktuk*  
*Ulukhaktok (Holman)*

(d) Kitikmeot

*Bathurst Inlet*  
*Cambridge Bay (Iqaluktuuttiaq)*  
*Gjoa Haven*  
*Kugaaruk (Pelly Bay)*  
*Kugluktuk (Coppermine)*  
*Tahera Mine*  
*Taloyoak (Spence Bay)*  
*Umingmaktuuq (Bay Chimo)*

(e) Kivalliq

*Arviat*  
*Baker Lake (Qamani'tuaq)*  
*Chesterfield Inlet (Igluligaarjuk)*  
*Coral Harbour (Salliit)*  
*Rankin Inlet (Kangiiniq)*  
*Repluse Bay (Naujaat)*  
*Whale Cove (Tikiraqjuaq)*

(f) Qikiqtani

*Alert*

*Arctic Bay (Ikpiarjuk)*

*Cape Dorset (Kinngait)*

*Clyde River (Kanngiqtugaapik)*

*Eureka*

*Grise Fiord (Ajuittuq)*

*Hall Beach (Sanirajak)*

*Iglookik*

*Iqaluit (Frobisher Bay)*

*Kimmitut (Lake Harbour)*

*Nanisivik*

*Pangnirtung*

*Pond Inlet (Mittimatalik)*

*Qikiqtarjuaq (Broughton Is.)*

*Resolute Bay (Qausuittuq)*

*Sanikiluaq*

The President, Secretary, Treasurer, the Territorial Vice-Presidents and the Youth Vice-President shall be the Executive Committee of the Federation.

***Section 2.***

- (a) The Executive Committee shall be elected by majority vote in order of President, Treasurer and Secretary.
- (b) The Territorial Vice-Presidents shall be nominated and elected by secret ballot through Territorial Caucus and then ratified by the Convention.
- (c) The Youth Vice-President will be elected during a caucus of young workers at convention. Candidates for the Youth Vice-President must not be over 30 years of age by December 31 in the year of the next Triennial Convention.

- Section 3.*
- (a) Each candidate for office must be a member in good standing of an organization affiliated with this Federation.
  - (b) Employees of the Federation who wish to seek an Officer's position must apply for and accept a leave of absence from their position in the scope of the collective agreement.
  - (c) Any Officer of the Federation who seeks to gain employment that is subject to collective bargaining with the Northern Territories Federation of Labour must resign from their position as Officer first (1st).

- Section 4.*
- (a) The Executive Committee shall be elected by majority vote. Such election shall take place on the last day of the Convention, unless otherwise determined by the Convention.
  - (b) The Regional Vice-Presidents shall be nominated and elected by secret ballot through Regional Caucus.

*Section 5.* Election of Officers shall be by secret ballot. A majority of votes cast shall be required before any candidate can be declared elected, and second (2nd) and subsequent ballots shall be taken if necessary to obtain such a majority. On the second (2nd) and subsequent ballots the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes in the previous ballot shall be dropped. In case of a final tie vote, the presiding Officer may cast the deciding vote.

*Section 6.* The election of each office shall be completed before nominations may be accepted for any subsequent office.

**Section 7.** Nominees allowing their names to go forward for the offices of President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-Presidents shall, upon acceptance of the nomination, come forward to the Convention platform and clearly and audibly speak the following lines to the assembled delegates:

*"In accepting nomination I swear that I will faithfully support the Constitution, principles and policies of the Federation and the Congress."*

**Section 8.** All Officers before assuming office in this Federation shall take the following oath:

*" I \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby, sincerely pledge my word and honour to perform my duties as an Officer of the Northern Territories Federation of Labour. I will attend, when able to do so, all meetings of the Executive Committee or Council of which I shall be a member, and at the end of my term of office, I shall turn over to the Northern Territories Federation of Labour or to my successor, all properties or funds in my possession that belong to the Federation."*

**Section 9.** The term of the Officers of the Federation shall commence within thirty (30) days following the adjournment of the Convention, and shall continue until a successor is elected by a Convention of the Federation.

- Section 10.* (a) In the event of a vacancy in the office of the President, the Territorial Vice-President (Northwest Territories) shall succeed to the office of President until the first (1st) regular Executive Council meeting.
- (b) In the event of a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, the Regional Vice-President, Tłı̄chǝ/Sombe K'e, shall perform the duties of the Treasurer until a successor can be elected at the first (1st) regular Executive Council meeting.

*Section 11.* In the event of a vacancy in any office other than that of President or Treasurer, the Executive Council shall at the first (1st) meeting following the vacancy, name a member to fill said vacancy for the balance of the unexpired term.

*Section 12.* The Executive Officers shall hold title to any real estate of the Federation as Trustees for the Federation. They shall have no right to sell, convey or encumber any real estate without first (1st) submitting the proposition to a Convention and such proposition is approved.

## *ARTICLE 6 - DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT*

- Section 1.* The President shall function as the Chief Executive Officer of the Federation. The President shall exercise supervision over the affairs of the Federation, sign all official documents and preside at regular and special conventions, and at meetings of the Executive Council.
- Section 2.* Subject to appeal to the Congress, the President shall have authority to interpret this Constitution and such interpretation shall be conclusive and in full force and effect unless reversed or changed by the Executive Council or a Convention, or the Congress.
- Section 3.* The President shall submit a report to the Convention on behalf of himself or herself, and of the Executive Council on the administration of his or her office and on the affairs of the Federation, together with recommendations regarding matters of importance to the workers of the Territories.
- Section 4.* The President shall ensure that the activities of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut Legislative Assemblies be monitored with respect to measures dealt with by that body which affect the interests of labour and shall promote the passage of measures requested or endorsed by the Federation.
- Section 5.* The President shall be bonded in such amount as may be determined by the Executive Council.

## ***ARTICLE 7 - DUTIES OF THE TERRITORIAL VICE-PRESIDENTS***

***Section 1.*** Their duties, in addition to those incumbent as members of the Executive Council, shall be to assist the President and/or Treasurer if called to do so.

## ***ARTICLE 8 - DUTIES OF THE TREASURER***

***Section 1.*** The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the Federation.

***Section 2.*** The Treasurer shall prepare a financial statement of the Federation for each meeting of the Executive Council. A copy of this statement shall be forwarded to the Congress.

***Section 3.*** The Treasurer shall have the books of the Federation audited at least once each year by a registered firm of certified accountants selected by the President and approved by the Executive Council. Such audits shall be furnished to the Executive Council and to the Convention, and a copy shall be forwarded to the Congress.

***Section 4.*** The Treasurer shall, subject to the approval of the Executive Council, invest the surplus funds of the Federation in securities, or deposit them in a unionized financial institutions where possible.

***Section 5.*** The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as may be determined by the Executive Council.

***Section 6.*** The Treasurer shall, with the approval of the Executive Council, employ, direct and fix compensation for all administrative help necessary for the proper functioning of the Federation.



*Section 7.* The fiscal year of the Federation shall terminate on December 31st in each year.

*Section 8.* The Treasurer shall prepare a supplementary report showing the standing of each affiliated organization as to payment of per capita tax to the Federation to the date when the books are balanced prior to the Convention. This supplementary report shall be distributed to the delegates at the Convention.

*Section 9.* The Treasurer shall submit a report and financial statement to the Triennial Convention of the Federation.

*Section 10.* All cheques drawn against funds of the Federation shall be signed by two (2) of the following Executive Council members: Treasurer, President, Vice-President (Northwest Territories), or Regional Vice-President, Tłı̨chų/Sombe K'e. If the Secretary resides in Yellowknife, he or she will be added as a signing authority as well. All cheques in favour of the Federation should be payable to the Federation and in no case should such cheques be made payable to the Treasurer or any other Officer.

## *ARTICLE 9 - DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY*

- Section 1.* The Secretary shall be in charge of books, documents, files and effects of the Federation which shall at all time be subject to the inspection of any member of the Executive Council.
- Section 2.* The Secretary is empowered to require affiliated organizations to provide statistical data in their possession relating to the membership of their organization.
- Section 3.* The Secretary shall issue the call for conventions, and shall cause the proceedings of all conventions and all sessions of the Executive Council to be recorded. Copies of all proceedings shall be forwarded to the Congress.

## *ARTICLE 10 - DUTIES OF A REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT*

- Section 1.*
- (a) Regional Vice-Presidents shall attend all meetings of the Executive Council.
  - (b) Regional Vice-Presidents shall file a report of their activities and recommendations at each Executive Council meeting.
  - (c) Regional Vice-Presidents shall be responsible to the Executive Council for the affairs of the Federation in their region.
  - (d) Regional Vice-Presidents should endeavour to attend all affiliated union local's meetings in their region when requested to do so by said locals.

- (e) Regional Vice-Presidents shall report to affiliated union locals in their region on the activities of the Federation.
- (f) Regional Vice-Presidents shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the President of the Executive Council.

### *ARTICLE 11 - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE*

*Section 1.* The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Treasurer, Secretary, the Territorial Vice-Presidents and the Youth Vice-President.

*Section 2.* The Executive Committee shall meet at least four (4) times each year and shall be responsible to the Executive Council. A conference call may be deemed a meeting.

*Section 3.* It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to initiate legislative action in the interests of working people.

*Section 4.* A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Officers.

*Section 5.* The Executive Committee is authorized to reimburse Officers for necessary expenses in performing their duties for the Federation.

### *ARTICLE 12 - EXECUTIVE COUNCIL*

*Section 1.* The Executive Council shall consist of the President, Territorial Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, the Youth Vice-President and the Regional Vice-Presidents.

*Section 2.* The Executive Council shall be the governing body of this Federation between Conventions. It shall take such action and render such decisions as may be necessary to carry out fully the decisions and instructions of the Conventions and to enforce the provisions contained in this Constitution.

*Section 3.* (a) The Executive Council shall meet at least twice a year. Not more than six (6) months shall elapse between meetings. In an emergency situation, a special meeting may be held at the request of a majority of the members of the Executive Council. This special meeting shall be called by the President of the Federation within fifteen (15) days of the request.

(b) A conference call composed of the Executive Council can be deemed a regular meeting.

*Section 4.* On behalf of the Executive Council, the President shall present to the Convention a report of the activities of the Federation that have occurred since the previous Convention.

*Section 5.* The Executive Council shall have the power to conduct an investigation of any situation in which there is reason to believe that any affiliated organization may be dominated, controlled or substantially influenced in the conduct of its affairs by any corrupt influence, or that its policies or activities are contrary to the principles or policies of the Federation. Upon the completion of such an investigation, including a hearing if requested, the Executive shall have the authority to make recommendations to the organizations involved and the Congress. It shall have further authority upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Council, to suspend any organization.

Any action of the Executive Council under this Section may be appealed to the Convention.

*Section 6.* A majority of the members of the Executive Council shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Council.

*Section 7.* The Executive Council is authorized to reimburse members of the Council for necessary expenses in performing their duties for the Federation.

*Section 8.* The Federation shall not be held responsible for any debts incurred by any of its Officers unless authorized by the President and Treasurer.

*Section 9.* The Executive Council may, by majority vote, remove from office any Officer of the Federation who is guilty of a misappropriation of funds, in breach of the Constitution, or commits a violation of the Oath of Office. Such decision may be appealed to the Congress within thirty (30) days of the time the Officer(s) so affected receive notification. Should the Executive Council make such a decision immediately prior to a Federation Convention, the appeal may be made directly to the Convention.

*Section 10.* The Executive Council shall be empowered to pay the operating expenses of the Federation, including, but not limited to, rent, office supplies and other debts incurred as a result of its legitimate activities.

*Section 11.* (a) The Executive Council shall be empowered to remove from office any Federation Officer who does not perform the duties of office and/or does not respond to Federation correspondence or initiatives and offers no reasonable explanation.

(b) Such decisions may be appealed to the Congress within thirty (30) days of the time of the Officer(s) so affected receive

notification. Should the Executive Council make such a decision immediately prior to a Federation Convention, the appeal may be made directly to the Convention.

### *ARTICLE 13 - REVENUE*

*Section 1.* A per capita tax shall be paid upon the full, paid-up membership of each organization.

*Section 2.* Each affiliated local union, branch, lodge, regional or territorial organization shall pay its per capita tax to the Federation monthly.

(a) The per capita tax for such organizations shall be two-dollars and seventy-five cents (\$2.75) per member per month, to take effect on October 1, 2014.

(b) Except the affiliates shall pay one dollar and twenty-five cents (\$1.25) per member per month for those members who are part-time workers and who work less than seventy-five (75) hours per month and this increase will take place on October 1, 2014.

*Section 3.* Each local labour council shall pay one-hundred and fifty (\$150.00) dollars per year. The per capita tax from labour councils shall be payable in two (2) instalments in advance, on or before the 31st day of December and the 30th day of June each year, and that this increase in the labour councils' per capita tax take effect on January 1, 1998.

*Section 4.* Any organization which does not pay its per capita tax on or before the time specified shall be notified of that fact by the Treasurer of the Federation. Any organization three (3) months in arrears in payment of per capita tax may become suspended from membership in the Federation and can be reinstated only after arrears are paid in full.

#### ***ARTICLE 14 - REMUNERATION***

*Section 1.* Any accredited representative performing duties authorized by the Convention or the Executive Council shall be reimbursed for loss of time and actual expenses at the rates outlined in the Federal Treasury Board Directives. Remuneration for loss of time and expenses of the President and Treasurer while attending Conventions shall be borne by the Federation.

#### ***ARTICLE 15 - RULES AND REGULATIONS***

*Section 1.* The Federation may adopt such rules and regulations as do not conflict with, nor are inconsistent with the provisions of the Constitution or the policies of the Congress.

## *ARTICLE 16 - OMBUDSPERSON*

*Section 1.* If a delegate from a local affiliated to the Federation has a complaint or grievance against an Officer of the Federation that cannot be resolved by the procedure presently set forth in this Constitution, the delegate shall have the right to submit a case, with all relevant material and supporting evidence, to the Ombudsperson appointed by the Congress. The Ombudsperson shall, under the authority vested by the Congress, undertake such inquiries, hearings or meetings as is advisable and shall file a report as soon as possible to the parties to the complaint.

## *ARTICLE 17 - AMENDMENTS*

*Section 1.* Amendments to this Constitution, so long as they do not conflict with the Constitution of the Congress, nor its principles and policies, may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present in Convention and voting. Any amendment shall only become effective after approval by the Canadian Council of the Congress.



## *ARTICLE 18 - ORDER OF BUSINESS*

1. Call to order/opening ceremonies.
2. Report of Credentials Committee.
3. Appointment of Committees.
4. Communications.
5. Reports of Officers.
6. Reports of Committees.
7. Unfinished business.
8. Election of Officers.
9. Installation of Officers.
10. Good and welfare of the Federation.
11. Adjournment.