

ARTICLE 10: REGIONAL AND QUEBEC COUNCILS

1. The Regional Councils and the Quebec Council are a democratic force for union activism, solidarity, and strength. They are forums of accountability and organizing centres which will involve and engage thousands of local union activists in the life of the union.
2. All Local Unions and subordinate bodies are members of the Quebec Council, or their respective Regional Council.
3. There shall be a Quebec Council and four Regional Councils. The four Regional Councils shall consist of the:
 - a. British Columbia Council
 - b. Prairies Council (comprising Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba)
 - c. Ontario Council
 - d. Atlantic Council (comprising Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island)
4. All Local Unions or subordinate bodies located in the Territories, or Nunavut, shall be assigned to a Regional Council or the Quebec Council by the National Executive Board.
5. The membership of a National or multi-regional Local Union shall be assigned to the Council covering their residence. They shall be deemed to constitute a local union for the purposes only of their respective Regional or Quebec Council.
6. Delegate entitlement shall be based on the following:
 - a. Single Unit Local Unions or Subordinate Bodies**
 - 1 to 250 members – 1 delegate
 - 251 to 500 members – 2 delegates
 - 501 to 750 members – 3 delegates
 - 751 to 1,000 members – 4 delegates
 - 1,001 to 1,250 members – 5 delegates
 - And one additional delegate for each additional 250 members
 - b. Amalgamated Local Unions or Subordinate Bodies**

Each bargaining unit with 250 members or more of an amalgamated Local Union shall have delegate entitlement based on the following:

 - 250 to 500 members – 1 delegate
 - 501 to 750 members – 2 delegates
 - 751 to 1,000 members – 3 delegates
 - 1,001 to 1,250 members – 4 delegates
 - And one additional delegate for each additional 250 members

Members of bargaining units within an amalgamated Local Union with fewer than 250 members shall be grouped together and entitled to delegates as per Paragraph 6 a. of this Article.

Delegate entitlement shall be based on the average dues payment to the Quebec Council and Regional Councils in the year preceding the Council meeting excluding any period in which National Union dues payments have been interrupted by a labour dispute.

7. Delegates to Quebec Council and Regional Councils shall be elected by secret ballot with a minimum of 15 days notice to all members of nominations and elections. Candidates with the most votes shall be elected.
8. Upon approval of the National Executive Board the Regional and the Quebec Councils may change the Local Union regular delegate entitlement formula provided:
 - No Local Union's regular delegate entitlement is reduced, and
 - The balance of regular delegates from the two predecessor unions is maintained.
9. The Councils may also consider the inclusion of alternate delegates and/or special delegates. Special delegates, with voice and no vote, may include a Local Union President or Chairperson of a bargaining unit. They may also include representatives of designated equity groups who would participate in the Council's Standing Committees.
10. In addition to and at the same time as National Union dues payable by Local Unions a per capita levy of 0.0135% of every worker's regular wages will be paid on a monthly basis by every Local Union to the National Union, which will distribute to the Regional Councils or the Quebec Council, their appropriate share of funds.
11. The By-Laws of the Quebec Council and each Regional Council must conform to this Constitution. They shall be approved by the National Executive Board, and shall reflect the gender and equity principles of the National Union.
12. The term of office of delegates to the Regional Councils and the Quebec Council shall be equal in length to the term of office of the Executive of the Local Union from which they are elected.
13. The Executive of each Regional Council and the Quebec Council at a minimum shall include an elected Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary Treasurer. The composition of the Executive shall reflect the gender and equity principles of the Union. Each member of the Executive of a Regional Council or the Quebec Council shall serve a three year term. Regional Directors shall be delegates to their respective Regional Council and ex-officio members of the Executive of the Regional Council. The Quebec Director shall be a delegate to the Quebec Council and an ex-officio member of the Quebec Council Executive.

14. Each Regional Council and the Quebec Council will establish standing committees with respect to Women, Aboriginal and Racialized Workers, Young Workers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Workers (LGBT), Workers with Disabilities, Health, Safety and the Environment (HSE), Political Action, and other committees as determined by the Executive of the Council.
15. The Standing Committees are accountable to their respective Council and Council Executive. Each Standing Committee shall have the authority and funds delegated to it by the Regional or Quebec Council.
16. The process for selecting Standing Committee members shall be described in the By-Laws of the Council(s). The selection of members to the Standing Committees on Women, Aboriginal and Racialized Workers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) members, Workers with Disabilities and Young Workers shall include a provision for peer election.
17. Standing Committees may organize conferences and meetings, initiate educational events and activities, mobilize members and make recommendations to the Council to build the union within the mandate of the committee.
18. The regional Council and the Quebec Council, will among other things:
 - Elect a Chairperson, who shall serve on the National Executive Board, and a Vice-Chairperson, Secretary Treasurer, and others as determined by Council By-Laws.
 - Review reports and issue directions to Standing Committees.
 - Receive, review, discuss and adopt reports from National Officers, Regional, Area, Industry and Department directors, and staff, with respect to their activities and assignments.
 - Adopt policies or resolutions which are consistent with the objectives and principles of the National Union.
 - Conduct campaigns with respect to regional or provincial affairs, including matters pertaining to the Provincial or Territorial Federations of Labour, provincial and municipal elections, and other struggles affecting the membership.
 - The Quebec Council may also conduct a campaign and activities pertaining to Federal elections.
 - Engage in special campaigns of solidarity and support of a Local Union or subordinate body fighting for a fair contract, security of employment, or any of the objectives of the National Union.
 - Engage in special campaigns of solidarity in support of progressive allies and community partners whose struggles are consistent with the objectives of this National Union.
 - Sustain and support the organizing efforts of the National Union across Canada.

19. Meetings of the Regional Councils and the Quebec Council shall be held at least once a year.
20. All resolutions shall be approved by a majority of those voting by a show of hands unless a request for a per capita vote is made by 20 percent of delegates.
21. On any resolution, at the request of at least 20% of the delegates, by a show of hands, a per capita vote shall be conducted.
22. The National Officers of the Union are delegates to all Regional Councils and the Quebec Council.