

DECLARATION OF STUDENTS' RIGHTS

THE FEDERATION DECLARES THAT A FULL POLICY OF NON-DISCRIMINATION OF STUDENTS MUST BE ENFORCED AT ALL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITHIN CANADIAN SOCIETY. FURTHER, THE FEDERATION DECLARES THAT EVERY PERSON HAS THE RIGHT TO EQUAL TREATMENT WITHOUT BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BECAUSE OF RACE, NATIONAL OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, LANGUAGE, PLACE OF RESIDENCE, RELIGION, SEX, AGE, MENTAL OR PHYSICAL HANDICAP, PHYSICAL APPEARANCE, MARITAL STATUS, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER ORIENTATION, POLITICAL BELIEF, SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND, OR ONE'S STATUS AS A STUDENT

ACCORDINGLY, THE FEDERATION DECLARES THE FOLLOWING AS UNDENIABLE RIGHTS OF ALL STUDENTS GLOBALLY:

THE RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION

All students, full or part-time, have the right to:

1. an accessible, high quality education at all levels;
2. grants, the amount of which to be determined based solely on individual financial need;
3. grants on the same basis as all other students;
4. grants that are completely portable;
5. grants for those receiving disability pensions regardless of the program in which they are enrolled;
6. be fully informed of the availability of financial assistance programs before they plan their post-secondary studies;
7. receive an education in Canada without being subject to differential fees;
8. easy physical access to all buildings and grounds of any institution;
9. facilities, services and financial resources in programs of their choice, free from barriers of a physical or attitudinal nature;
10. an education in English, French, and/or aboriginal languages;
11. complete a program on the same terms that existed at the time of admission to that program;
12. participate in aid programs which do not change during the duration of the school year in which they applied, without mutual consent
13. facilities, services, and financial resources required for parents who are acquiring a post-secondary education; .
14. available and accessible study space on campus;
15. attend the institution best suited to a student's educational needs, without financial, social or physical barriers;
16. adequate access to all materials, literature (including textbooks), equipment and study aids necessary for the continuance and completion, to the best of a student's abilities, of their education;
17. access to high quality education regardless of geographic location of the institution;

18. equal opportunity to academic expression in the official language of their choice; and
19. justice in the educational community and to an education free from racism.

THE RIGHT TO EMPLOYMENT

All individuals, Canadian or international, have the right to:

1. employment at a fair and equitable wage;
2. equal pay for work of equal value;
3. education leave with job security, for any type of education; and
4. fair and equitable employment in the open job market.

THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

All students have the right to organize and participate in democratic, autonomous student organizations which responsibly represent all students on their respective campuses.

All student organizations have the right to:

1. access their membership lists, including names, addresses, and telephone numbers;
2. incorporate, independent of the institution's administration;
3. access all technical services, such as printing services, audio-visual services, and computer services, which are available at the institution;
4. sufficient, on-campus office space without charge;
5. participate in political actions such as boycotts, walkouts, demonstrations or strikes without fear of recrimination;
6. have their fees collected by the administration when properly authorized by the student organization;
7. publicize their activities in reasonable places; and
8. independent media services.

THE RIGHT TO JUSTICE IN THE EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY

All students have the right to:

1.
 - a. participate as full voting members in all levels of all academic decision making bodies;
 - b. seek student representative status on department and faculty boards;
 - c. have student representatives fully participate in all promotions and tenure review processes;
 - d. have student representatives fully participate in academic petitions and appeals; and
 - e. participate as student representatives without discrimination between part-time and full-time students.
2. access any and all personal documentation held by any organization; and the right to withhold release of any such documentation;
3. copyright all original work they produce;
4. participate in the formulation of objective course and instructor evaluations;
5. be informed of the evaluation procedures and criteria at the commencement of the course. These procedures and criteria, once established and agreed to by the students shall not be altered without the consent of both parties;
6. appeal all decisions regarding their relations with their institutions, and the right to

- advertised, legitimate appeal procedures that include the right to representation;
7. be paid for labour which is performed as part of their program, field placement and/or clinical. experience;
 8. parity on all decision-making bodies affecting the lives of students;
 9. redress all grievances;
 10. have freedom from sexual assault and all other forms of violence and/or harassment;
 11. a safe and healthy environment in which to study;
 12. a safe environment in which to travel to and from their place of study; and
 13. transfer credits of equal status from one post-secondary institution to another regardless of province or country; and in the case of a student-supervisor/advisor relationship,
 14. full access to written evaluations made by any and all supervisors be transmitted to any third party by any means;
 15. participate, personally or through representation, or both, in the appeals procedures regarding evaluation of their professional and academic work which may take place outside of formal thesis defence situations;
 16. recourse in cases where they feel that an unfair assessment or demand has been made of either their work or them personally, including the right to compensation where it proves unworkable to continue her or his studies at the current location;
 17. support their college or university faculty and staff union actions (e.g. respecting and participating in picket lines) without academic, financial or any other form of disciplinary sanction.

THE RIGHT TO SERVICES

All students have the right to:

1. tenant status and affordable housing facilities in accordance with student needs and population;
2. accessible, quality, fully government subsidized child care, provided by adequately trained and paid child care workers;
3. adequate health services;
4. safe, reliable birth control and family planning information;
5. control their own body; and
6. have access to quality health services and counselling which meet the needs of students, and respect a person's control of their body.

May 1998
November 1992

PREAMBLE

We, the students of Canada, recognizing the need to speak with one voice in asserting our legitimate needs and concerns, wish to express our support for one national student organization whose basic aims will be as follows:

1. to organize students on a democratic, cooperative basis in advancing our own interests, and in advancing the interests of our community;
2. to provide a common framework within which students can communicate, exchange information, and share experience, skills and ideas;
3. to ensure the effective use and distribution of the resources of the student movement, while maintaining a balanced growth and development of student organisations that respond to students needs and desires;
4. to bring students together to discuss and cooperatively achieve necessary educational administrative, or legislative change wherever decision-making affects students;
5. to facilitate cooperation among students in organising services which supplement our academic experience, provide for our human needs, and which develop a sense of community with our peers and other members of society;
6. to articulate the real desire of students to fulfil the duties, and be accorded the rights of citizens in our society and in the international community;
7. to achieve our ultimate goal -- a system of post-secondary education which is accessible to all, which is of high quality, which is nationally planned, which recognizes the legitimacy of student representation, and validity of student rights, and whose role in society is clearly recognized and appreciated.

In consideration to these needs, students from throughout Canada met in October, 1981, to found the Canadian Federation of Students/Federation canadienne des etudiantes et etudiants.

The organisations that founded the Canadian Federation of Students were:

The National Union of Students/Union nationale des etudiant(e)s
The Association of Student Councils (Canada)/Association des conseils etudiants
(Canada)
The Federation of Alberta Students
The British Columbia Students Federation
The Students Union of Nova Scotia
The Ontario Federation of Students/Federation des etudiant(e)s de l'Ontario
The Saskatchewan Federation of Students

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Canadian Federation of Students/Federation canadienne des etudiantes et étudiants exists to perform the following functions:

1. to further the goals of the Canadian Federation of Students/Federation canadienne des etudiantes et étudiants as outlined in the Preamble;
2. to represent, promote and defend the common interests of Canadian post-secondary students;
3. to promote and support the interests and activities of democratic student organisations in all provinces and at all educational institutions in Canada;
4. to bring together post-secondary students from all parts of Canada to discuss and take common, democratic positions on questions affecting students;
5. to represent Canadian students in the federal level of decision-making and to do so by speaking on their behalf with one united voice;
6. to formulate a national programme that will serve as a framework for coordinating the efforts of representative post-secondary student organisations throughout Canada. This programme will summarize a long-term strategy for achieving the objectives of students in post-secondary education; will describe general ways of reaching those objectives; and will be revised periodically as new objectives and approaches become appropriate;
7. to do all other things that are incidental or conducive to these purposes.

DEFINITIONS

1. The Canadian Federation of Students/Federation canadienne des etudiantes et etudiants will hereafter be referred to as the Federation.
2. A provincial component will be taken for all purposes as an organisation within the Canadian Federation of Students comprised of all member local associations within a particular province.
3. A local student association will be taken for all purposes of these By-laws to mean an organisation of students which satisfies the following criteria:
 - it is locally and democratically-controlled;
 - it is autonomous from other organizations;
 - it represents students at only one post-secondary institution.or, the graduate students belonging to an organisation that fulfills these criteria and is comprised of both graduate and undergraduate members, not belonging to the Federation, provided that the graduate students have an identifiable infrastructure and a legal structure enabling it to enter into contracts .
4. For all purposes of these By-laws, a referendum will be taken to mean a general vote of the members of a local student association, whether conducted at balloting locations or at a formal general meeting of the local students association.
5. For all purposes of these By-laws, a semester shall be taken to mean a period of time approximately four months in duration. An academic year shall be defined as per the policy of the member local.
6. For all purposes of these By-laws, a delegate shall be any individual member or staff member of a member local association having paid the applicable general meeting delegates fee.

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Standing Resolution 24

PROVINCIAL COMPONENT ALLOCATIONS

1. **British Columbia Component Allocation**

The British Columbia Component shall be allocated one-sixth of the annual Canadian Federation of Students membership fees paid by the individual members belonging to British Columbia member local associations.

2. **Ontario Component Allocation**

The Ontario Component shall be allocated one-sixth of the annual Canadian Federation of Students membership fees paid by individual members belonging to Ontario member local associations.

3. **Quebec Component Allocation**

The Quebec Component shall be allocated one-sixth of the annual Canadian Federation of Students membership fees paid by individual members belonging to Quebec member local associations.

BYLAW I - MEMBERSHIP

1. Types of Memberships

General Description: There are two types of members of the Federation, individual members and voting members. Students, or individual members, are represented through the local student association to which they belong. Local student associations representing individual members are called voting members.

- a. Local student associations are eligible to receive the status of voting members in the Federation as provided for in By-law I, Section 2, and 3;
- b. Individual members of the Federation will be all students in local student associations that are voting members.

2. Types of Voting Membership Status

a. Full Membership

General Description: Full membership is the standard form of membership in the Federation.

- i. A local association is eligible to apply for full membership in the Federation if its members have approved by referendum membership in the Canadian Federation of Students, the Canadian Federation of Students-Services, and the applicable provincial component as described in Bylaw VII- Provincial Components;
- ii. A written application for full membership submitted by an eligible local student association will be considered as a binding contract to accept the rights and responsibilities of full membership in the Canadian Federation of Students, the Canadian Federation of Students-Services, and the applicable provincial component.
- iii. Within 90 days of the receipt by the National Executive of a written application for membership, the National Executive will examine the application to see whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the voting members of the Federation concerning the application.
- iv. At the next general meeting of the Federation, the full membership application shall be put to a vote and shall require a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast to be accepted.
- v. A local association's application for membership, once accepted by the Federation, shall constitute a binding contract to collect and remit to the Federation full membership fees for the duration of membership.
- vi. Notwithstanding Section 2.a.vii. of this Bylaw, the fees for full member local associations shall be:
 - \$3.00 per semester, or \$6.00 per academic year, per local association individual member of the Canadian Federation of Students/Canadian Federation of Students-Services, pro-rated as per the policy of the member focal association; and
 - the applicable provincial component fee.
- vii. Beginning in 1996, the Federation membership fee shall increase on August 1 each year by the rate of increase in the national Consumer Price Index during the previous calendar year.

b. Prospective Membership

General Description: Prospective membership is a trial membership of limited

duration.

- i. A local student association is eligible to apply for prospective membership if it has passed a motion of its members, executive, council or equivalent representative body to apply for prospective membership in the Federation and its applicable provincial component as described in Bylaw VII-Provincial Components;
- ii. A written application for prospective membership submitted by an eligible local student association will be considered as a binding contract to accept the rights and responsibilities of prospective membership in the Canadian Federation of Students, the Canadian Federation of Students-Services, and the applicable provincial component.
- iii. Within 90 days of the receipt by the National Executive of a written application for prospective membership, the National Executive will examine the application to see whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the voting members of the Federation concerning the application.
- iv. At the next general meeting of the Federation, the prospective membership application shall be put to a vote and shall require a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast to be accepted.
- v. A local student association's application for prospective membership, once accepted by the Federation, shall constitute a binding contract to pay prospective membership fees, as described in Section 2 b-vi, and conduct a full membership referendum, as described in Section 2 b-viii;
- vi. The fee for prospective membership in the Federation shall be five per cent (5%) of the regular Federation membership fee, notwithstanding that the fee may be reduced or waived by a majority vote of a national general meeting or the National Executive;
- vii. A prospective member association shall have full voting rights in Federation national general meetings, but shall not be permitted to designate a proxy to vote on its behalf, and shall have the same access to Federation resources and materials, except the International Student Identity Card, that a full member has
- viii. A prospective member association must hold a referendum on full membership in the Federation, in accordance with Section 5 of this Bylaw, within twelve (12) months following its acceptance as a prospective member unless an extension is granted by the National Executive of the Federation;
- ix. In the event that the majority of those voting in the referendum support full membership in the Federation, full membership will be granted at the subsequent national general meeting, at which point prospective membership shall cease;
- x. In the event that the majority of those voting in the referendum oppose full membership in the Federation, prospective membership will immediately cease;
- xi. In the event that the referendum fails to achieve quorum, prospective membership will be automatically extended and another referendum on full membership will be held within the subsequent six (6) months in accordance with Section 5 of this Bylaw; and
- xii. In the event that a prospective member fails to conduct a referendum on full membership as required by this Bylaw, the Federation shall have the option to either cancel or extend, by majority vote of a national general

meeting, the prospective membership until a referendum on full membership is conducted.

3. Membership Rights and Responsibilities

a. Rights of Individual Members

- i. The individual members of the Federation collectively belonging to a member local association will have sole authority to make decisions through referendum on all questions of membership in the Federation, subject to the other provisions of this Bylaw.
- ii. The individual members of the Federation collectively belonging to a member local association will have sole authority to initiate, by petition signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the individual members and delivered to the National Executive, a referendum to federate as described in Article 5 of this Bylaw.
- iii. The individual members of the Federation collectively belonging to a member local association will have sole authority to initiate a de-Federation referendum, as described in Article 7 of this Bylaw, by submitting to the National Executive of the Federation a petition, signed by not less than ten percent (10%) of the individual members of the association, calling for the referendum.
- iv. Individual members of the Federation have the right to have their interests represented collectively in the Federation through their local student association, but will not have voting rights at the Federation general meetings.
- v. The Federation will attempt to ensure that a Federation membership card is issued to each individual member of the Federation who is a member of a full voting member of the Federation.

b. Rights of Voting Members

- i. Each voting member of the Federation will have one vote at and participate in general meetings of the Federation provided all outstanding delegate fees for past meetings have been paid in full. This is subject to review by the National Executive on a case by case basis upon request.
- ii. Voting members of the Federation have the right to be represented collectively to the federal government and to other national organisations.
- iii. Each voting member of the Federation is entitled to the protection and support of the Federation in accordance with the objectives of the Federation.
- iv. Each voting member of the Federation is entitled to have access to Federation research, information, materials, staff, and other resources.
- v. Each voting member of the Federation is entitled to have access to all information and official documents concerning the operations and activities of the Federation and of the National Executive.
- vi. Delegates sent by voting members to general meetings of the Federation will have the right to stand for election to any vacant position on a committee of the Federation subject to such other conditions as may be specified at the time of formation of the committee.

c. Responsibilities of Voting- Members

Although Federation staff and executive members will handle many day-to-day operations, the structures of the Federation can only function if there is full cooperation among Federation voting members. The achievement of the work and goals of the Federation depends on the active participation of students and

student associations.

- i. Each voting member of the Federation is responsible for supporting the objectives of the Federation and will abide by all provisions of these By-laws.
- ii. Each voting member will ensure that Federation fees are collected each year at its institution and forwarded to the Federation, according to the contract of membership and the fee agreement if applicable, signed when the member joined.
- iii. The voting member will not represent the membership fees collected on behalf of the Federation as an expense and/or revenue of the member in its budgets, its financial statements, its audits or any other documents of the voting member.
- iv. Each voting member will be responsible for representing the interests and concerns of its member students at general meetings of the Federation.
- v. Each voting member is responsible for contributing to the formulation of Federation policy and where possible and by resolution of the local council for supporting and implementing that policy.
- vi. Each voting member will be responsible for communicating information from the Federation and the provincial Federation components to its students.
- vii. Each member local association will communicate and work cooperatively with Federation staff and members of the National Executive.

4. Vote to Federate

In accordance with Section 2 of this Bylaw, the following shall be the rules and procedures for a referendum, in which the individual members of a prospective member local association may vote on full membership in the Federation:

a. Scheduling of the Referendum

The referendum will be scheduled by the prospective member association in consultation with the Federation.

b. Referendum Oversight Committee

The referendum shall be overseen by a committee composed of two (2) members appointed by the prospective local association and two (2) members appointed by the Federation, that shall be responsible for:

- i. establishing the notice requirement for the referendum in accordance with Section 4-c of this Bylaw and ensuring that notice is posted.
- ii. establishing the campaign period in accordance with Section 4-d of this Bylaw.
- iii. approving all campaign materials in accordance with Section 4-e of this Bylaw and removing campaign materials that have not been approved.
- iv. deciding the number and location of polling stations.
- v. setting the hours of voting in accordance with Section 4-f of this Bylaw.
- vi. overseeing all aspects of the voting.
- vii. counting the ballots following the vote.
- viii. establishing all other rules and regulations for the vote.

c. Notice of Referendum

Notice of the referendum, that includes the referendum question and voting dates, shall be provided to the individual members of the prospective member association no less than two (2) weeks prior to voting in the referendum.

d. Campaigning

- i. There shall be no less than ten (10) days on which campaigning is permitted, during which classes are in session, immediately preceding and

- during voting; and
- ii. Only individual members and representatives of the prospective member association, representatives of the Federation and representatives of the Federation member local associations shall be permitted to participate in the campaign.

e. Campaign Materials

- i. Campaign materials shall include all materials developed specifically for the referendum campaign.
- ii. Materials produced by Federation that promote campaigns and services of the Federation shall not be considered as campaign materials unless they include specific content about the referendum.
- iii. The Federation website shall not be considered a campaign material unless it includes specific content about the referendum.
- iv. The Federation's annual report, financial statements, research and submissions to government shall not be considered a campaign material.
- v. Campaign materials shall not be misleading, potentially libelous or false.

f. Voting and Tabulation

- i. Voting shall be conducted at voting stations or, subject to the agreement between the prospective member association and the Federation, at a general meeting of the prospective member association or by a mail-out ballot.
- ii. There shall be no less than sixteen (16) hours of polling over no less than two (2) days, except in the case of voting being conducted at a general meeting.
- iii. Unless mutually agreed otherwise by the prospective member association and the Federation, the referendum question shall be: "Are you in favour of membership in the Canadian Federation of Students?"
- iv. In the event that polling is conducted at a general meeting, representatives of the Federation and Federation member local associations shall be extended full speaking rights in the meeting.
- v. The prospective member association and the Federation shall each be permitted to appoint one poll clerk for each polling station.
- vi. The prospective member local association and the Federation shall each be permitted to appoint one poll scrutineer to oversee the counting of ballots.

g. Appeals

Any appeals of the referendum results or rulings by the Referendum Oversight Committee shall be adjudicated by an Appeals Committee composed of one (1) member appointed by the prospective member association and one (1) member appointed by the Federation, who were not members of the Referendum Oversight Committee.

5. Suspension and Expulsion of Members

A member local association may have its voting privileges suspended or may be expelled for violating its responsibilities as outlined in ByLaw I, Section 3 (c), subject to the following procedure:

a. Process for Initiating the Procedure of Suspension or Expulsion

The procedure for suspending the voting privileges or expelling a member local association may be initiated by:

- i. resolution of the National Executive; or
- ii. a petition, submitted to the National Executive, signed by not less than one-third (1/3) of the voting member locals associations and listing the reasons

- ii. Only individual members and representatives of the member local association, representatives of the Federation and representatives of other Federation member local associations shall be permitted to participate in the campaign.

d. Voting

- i. Voting will be conducted at voting stations or, subject to the agreement of the Federation, at a general meeting of the member local association or by a mailout ballot.
- ii. There shall be no less than sixteen (16) hours of polling over no less than two (2) days, except in the case of voting being conducted at a general meeting.
- iii. In the event that polling is conducted at a general meeting, representatives of the Federation and Federation member local associations shall be extended full speaking rights in the meeting.

e. Quorum

Quorum for the vote shall be that of the member local association's or five percent (5%) of the individual members of the local association, whichever is higher.

f. Administering the Campaign and Voting

The vote shall be overseen by a committee composed of two (2) members appointed by the Federation and two (2) members appointed by the member local association. The committee shall be responsible for:

- i. deciding the manner of voting, be that by referendum, general meeting or mailout ballot.
- ii. deciding the number and location of polling stations;
- iii. approving all materials to be distributed during the campaign;
- iv. deciding the ballot question;
- v. overseeing the voting;
- vi. counting ballots;
- vii. adjudicating all appeals; and
- viii. establishing all other rules and regulations for the vote.

g. Advance Remittance of Outstanding Membership Fees

In addition to Articles a. to f., in order for a de-federation referendum to proceed, a member local association must remit all outstanding Federation fees not less than six (6) weeks prior to the date of referendum.

- i. Within three (3) months of the receipt of notice, a committee composed of two (2) members appointed by the Federation and two (2) members appointed by the member local shall be formed. *[Editor's note: I am not sure whether this provision is supposed to be here. Please see the Closing Plenary Minutes of the 49th Semi-Annual National General Meeting, page 6]*

h. Minimum Period Between De-Federation Votes

In addition to Articles a. to g, in order for a de-federation referendum to take place, a member local association may not have held a de-federation referendum within the previous twenty-four (24) months. This clause may be waived, by a two-thirds majority vote of the National Executive, if the procedures of the de-federation referendum are questionable in the extreme.

i. Minimum Period Between Federation and De-Federation Votes

In addition to Articles a. to h, in order for a de-federation referendum to proceed, a member local association may not have held a referendum to join the Federation within the previous twenty-four (24) months. This clause may be

for the proposed suspension of voting privileges or expulsion.

b. Notice of the Suspension or Expulsion Procedure

Upon resolution of the National Executive or receipt of a petition by the National Executive, initiating the process for suspending or expelling a member local association, the National Executive will;

- i. place the matter on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled national general meeting for which no less than four (4) week notice can be given; and
- ii. inform, by registered mail, the member local association against which the suspension or expulsion procedure has been initiated no less than four (4) weeks prior to the national general meeting at which the matter of suspension or expulsion will be considered.

c. Required Majority

A two-thirds vote of a national general meeting shall be required in order to suspend the voting privileges or expel a member local association.

d. Appeal of Suspension or Expulsion

Any student association, which has had its voting privileges suspended or has been expelled, may appeal the decision to the next world congress of the International Union of Students.

e. Reinstatement of Voting Privileges

A member local association, which has had its voting privileges suspended, may have its voting privileges reinstated subject to the following procedure:

- i. Upon receipt of a written application from a member local association requesting reinstatement of voting privileges, the National Executive will assess the merits of the application and make a recommendation to the voting member local associations at the next regularly-scheduled national general meeting.
- ii. A two-thirds majority vote shall be required to reinstate a member local association's voting privileges.

6. Vote on Defederating

The individual members of the Federation belonging to a member local association may vote on whether to defederate, subject to the following rules and procedures:

a. Petition

As per Bylaw I.3.1.a.iii a petition calling for a referendum shall be signed by no less than ten percent (10%) of the individual members of the association and sent to the National Executive of the Federation.

b. Notice

- i. No vote on de-federating may be held between:
 - April 15 and September 15; and
 - December 15 and January 15.
- ii. Notice of a vote on defederating must be delivered by registered mail to the head office of the Federation not less than six (6) months prior to the vote.
- iii. Notice of the vote must include the exact dates and times of voting.
- iv. In the case of a withdrawal referendum incorporating a mail-out component, the exact date of the referendum shall be the date the ballots are mailed to the individual members; Failure to adhere to the notice provisions in Articles b.i. b.ii. and b.iii. shall invalidate the results of the vote.

c. Campaigning

- i. There shall be no less than two (2) weeks of campaigning immediately preceding the voting during which time classes are in session.

waived, by a two-thirds majority vote of the National Executive.

7. Procedure for Application for Withdrawal

- a. Within 90 days of the receipt of a letter from a member local association notifying the Federation of its withdrawal from the Federation, the National Executive will examine the notification to determine whether it is in order, and will make a recommendation to the voting members of the Federation concerning the application.
- b. At the opening plenary of the next general meeting of the Federation, ratification of the withdrawal shall be put to a vote.
- c. The withdrawal shall take effect on June 30 following the ratification of the withdrawal.

BYLAW II - GENERAL MEETINGS

General Descriptions: There are three types of General Meetings: Annual General Meetings, Semi-Annual General Meetings, and Special General Meetings.

1. Annual General Meetings

- a. The Annual General Meeting of the Federation will be held between September 30 and November 30 of each year.
- b. At the Annual General Meeting, in addition to any other business that may be transacted, the report of the National Executive, the financial statement, and the report of the auditors will be presented; and the auditors for the ensuing year will be appointed; and the elections for the next National Executive will occur.

2. Semi-Annual General Meetings

The Semi-Annual General Meeting of the Federation will be held between April 30 and May 31 of each year.

3. Special General Meetings

- a. The National Executive may call a Special General Meeting of the Federation at any time.
- b. If more than one-half of the voting members of the Federation indicate a desire for an immediate Special General Meeting, the National Executive must immediately call a Special General Meeting for the earliest possible date.

4. Notice of General Meetings

- a. Notice of each General Meeting will be sent to each voting member of the Federation at least nine weeks prior to the date of the meeting.
- b. Each voting member will be asked to indicate its intention to attend or not to attend each General Meeting. If one-half or more of the voting members indicate that they will not attend, the National Executive will cancel the meeting.
- c. The Notice will include all positions that are to be elected at the general meeting.

5. Location of General Meetings

- a. Each general meeting of the Federation will be held in the greater Ottawa/Hull/Nepean area. In extenuating circumstances the National Executive may select an alternative meeting location.
- b. The cost of travel to a general meeting for delegates of each voting member will be equalized, taking into account members ability to pay, by such a system of pooling travel costs as may be determined from time to time by the National Executive.

6. Quorum at General Meetings

A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of voting members shall consist of not less than one-half of the members of the Federation having voting rights at the time in person or by proxy.

7. Procedure at General Meetings

- a. The rules of procedure at general meetings will be those described in the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, supplemented or modified by rules of procedure which may from time to time be established by standing resolutions.
- b. **Voting by Proxy**
A voting member may appoint another member to act as its proxy for all or portions of any national general meeting, subject to the following restrictions:

- i. A voting member that wishes to appoint a proxy must adopt a motion of its executive, council or other equivalent representative body stating the member appointed to serve as its proxy;
- ii. Written notice, that is signed by a representative of the voting member appointing the proxy and includes the text of the motion described in Section b-i, must be delivered to the National Chairperson of the Federation prior to the commencement of the opening plenary of the general meeting; and
- iii. A voting member may serve as proxy for no more than three other members at any national general meeting.

8. Travel Pool

Each member local association having representation in a general meeting will participate in the general meeting travel pool.

9. Authority of the National Plenary

- a. The national plenary is the final and absolute decision-making authority in the organisation. Its authority is only detracted from by explicit constitutional provision.
- b. The national plenary may overturn any National Executive decision, except where such a decision has been implemented and has resulted in a legal contract.

BYLAW III - POLICY OF THE FEDERATION

General Description: Policy positions established in accordance with Sections 1 and 2 of this By-law are the sole official policy positions the Federation can take, and they stand until revoked as per Section 1 (c) of this By-law.

1. Established at General Meetings

- a. Notice of all the substance of a policy proposal must be received by the National Executive at least six (6) weeks before the general meeting at which the proposal is to be introduced so that four weeks notice can be made to voting members by mail. The declaration by the National Executive that due notice has or has not been received will be held to be sufficient proof of such notice or lack thereof.
- b. Policy proposals may be submitted by member local associations, provincial components/caucuses, constituency groups, and the National Executive.
- c. In order to amend or revoke an established Federation policy, procedures regarding notice, distribution, and consideration shall conform with the regulations set out in Section 1 (a) and (b) above.
- d. Policy may be enacted, amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote at a general meeting, provided sufficient notice has been given as per By-law III, Sections 1 (a) and 1(b).

2. Policy Established Between Meetings

- a. Policy may only be established between meetings through a vote by mail of voting members.
- b. If a policy position must be taken by the Federation before it is possible to do so at a general meeting, the National Executive may initiate a vote by mail by sending the motions in question, a ballot, plus any necessary documentation, to each voting member.
- c. Ballots are to be returned to the head office of the Federation when completed.
- d. After a predetermined period specified on the ballots, but in no case less than one month, the National Executive will count the ballots which have been returned and inform the voting members of the result.
- e. The quorum for a vote by mail is at least one-half of the voting members of the Federation.
- f. The voting members of the Federation may, by a two-thirds vote, adopt policy provided that Sections 2 (a) through (e) are met.

3. Policy Manual

- a. All Federation policy statements will be compiled in a policy manual. The manual will be updated after each general meeting.
- b. The updated policy manual will be distributed to member local associations no later than twelve (12) weeks following each national general meeting.

4. Policy Jurisdiction

The Federation recognizes the authority of each provincial component to establish student policy on matters affecting only its province. The Federation will not establish policy which lies only within those areas unless requested by the Provincial Component.

BYLAW IV - STANDING RESOLUTIONS OF THE FEDERATION

1. Standing Resolutions may be enacted, amended or repealed by a two-thirds vote at a general meeting.
2. Standing Resolutions automatically come into force at all subsequent meetings until revoked or amended.
3. All Standing Resolutions will be identified as such and appended to copies of the By-laws of the Federation.

BYLAW V - NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

The affairs of the Federation will be managed by the board of directors, known as the National Executive.

1. Composition

The National Executive will be comprised of:

- a. The following at-large positions elected by the national plenary:
 - i. National Chairperson
 - ii. National Deputy-Chairperson
 - iii. National Treasurer
- b. The following representatives elected by its respective provincial components or caucuses:
 - i. Alberta Representative
 - ii. British Columbia Representative
 - iii. Manitoba Representative
 - iv. New Brunswick Representative
 - v. Newfoundland-Labrador Representative
 - vi. Nova Scotia Representative
 - vii. Ontario Representative
 - viii. Prince Edward Island Representative
 - ix. Quebec Representative
 - x. Saskatchewan Representative
 - xi. Graduate Student Representative
 - xii. Aboriginal Student Representative
 - xiii. Francophone Students Representative
 - xiv. Students of Colour Commissioner
 - xv. Women's Representative

2. Powers and Responsibilities of the National Executive

The National Executive:

- a. shall observe and uphold the objectives of the Federation;
- b. shall be responsible for the execution and implementation of all Federation decisions;
- c. will co-ordinate work of Federation members and of the staff of the Federation, as well as any work undertaken in conjunction with provincial components or with local associations;
- d. is responsible for the management of the office(s) and staff of the Federation;
- e. will prepare the agenda for each national general meeting of the Federation and will distribute the agenda to all member local associations no later than four (4) weeks prior to the start of the national general meeting;
- f. will present a written report to each national general meeting that will include a review of:
 - i. the activities undertaken on its authority since the previous general meeting; and
 - ii. the disposition of all directives given the National Executive by the national plenary of the previous general meeting;
- g. will administer the affairs of the Federation in all things and make or cause to be

- made for the Federation in its name, any kind of contract into which the Federation may lawfully enter, subject to the direction of the national plenary;
- h. will be bound and guided by the policy established by the Federation in all decisions made and positions taken;
 - i. is expressly empowered to purchase, lease, acquire, sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose from time to time, of shares, stocks, rights, warrants, options, and other securities: lands, buildings or other property, moveable or immovable, real or personal; or of any right or interest therein owned by the Federation, for such consideration and upon such terms as the Executive deems advisable;
 - j. may from time to time delegate such of its collective or individual duties and powers, excepting the casting of votes and signing authority, as it deems fit;
 - k. shall comply with the will of the national plenary unless in the opinion of the National Executive:
 - i. significant new facts have been discovered; and
 - ii. the interest of the Federation would be adversely affected by acting in accordance with the national plenary's will.

In the event that the National Executive acts contrary to the will of the national plenary, it will immediately inform the member local associations in writing of its decision and the reasons for the decision, and include the matter on the agenda of the next national general meeting.

3. Duties and Powers of the National Chairperson

The National Chairperson shall:

- a. be a full-time salaried position;
- b. act as chief spokesperson and representative of the Federation; and
- c. perform all duties as described in the National Chairperson job description established as a Standing Resolution.

4. Duties and Powers of the National Deputy Chairperson

The National Deputy Chairperson shall:

- a. be a full-time salaried position;
- b. assume the duties and powers of the National Chairperson in the event that the National Chairperson is unable or unwilling to fulfil her duties and powers;
- c. serve as a signing authority for cheques of the Federation; and
- d. shall perform all duties as described in the Deputy Chairperson job description established as a Standing Resolution.

5. Duties and Powers of the National Treasurer

The National Treasurer shall:

- a. be a full-time salaried position;
- b. disburse the funds of the Federation under the direction of the National Executive and will report at each National Executive and national general meeting on her transactions as National Treasurer and on the financial position of the Federation; and
- c. perform all duties as described in the National Treasurer job description established as a Standing Resolution.

6. Duties and Powers of Provincial Component Representatives

The Provincial Component Representative shall:

- a. be expected to hold a portfolio position as assigned by the National Executive;
- b. communicate the views and perspectives of their respective provincial components at National Executive meetings;
- c. perform all duties as established by a Standing Resolution.

7. Duties and Powers of the Graduate Student Representative

The Graduate Student Representative shall perform all duties as established by Standing Resolution.

8. Duties and Powers of the Aboriginal Student Representative

The Aboriginal Students Representative shall perform all duties as established by Standing Resolution.

9. Duties and Powers of the Francophone Students Representative

The Francophone Students Representative shall perform all duties as established by Standing Resolution.

10. Duties and Powers of the Students of Colour Commissioner

The Students of Colour Commissioner shall perform all duties and have such powers as established by Standing Resolution.

11. Duties and Powers of the Women's Representative

The Women's Representative shall perform all duties and such powers as established by Standing Resolution.

12. Calling of National Executive Meetings

a. The National Executive will meet at least four (4) times between each semi-annual general meeting.

b. Except as otherwise required by law, the National Executive may hold its meetings at such places it may from time to time determine.

c. Notice of meetings of the National Executive must be:

i. received orally or in writing by each member of the National Executive and each member local association not less than seven (7) days prior to the start of the meeting; or

ii. sent for delivery to each member of the National Executive and each member local association not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the meeting.

d. Emergency National Executive Meetings

The National Executive shall have the authority to convene a National Executive meeting by teleconference.

i. teleconference meetings of the Executive may be formally called upon written request by the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson and/or National Treasurer; and

ii. notice of such meeting must be sent orally or in writing to each member of the National Executive not less than three (3) days prior to the start of the meeting and, if notice is provided orally, notice of the meeting shall also be transmitted electronically or via facsimile that same day.

e. No formal notice of a meeting of the National Executive is required provided:

i. all National Executive Members are present; or

ii. those absent have signified their consent to hold a meeting.

f. Meetings of the Executive may be formally called upon written request of quorum by any member of the National Executive.

13. Procedure at National Executive Meetings

a. The Quorum for the transaction of business at meetings of the National Executive will be at least one-half of the members of the National Executive.

b. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings of the National Executive.

14. National Executive Remuneration

a. Any remuneration paid to members of the National Executive shall be determined by the national plenary except as otherwise provided for in this By-law.

b. Should any member of the National Executive be employed by or perform

services for the Federation other than as a member of the National Executive, or be a member of a firm or shareholder, director or officer, of a company that is employed by, or performs services for the Federation, this shall not disentitle such member of the National Executive or such firm, as the case may be, from receiving proper remuneration for such services.

BY-LAW VI - ELECTION OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

1. Eligibility of Nominees for the National Executive

- a. A nominee for the National Executive must have been an individual member of the Federation within the previous six (6) months, or a full-time salaried executive member of the Federation or of a provincial component of the Federation and must simultaneously come from a member local association.
- b. In addition to subsection (a), nominees for National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson, and National Treasurer must be a delegate of a member local association or provincial component, or a member of the National Executive at the general meeting in which the election is being conducted.
- c. In addition to Subsections (a) and (b) but not withstanding Section (d), a nominee for National Chairperson shall be able to comprehend and speak:
 - i. French and English, except where a documented disability prevents learning a second language; or
 - ii. French or English, and a First Nations language, except where a documented disability prevents learning a second language.
- d. In the event that a nominee for National Chairperson fails to demonstrate second language proficiency, as described in the Standing Resolutions, the nominee shall be eligible to stand for election provided that she declares her intention to be able to comprehend and speak a second language by no later than five (5) weeks prior to assuming the position of National Chairperson.

2. Timing of Elections for National Executive Members

a. Timing of Elections of At-Large Members

- i. The election of the National Chairperson shall be conducted at the annual general meeting.
- ii. The election of the National Deputy Chairperson shall be conducted at the annual general meeting.
- iii. The election of the National Treasurer shall be conducted at the Annual General Meeting.

b. Timing of Elections for Provincial Component Representatives

- i. The election of Provincial Component Representatives shall be conducted at such times as set out in the bylaws of the applicable provincial components; or
- ii. In the event that a provincial component does not have a functioning set of bylaws, as determined by the National Executive, the election of the Provincial Component Representative shall be conducted at a meeting of the component member local associations convened by the National Executive at the semi-annual general meeting.

c. Timing of Elections for the Graduate Student Representative

The election for Graduate Student Representative shall be conducted at such times as established by Standing Resolution.

d. Timing of Elections of the Aboriginal Student Representative

The election for the Aboriginal Student Representative shall be conducted at such times as established by Standing Resolution.

e. Timing of Elections of the Students of Colour Commissioner

The election for the Students of Colour Commissioner shall be conducted at such times as established by Standing Resolution.

f. Timing of Election of the Francophone Students Representative

The election for the Francophone Students Representative shall be conducted at such times as established by Standing Resolution.

g. Timing of Elections of the Women's Representative

The election for the Women's Representative shall be conducted at such times as established by Standing Resolution.

3. Procedures for Election of National Executive Members

a. Procedure for the Election of At-Large Members

Elections for National Chairperson, National Deputy-Chairperson and National Treasurer shall be conducted at national general meetings subject to the following rules and procedures:

- i. elections shall be conducted by secret ballot;
- ii. each member local association present at the general meeting will be permitted one (1) vote in each election;
- iii. a nominee must receive a majority of the votes cast in order to be elected;
- iv. elections shall be preceded by a separate Grill Session for each position to be elected to be held in accordance with the following guidelines:
 - each candidate will be allowed a minimum of ten minutes in which to speak to the entire assembly;
 - after each candidate has been given the opportunity to speak, the assembly shall be given the opportunity to ask questions of any candidate or candidates for a time period not less than thirty minutes in duration.

b. Procedure for the Election of Provincial Component Representatives

- i. The procedure for the election of Provincial Component Representatives shall be as set out in the Bylaws of the applicable provincial components; or
- ii. In the event that a provincial component does not have a functioning set of bylaws, as determined by the National Executive, the procedure for election of the Provincial Component Representative shall be determined by the National Executive, notwithstanding that the election will be conducted by secret ballot and a nominee must receive a majority of the votes cast in order to be elected.

c. Procedure for the Election for the Graduate Student Representative

The election for the Graduate Student Representative shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

d. Procedure for the Election for the Aboriginal Student Representative

The election for the Aboriginal Student Representative shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

e. Procedure for the Election for the Students of Colour Commissioner

The election for the Students of Colour Commissioner shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

f. Procedure for the Election of the Francophone Students Representative

The election for the Francophone Students Representative shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

g. Procedure for the Election of the Women's Representative

The election for the Women's Representative shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

4. Term of Office for National Executive Members

a. Term of Office for At-Large Members

The term of office of the National Chairperson, National Deputy Chairperson and National Treasurer shall commence at the end of the closing plenary of the semi-annual general meeting immediately following the annual general meeting at which they were elected and shall expire at the end of the closing plenary of the following semi-annual general meeting.

b. Term of Office for the Provincial Component Representatives

- i. Provincial Component Representatives shall hold office for a term as set out in the Bylaws of the applicable provincial components; or
- ii. In the event that a provincial component does not have a functioning set of bylaws, as determined by the National Executive, the Provincial Component Representative shall hold office from the adjournment of the semi-annual general meeting at which the Representative is elected until the adjournment of the following semi-annual general meeting.

c. Term of Office for the Graduate Student Representative

The Graduate Student representative shall hold office for a term as established by Standing Resolution.

d. Term of Office for the Aboriginal Student Representative

The Aboriginal Student Representative shall hold office for a term as established by Standing Resolution.

e. Term of Office for the Students of Colour Commissioner

The Term of Office for the Students of Colour Commissioner shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

f. Term of Office for the Francophone Students' Representative

The Term of Office for the Francophone Students' Representative shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

g. Term of Office for the Women's Representative

The Term of Office for the Women's Representative shall be as established by Standing Resolution.

5. Removal from Office of National Executive Members

a. Removal of At-Large Members

The National Chairperson, National Deputy-Chairperson and National Treasurer may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote at a national general meeting or by mail-out vote.

b. Removal of Provincial Component Representatives

- i. Provincial Component representatives may be removed from office as set out in the Bylaws of the applicable provincial components; or
- ii. In the event that a provincial component does not have a functioning set of bylaws, as determined by the National Executive, the Provincial Component Representative may be removed from office by a two-thirds vote:
 - at a meeting of the component member local associations convened by the National Executive at a national general meeting;
 - at a meeting of the component member local associations convened by the National Executive outside of an national general meeting; or
 - by a vote-by-mail conducted by the National Executive;
 - following receipt by the National Executive of a petition signed by not less than one-half of the member local associations, belonging to the component, requesting such a vote.

c. Removal of Graduate Student Representative

The Graduate Student Representative may be removed from office as established by Standing Resolution.

d. Removal of Aboriginal Student Representative

The Aboriginal student representative may be removed from office as established by Standing Resolution.

e. Removal of the Students of Colour Commissioner

The Students of Colour Commissioner may be removed from office as established by Standing Resolution.

f. Removal of the Francophone Students Representative

The Francophone Students Representative may be removed from office as established by Standing Resolution.

g. Removal of the Women's Representative

The Women's Representative may be removed from office as established by Standing Resolution.

h. Initiation of Removal from Office Proceedings

Removal from Office Proceedings against an at-large member of the National Executive may be initiated by:

- i. a two-thirds vote of the National Executive; or
- ii. a petition signed by no less than three member local associations presented to the National Executive.

i. Removal of National Chair for Failure to Achieve Second Language Proficiency

In the event that a member elected to the position of National Chairperson fails to achieve second language proficiency, as described in the Standing Resolutions, by no later than five (5) weeks prior to the general meeting at which the member is to assume the position of National Chairperson, the position will be declared vacant.

j. Attendance at National Executive Meetings

A member of the National Executive who, without authorisation of the National Executive, is absent from two (2) consecutive, regularly-scheduled meetings of the National Executive shall be deemed to have resigned her position on the National Executive.

6. Replacement of National Executive Members

a. Vacancy in an at-large National Executive Position

In the event of a vacancy in the position of National Chairperson, National Deputy-Chairperson, or National Treasurer:

- i. the National Executive shall have the authority to appoint a member of the National Executive to fill the position, until the next national general meeting; and
- ii. an election for the position shall be conducted at the next national general meeting as per the election procedures set out in the By-laws.

b. Vacancy in the Position of Provincial Component Representatives

- i. The procedure for filling a vacancy in a position of Provincial Component Representative shall be as set out in the Bylaws of the applicable provincial component; or
- ii. In the event that a provincial component does not have a functioning set of bylaws, as determined by the National Executive, the procedure for filling a vacancy in the position of Provincial Component Representative shall be determined by the National Executive, notwithstanding that the vote will be conducted by secret ballot, a nominee must receive a majority of the votes

cast in order to be elected and that the vote shall be conducted:

- at a meeting of the component member local associations convened by the National Executive at a national general meeting;
- at a meeting of the component member local associations convened by the National Executive outside of an national general meeting; or
- by a vote-by-mail conducted by the National Executive.

c. Vacancy in the Position of Graduate Student Representative

A vacancy in a position of Graduate Student Representative shall be filled in a manner as established by Standing Resolution.

d. Vacancy in the Position of Aboriginal Student Representative

A vacancy in a position of Aboriginal Student representative shall be filled in a manner as established by Standing Resolution.

e. Vacancy in the Position of Students of Colour Commissioner

A vacancy in the position of Students of Colour Commissioner shall be filled in a manner as established by Standing Resolution.

f. Vacancy in the Position of Francophone Students Representative

A vacancy in the position of Francophone Students Representative shall be filled in a manner as established by Standing Resolution.

g. Vacancy in the Position of Women's Representative

A vacancy in the position of Women's Representative shall be filled in a manner as established by Standing Resolution.

7. Appointment of a Chief Returning Officer

The National Executive will appoint one member of the staff of the Federation to act as Chief Returning Officer for any National Executive election conducted at a national general meeting.

8. Notice of Elections for National Executive Positions

- a. Information to be posted to member locals that includes, but is not limited to:
- i. rate of remuneration
 - ii. outline of duties and responsibilities
 - iii. outline travel obligations and/or necessary relocation.

9. Announcement of Election Results

Following the tabulation of votes for at-large positions, the Chief Returning Officers will announce to the plenary:

- a. the nominees elected;
- b. the process for additional balloting in the event that no nominees for a particular position receives a majority of the votes cast; and
- c. the vote count for each candidate if directed to do so by a two-thirds majority vote of the plenary.

BYLAW VII - PROVINCIAL COMPONENTS

1. General Description

A provincial component shall be comprised of all member local associations within a particular province.

2. Current Provincial Components

The current provincial components of the Federation are:

- a. Canadian Federation of Students - Alberta Component
- b. Canadian Federation of Students - British Columbia Component
- c. Canadian Federation of Students - Manitoba Component
- d. Canadian Federation of Students - New Brunswick Component
- e. Canadian Federation of Students - Newfoundland and Labrador Component
- f. Canadian Federation of Students - Nova Scotia Component
- g. Canadian Federation of Students - Ontario Component
- h. Canadian Federation of Students - Prince Edward Island Component
- i. Canadian Federation of Students - Quebec Component
- j. Canadian Federation of Students - Saskatchewan Component

3. Funding of Provincial Components

A provincial component shall have the right to automatically receive a minimum level of funding established by a standing resolution.

4. Rights of Provincial Components

a. Appointment of Representatives to General Meeting Committees

A provincial component shall have the right to appoint representatives to committees at all Federation national general meetings.

b. Establishment of Committees

A provincial component may establish steering committees or other standing committees.

c. Policy

A provincial component may establish policy in its own name provided the policy does not contradict policy of the Federation.

5. Automatic Membership in a Provincial Component

A member local association automatically belongs to the particular provincial component corresponding to the province in which said member is located.

6. Voting in Provincial Component Meetings

Each member local association belonging to a Federation provincial component shall have one vote in meetings of the provincial component at national general meetings.

7. Designating of Provincial Components

Upon the request of the member local associations located within a particular province, the member local associations within that province shall comprise a provincial component, subject to a ratification vote by the national plenary and provided that the provincial component includes in its Constitution the national preamble and statement of purpose.

BYLAW VIII - CONSTITUENCY GROUPS

1. General Description

A constituency group shall be comprised of individual delegates attending Federation national general meetings who share a common characteristic as recognized by the national plenary, except as provided for by the relevant Standing Resolutions.

2. Establishment of Constituency Group

A constituency group may be established subject to the following procedure:

- a. a group of delegates, wishing to be established as a constituency group, shall apply in writing to the national plenary for recognition;
- b. upon receipt of an application by a prospective constituency group, the National Plenary shall strike a review committee, comprised of at least one representative of the proposed constituency group and such other persons as selected by the national plenary, to review and make a recommendation concerning the application
- c. in the event that the review committee recommends the establishment of the constituency group, its report to the national plenary must consist of a draft standing resolution outlining the goals, membership and general constitutional provisions of the constituency group
- d. a constituency group must, as a stated goal, support the statement of purpose of the Federation.

3. Current Constituency Groups

The current Constituency Groups are:

- Student Artists Constituency Group
- Students of Colour Constituency Group
- Students with Disabilities Constituency Group
- Francophone Students Constituency Group
- International Students Constituency Group
- Transgendered, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Students Constituency Group
- Part Time and Mature Students Constituency Group
- Women's Constituency Group

4. Constituency Groups Rights

a. Funding

A constituency group shall have the right automatically to receive a minimum level of funding established by a Standing Resolution.

b. Appointment of representatives to General Meeting Committees

A constituency group shall have the right to appoint representatives to committees at all General Meetings.

c. Establishment of Committees

A constituency group may establish steering committees or other standing committees.

d. Policy

A constituency group may establish policy in its own name provided the policy does not contradict policy of the Federation.

5. Meetings of Constituency Group

Meetings of constituency group shall be held during Federation general meetings.

6. Voting in Constituency Group Meetings

Each delegate belonging to a Federation constituency group shall have one vote in meetings of the constituency group, except where provided for by the relevant Standing Resolutions.

7. Reporting Structure

- a. Commissioners shall make reports to their respective constituency groups when requested by the constituency group. The reports shall be made available to the membership.
- b. National Executive Representatives and Commissioners with a vote on the National Executive must be ratified by plenary.
- c. Constituency groups are not otherwise obligated to report to plenary.

BYLAW IX - CAUCUSES

1. General Description

A caucus shall be comprised of Federation member local associations with a common interest or concern.

2. Establishment of Caucuses

A caucus may be established subject to the following procedure:

- a. a group of member local associations, wishing to be established as a caucus, shall apply in writing to the national plenary for recognition;
- b. upon receipt of an application by a prospective caucus, the national plenary shall strike a review committee comprised of at least one representative of the proposed caucus and such other persons as selected by the national plenary, to review and make a recommendation concerning the application;
- c. in the event that the review committee recommends the establishment of a caucus, its report to the national plenary must consist of a draft standing resolution outlining the goals, membership and general constitutional provisions of the caucus;
- d. a caucus must, as a stated goal, support the Statement of the Purpose of the Federation.

3. Designated Caucuses

The designated caucuses of the Federation are:

- National Aboriginal Caucus
- Caucus of College and Institute Associations
- Caucus of Large Institute Associations
- Caucus of Small University Associations
- National Graduate Caucus

4. Caucuses Rights

a. Appointment of Representatives to General Meeting Committees

A caucus shall have the right to appoint representatives to committees at all Federation national general meetings.

b. Establishment of Committees

A caucus may establish steering committees or other standing committees.

c. Policy

A caucus may establish policy in its own name provided the policy does not contradict policy of the Federation.

5. Scheduling of Meetings

Meetings of caucuses shall be held during Federation general meetings.

6. Voting in Caucus Meetings

Each member local association belonging to a Federation caucus shall have one vote in meetings of the caucus, except as provided for by the relevant Standing Resolutions.

BYLAW X - FINANCES

1. Financial Year

The Fiscal year of the Federation will end on June 30th.

2. Cheques

- a. All cheques, bills of exchange, or other notes for the payment of money issued in the name of the Federation must be signed by the Chairperson, the Treasurer and/or such officers or agents of the Federation and in such manner as will from time to time be determined by the National Executive.
- b. The Treasurer or any such officer or agent may alone endorse notes, drafts for collection by, or deposit with the financial institutions which hold the accounts of the Federation and may alone arrange, settle, balance, and certify all accounts with those institutions.

3. Borrowing

The National Executive shall be empowered to:

- a. borrow money on the credit of the Federation;
- b. limit or increase the amount to be borrowed;
- c. issue or sell debentures or other securities of the Federation and set the sums and prices thereof;
- d. secure each securities, or any other legal liability of the Federation, by mortgages or pledge of any or all present or future property, undertaking, or rights of the Federation; and
- e. delegate to any of the officers or members of the Executive any of the powers conferred by the previous clauses of this Section (By-law XI, Section 3) and set the extent or terms of such delegation.

4. Auditors

The voting members shall appoint auditors of the Federation at each semi-annual general meeting of members, to audit the books of the Federation until the next semi-annual general meeting, provided the directors may fill a vacancy in the post of auditor if one arises. The remuneration of the auditor may be fixed by the National Executive.

BYLAW XI - OFFICERS

1. For official purposes, the Officers of the Federation will be the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, the Treasurer and such other persons as the National Executive may from time to time determine.
2. The remuneration and conditions of employment of all officers will be settled from time to time by the National Executive subject to confirmation of remuneration by the voting members at the next general meeting of the Federation.

BYLAW XII - SEAL, DOCUMENTS, AND RECORDS

1. Custodian of the Seal and Records

The National Executive will appoint one member of the staff of the Federation to be the custodian of the seal of the Federation and of all books, papers, records, correspondence, contracts and other documents belonging to the Federation.

2. Execution of Documents

- a. Deeds, transfers, licenses, contracts, and engagements on behalf of the Federation will be signed by two Officers of the Federation and, where required, have the seal of the Federation affixed.
- b. The Treasurer or any other person appointed by the National Executive for that purpose may transfer or accept the transfer of any and all shares, bonds, or other securities in the name of the Federation; may affix the seal and deliver under the seal of the Federation all documents necessary for such purposes, including the appointment of attorneys.
- c. Notwithstanding any other provision of these By-laws, the National Executive may at any time direct the manner in which any contract, obligation, or instrument of the Federation is executed.

3. Books and Records

The National Executive is responsible for ensuring that all books and records required by law or by these By-laws are regularly kept and properly kept.

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BYLAW XIII - HEAD OFFICE

The head office of the Federation will be in the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario, and at such locations as may be determined from time to time by the National Executive.

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BYLAW XIV - OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The official languages of the Federation shall be French, English, and Aboriginal Languages.
The working languages of the Federation shall be French and English.

BYLAW XV - AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

1. Procedure for Amendment

The Constitution and By-laws of the Federation may only be repealed or amended by the vote of at least two-thirds of the voting members present at a general meeting.

2. Notice

Notice of the substance of an amendment to this Constitution and Bylaws must be received by the National Executive at least six weeks before the general meeting at which it is to be considered. The National Executive shall mail notice of all proposed amendments to the voting members not less than four weeks before the general meeting at which they are to be considered. All said proposed amendments shall be made available simultaneously in both working languages of the Federation. The declaration of the National Executive that due notice has or has not been served will be held to be necessary proof of notice or of the lack thereof, unless evidence to the contrary is presented.

3. Amendment of Preamble

It is understood that the Preamble is a fundamental document and should not be amended except after extensive consultation amongst the Provincial Components and member local associations of the Federation.

4. Implementation of Constitution and By-law Amendments

The repeal or amendment of this Constitution and By-laws will not be enforced or acted upon until the approval of the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has been obtained.

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BYLAW XVI - WINDING UP

Upon the winding up of the Federation, all assets of the Federation will be left to another non-profit organisation promoting the interests of students in Canada at a national level, which has policies, aims and goals congruent with those of the Federation.

BYLAW XVII - INTERPRETATION

1. Number and Gender of Words

Unless the context requires otherwise, all pronouns and possessive adjectives used in these By-laws refer to persons of either gender, and all singular or plural meanings.

COUR SUPÉRIEURE
PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC
DISTRICT DE MONTRÉAL

No : 500-17-038173-079

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF STUDENTS, QUÉBEC
COMPONENT,

Demanderesse

c.

NINA AMROV ET AL,

Défendeurs

et

MALAMO BEAUMONT-SAVVAS ET AL,

Mis en cause

No : 500-17-038176-072

FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE DES ÉTUDIANTES ET DES
ÉTUDIANTS, ÉLÉMENT DU QUÉBEC ET AL,

Demandeurs

c.

GEORGES SOULE ET AL,

Défendeurs

PIÈCE D-11

COPIE POUR :

LA COUR

Me WILLIAM DE MERCHANT (OAU-4113)

OUELLET, NADON & ASSOCIÉES

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