



CASA Bylaws & Operating Procedures

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Bylaws

CANADIAN ALLIANCE OF STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS (CASA)
ALLIANCE CANADIENNE DES ASSOCIATIONS ÉTUDIANTES (ACAE)

(the “Corporation”)

BY-LAW NO. 2

Pursuant to the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* (S.C. 2009, c.23), this By-law No. 2, being a by-law relating generally to the conduct of the affairs of the Corporation, replaces By-law No. 1 of the Corporation under the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*.

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SECTION 1 – GENERAL

1.01 Definitions

In this by-law and all other by-laws of the Corporation, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "Act" means the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* S.C. 2009, c.23 including the Regulations made pursuant to the Act, and any statute or regulations that may be substituted, as amended from time to time;
- (b) "articles" means the original or restated articles of incorporation or articles of amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganization, arrangement or revival of the Corporation;
- (c) "board" means the board of directors of the Corporation and "director" means a member of the board;
- (d) "by-law" means this by-law and any other by-laws of the Corporation as amended and which are, from time to time, in force and effect;
- (e) "meeting of members" includes an annual meeting of members or a special meeting of members;
- (f) "ordinary resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast on that resolution;
- (g) "Regulations" means the regulations made under the Act, as amended, restated or in effect from time to time; and
- (h) "special resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the votes cast

on that resolution with such two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes representing at least 50% of full time equivalent students represented by the members.

1.02 Interpretation

In the interpretation of this by-law, words in the singular include the plural and vice-versa, words in one gender include all genders, and "person" includes an individual, body corporate, partnership, trust and unincorporated organization. Other than as specified in section 1.01 above, words and expressions defined in the Act have the same meanings when used in these by-laws.

1.03 Corporate Seal

The Corporation may have a corporate seal in the form approved from time to time by the board. If a corporate seal is approved by the board, the secretary of the Corporation shall be the custodian of the corporate seal.

1.04 Execution of Documents

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the Corporation must be signed by any two (2) of its officers or directors, subject to the following: the board may from time to time direct the manner in which and the person or persons by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed. Any person authorized to sign any document may affix the corporate seal (if any) to the document. Any signing officer may certify a copy of any instrument, resolution, by-law or other document of the Corporation to be a true copy thereof.

1.05 Financial Year End

The financial year end of the Corporation shall be determined by the board.

1.06 Banking Arrangements

The banking business of the Corporation shall be transacted at such bank, trust company or other firm or corporation carrying on a banking business in Canada or elsewhere as the board may designate, appoint or authorize from time to time by resolution. The banking business or any part of it shall be transacted by an officer or officers of the Corporation and/or other persons as the board may by resolution from time to time designate, direct or authorize.

1.07 Annual Financial Statements

The Corporation shall provide to members, access to the annual financial statements and other documents referred to in subsection 172(1) (Annual Financial Statements) of the Act or a copy of a publication of the Corporation reproducing the information contained in the documents. Instead of sending the documents, the Corporation may send a summary to each member along with a notice informing the member of the procedure for obtaining a copy of the documents themselves free of charge. The Corporation is not required to send the documents or a summary to a member who, in writing, declines to receive such documents.

1.08 Borrowing Powers

The directors of the Corporation may, without authorization of the members,

- (a) borrow money on the credit of the Corporation;

- (b) issue, reissue, sell, or pledge debt obligations of the Corporation;
- (c) give a guarantee on behalf of the Corporation to secure performance of an obligation of any person; and
- (d) mortgage, pledge or otherwise create a security interest in all or any property of the Corporation, owned or subsequently acquired, to secure any debt obligation of the Corporation.

SECTION 2 – MEMBERSHIP

2.01 Membership Conditions

Subject to the articles, there shall be one class of members in the Corporation. Membership in the Corporation shall be available to not-for-profit corporations that:

- (a) represent post-secondary student bodies;
- (b) are interested in furthering the Corporation's purposes;
- (c) have applied for and been accepted into membership in the Corporation by resolution of the board and confirmed by ordinary resolution of the existing members of the Corporation; and
- (d) have entered into a membership agreement with the Corporation.

Each member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at all meetings of the members of the Corporation.

2.02 Observer Status Conditions

Observer status in the Corporation shall be available to not-for-profit corporations that:

- (a) represent post-secondary student bodies;
- (b) are interested in furthering the Corporation's purposes; and
- (c) have applied for and been granted observer status in the Corporation by resolution of the Board.

Each observer shall be entitled to receive notice of and attend all meetings of the members of the Corporation, but shall not be entitled to vote.

2.03 Notice of Members' Meeting

Notice of the time and place of a meeting of members shall be given to each member entitled to vote at the meeting by the following means:

- (a) by electronic or other communication facility to each member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 21 to 35 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.

Information packages and attachments shall be given no less than 7 days before the meeting or the start of the conference, whichever is first.

2.04 Absentee Voting at Members' Meetings

2.04.1 Voting by Mailed-In or Electronic Ballot

Pursuant to section 171(1) (Absentee Voting) of the Act, a member entitled to vote at a meeting of members may vote by mailed-in ballot or by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility if the Corporation has a system that:

- (a) enables the votes to be gathered in a manner that permits their subsequent verification, and
- (b) permits the tallied votes to be presented to the Corporation without it being possible for the Corporation to identify how each member voted.

2.04.2 Voting by Proxy

- a. Pursuant to Section 171(1) of the Act, a member entitled to vote at a meeting of members may vote by proxy by appointing in writing a proxyholder, and one or more alternate proxyholders, to attend and act at the meeting in the manner and to the extent authorized by the proxy and with the authority conferred by it subject to the requirements for proxies set out in the Act.
- b. Any notice to members of the time and place of a meeting of members shall either enclose a form of proxy or contain a reminder of the right to appoint a proxyholder.

SECTION 3 – MEMBERSHIP DUES AND TERMINATION

3.01 Membership Dues

Members shall be notified in writing of the membership dues at any time payable by them. If any such membership dues are not paid within the time provided in the notice of the membership renewal date, the names of the members in default shall be provided to the board who may send a further notice to the members. If the members do not then

pay within the time provided in the further notice, the members in default will cease to be members of the Corporation.

3.02 Termination of Membership

A membership in the Corporation is terminated when:

- (a) the member corporation is dissolved;
- (b) the member is removed from membership in accordance with section 3.03 below;
- (c) the Corporation is liquidated and dissolved under the Act;
- (d) the member withdraws in accordance with section 3.04 below; or
- (e) the member's membership is otherwise terminated in accordance with the articles or by-laws.

Subject to the articles, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the member automatically cease to exist.

3.03 Removal from Membership

Any member of the Corporation may be removed from membership for any one or more of the grounds described below by an ordinary resolution of the board and confirmed by the members by a majority of not less than 75% of the votes cast on that resolution at a meeting of members duly called for that purpose. For greater certainty, the member's removal from membership shall only be effective on the confirmation of the members at a special meeting of members as described herein.

The grounds for removal are:

- (a) violating any provision of the articles, by-laws, or written policies of the Corporation;
- (b) carrying out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Corporation as determined by the board in its sole discretion; or
- (c) for any other reason that the board in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the purpose of the Corporation.

In the event that the board determines that a member should be removed from membership in the Corporation, the chair of the board, or such other officer as may be designated by the board, shall provide twenty (20) days written notice of the proposed removal of the member from membership to the member and shall provide written reasons for the proposed removal. The member may make written submissions to the chair of the board, or such other officer as may be designated by the board, in response to the notice received within such twenty (20) day period.

In the event that no written submissions are received by the chair of the board, the board may proceed to call a special meeting of members for the purpose of considering and confirming the board's resolution to remove the member from membership in the Corporation.

If written submissions are received in accordance with this section, the board will consider such submissions and make a decision within twenty (20) days from the date of receipt of the written submissions from the member. If the board decides not to remove the member from membership in the Corporation, the chair of the board shall, within seven (7) days from the date of the board's decision, notify the member in writing of its decision. If it is decided by the board that the member should be removed from membership in the Corporation, the board shall call a special meeting of members for the purpose of considering and confirming the board's resolution to remove the member from

membership in the Corporation. The member who is the subject of the proposed removal shall have the right to receive notice of and attend the meeting of members, and shall be given the opportunity to make an oral statement at the meeting, but shall not have the right to vote on the resolution to remove the member from membership.

Within seven (7) days from the date of the special meeting of members, the chair of the board shall notify the member in writing concerning the final decision made at the special meeting of members. The decision of the members at the special meeting of members shall be final and binding on the member, without any further right of appeal.

3.04 Withdrawal from Membership

Where a member intends to withdraw from the Corporation, the member must provide written notice no less than thirty (30) days and no more than ninety (90) days before the date of the member organization's official decision.

Termination of membership shall take effect ninety (90) days after the Corporation receives a certified resolution of the member confirming its intention to withdraw from membership or upon such later date within the Corporation's membership year as designated by the member.

Any and all membership dues then outstanding for the membership year in which the withdrawal from membership takes effect shall be due and owing to the Corporation on the date the member's termination of membership takes effect.

SECTION 4 – MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

4.01 Place of Members' Meeting

Subject to compliance with section 159 (Place of Members' Meetings) of the Act, meetings of the members may be held at any place within Canada or elsewhere as the board may determine.

4.02 Persons Entitled to be Present

The only persons entitled to be present at a meeting of members shall be those entitled to vote at the meeting, the directors and the public accountant of the Corporation, those with observer status and such other persons who are entitled or required under any provision of the Act, articles or by-laws of the Corporation to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only on the invitation of the chair of the meeting or by resolution of the members.

4.03 Chair of the Meeting

The board may designate an individual to chair any meeting of the members. If such person is absent, the members who are present and entitled to vote at the meeting shall appoint an individual to chair the meeting.

4.04 Quorum

A quorum at any meeting of the members (unless a greater number of members are required to be present by the Act) shall be two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the members entitled to vote at the meeting with such two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of members representing at least 50% of full time equivalent students. If a quorum is present at the opening of a meeting of members, the members present may proceed with the business of the meeting even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting.

4.05 Votes to Govern

At any meeting of members every question shall, unless otherwise provided by the articles or by-laws or by the Act, be determined by a majority of the votes cast on the questions. The chair of the meeting shall not exercise a vote except in the case of an equality of votes either on a show of hands or on a ballot or on the results of electronic voting.

SECTION 5 – DIRECTORS

5.01 Directors' Powers

The directors may exercise all such powers and do all such acts or things as may be exercised or done by the Corporation that are not by the Act, articles or by-laws expressly directed or required to be done in some other manner. Subject to the Act, articles and by-laws the board shall manage or supervise the management of the activities and affairs of the Corporation.

5.02 Number of Directors

The board shall consist of the number of directors specified in the articles. If the articles provide for a minimum and maximum number of directors, the board shall be comprised of the fixed number of directors as determined from time to time by the members by ordinary resolution or, if the ordinary resolution empowers the directors to determine the number, by resolution of the board. In the case of a soliciting corporation the minimum number of directors may not be fewer than three (3), at least two of whom are not officers or employees of the Corporation or its affiliates.

5.03 Election and Term

Subject to the articles, an election of directors will be held on an annual basis at a special meeting of members duly called for that purpose.

The special meeting of members for an election of directors shall precede the annual meeting of members. If no such special meeting of members is held, the election of directors shall take place at the annual meeting of members. If an election of directors is not held at the proper time, the incumbent directors shall continue in office until their successors are elected.

5.04 Removal of Directors

Subject to the Act, the members may by ordinary resolution passed at an annual or special meeting of members remove any director from office, and the vacancy created by such removal may be filled at the same meeting by the members, failing which it may be filled by the board.

5.05 Vacancy in Office of Director

The office of a director shall be automatically vacated if:

- (a) the director dies;
- (b) the director delivers a written notice of resignation to the Corporation;
- (c) the director ceases to be qualified for election as a director;
or
- (d) the director is removed from office by the members in accordance with section 5.04.

SECTION 6 – MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

6.01 Calling of Meetings

Meetings of the board may be called by the chair of the board or any two (2) directors at any time.

6.02 Notice of Meeting

Notice of the time and place for the holding of a meeting of the board shall be given in the manner provided in Section 9.01 (Method of Giving Notices) of this by-law to every director of the Corporation not less than forty-eight (48) hours before the time when the meeting is to be held, if delivered or sent other than by mail. Notice by mail shall be sent at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. Notice of a meeting shall not be necessary if all of the directors are present, and none objects to the holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice of or have otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting. Notice of an adjourned meeting is not required if the time and place of the adjourned meeting is announced at the original meeting. Unless the by-law otherwise provides, no notice of meeting need specify the purpose or the business to be transacted at the meeting except that a notice of meeting of directors shall specify any matter referred to in subsection 138(2) (Limits on Authority) of the Act that is to be dealt with at the meeting.

6.03 Regular Meetings

The board may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings of the board at a place and hour to be named. A copy of any resolution of the board fixing the place and time of such regular meetings of the board shall be sent to each director forthwith after being passed, but no other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting except if subsection 136(3) (Notice of Meeting) of the Act requires the purpose thereof or the business to be transacted to be specified in the notice.

6.04 Quorum

A majority of two-thirds (2/3) of directors in office, from time to time, shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the board.

6.05 Votes to Govern

At all meetings of the board, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast on the question. The chair of the meeting shall not exercise a vote except in the case of an equality of votes either on a show of hands or on a ballot or on the results of electronic voting.

SECTION 7 – OFFICERS

7.01 Appointment

The board may designate the offices of the Corporation, appoint officers on an annual or more frequent basis, specify their duties and, subject to the Act, delegate to such officers the power to manage the affairs of the Corporation. A director may be appointed to any office of the Corporation. An officer may, but need not be, a director unless these by-laws otherwise provide. Two or more offices may be held by the same person.

7.02 Description of Offices

Unless otherwise specified by the board (which may, subject to the Act modify, restrict or supplement such duties and powers), the offices of the Corporation, if designated and if officers are appointed, shall have the following duties and powers associated with their positions:

- (a) Chair of the Board – The chair of the board, if one is to be appointed, shall be a director. The chair of the board, if any, shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the board

and of the members. The chair shall have such other duties and powers as the board may specify.

- (b) Executive Director – If appointed, the Executive Director shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall be responsible for implementing the strategic plans and policies of the Corporation. The Executive Director shall, subject to the authority of the board, have general supervision of the affairs of the Corporation.
- (c) Secretary – If appointed, the secretary shall attend and be the secretary of all meetings of the board, members and committees of the board. The secretary shall enter or cause to be entered in the Corporation's minute book, minutes of all proceedings at such meetings; the secretary shall give, or cause to be given, as and when instructed, notices to members, directors, the public accountant and members of committees; the secretary, or such other officer or employee as designated by the secretary, shall be the custodian of all books, papers, records, documents and other instruments belonging to the Corporation.
- (d) Treasurer – If appointed, the treasurer shall keep, or cause to be kept, proper accounting records as required by the Act. The treasurer shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, all monies received by the Corporation in the Corporation's bank account; the treasurer shall, under the direction of the board, supervise the safekeeping of securities and the disbursement of the funds of the Corporation; the treasurer shall render to the board, whenever required, an account of all his or her transactions as treasurer and of the financial position of the Corporation; and the treasurer shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be prescribed by the board.

The powers and duties of all other officers of the Corporation shall be such as the terms of their engagement call for or the board requires of them. The board may from time to time and subject to the Act, vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any officer. In the event that any of the officers above are not appointed, to the extent that such officers have any responsibilities pursuant to any other provisions of this by-law, the board may assign those responsibilities to another officer or employee of the Corporation.

7.03 Vacancy in Office

In the absence of a written agreement to the contrary, the board may remove, whether for cause or without cause, any officer of the Corporation. Unless so removed, an officer shall hold office until the earlier of:

- (a) the officer's successor being appointed,
- (b) the officer's resignation,
- (c) such officer ceasing to be a director (if a necessary qualification of appointment) or
- (d) such officer's death.

If the office of any officer of the Corporation shall be or become vacant, the directors may, by resolution, appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

SECTION 8 – COMMITTEES

8.01 Committees

The board may from time to time establish any committee or other advisory body, as it deems necessary or appropriate for such purposes

and, subject to the Act, with such powers as the board shall see fit, or terminate any committee or other advisory body, as it deems necessary or appropriate. The size, composition, structure and election process for members of any such committee shall be established by the board. Any such committee shall operate within the rules and directions as the board may from time to time make. Any committee member may be removed by resolution of the board.

SECTION 9 – NOTICES

9.01 Method of Giving Notices

Any notice (which term includes any communication or document), other than notice of a meeting of members, to be given (which term includes sent, delivered or served) pursuant to the Act, the articles, the by-laws or otherwise to a member, director, officer or member of a committee of the board or to the public accountant shall be sufficiently given:

- (a) if delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person's address as shown in the records of the Corporation or, in the case of notice to a director, if delivered to the director's latest address as shown in the records of the Corporation or in the last notice that was sent by the Corporation in accordance with section 128 (Notice of directors) or 134 (Notice of change of directors) and received by the Director appointed by the federal Minister of Industry under the Act to administer the Act;
- (b) if mailed by prepaid ordinary or air mail to such person at such person's recorded address, or in the case of notice to a director to the latest address as shown in the records of

the Corporation or in the last notice that was sent by the Corporation in accordance with section 128 (Notice of directors) or 134 (Notice of change of directors) and received by the Director appointed by the federal Minister of Industry under the Act to administer the Act;

- (c) if sent to such person by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's recorded address for that purpose; or
- (d) if provided in the form of an electronic document in accordance with Part 17 of the Act.

A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the recorded address as aforesaid; a notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box; and a notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch. The secretary may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any member, director, officer, public accountant or member of a committee of the board in accordance with any information believed by the secretary to be reliable. The declaration by the secretary that notice has been given pursuant to this by-law shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The signature of any director or officer of the Corporation to any notice or other document to be given by the Corporation may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

9.02 Omissions and Errors

The accidental omission to give any notice to any member, director, officer, member of a committee of the board or public accountant, or the non-receipt of any notice by any such person where the

Corporation has provided notice in accordance with the by-law or any error in any notice not affecting its substance shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting to which the notice pertained or otherwise founded on such notice.

SECTION 10 – ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

10.01 Participation by Electronic Means

If the Corporation makes available a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during a member or director meeting, any person entitled to attend such meeting may participate in the meeting by means of such telephonic, electronic or other communication facility in the manner provided by the Act.

A person participating in a meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting. Notwithstanding any other provision of this by-law, any person participating in a meeting pursuant to this section who is entitled to vote at that meeting may vote, in accordance with the Act, by means of any telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that the Corporation has made available for that purpose.

10.02 Meeting Held Entirely by Electronic Means

If the directors or members of the Corporation call a meeting pursuant to the Act, those directors or members, as the case may be, may determine that the meeting shall be held, in accordance with the Act and the Regulations, entirely by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.

SECTION 11 – INDEMNITIES TO DIRECTORS AND OTHERS

11.01 Indemnification

Subject to the Act, the Corporation shall indemnify a director or officer, a former director or officer, or a person who acts or acted at the Corporation's request as a director or an officer or in a similar capacity of another entity, against all costs, charges and expenses, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, reasonably incurred by the individual in respect of any civil, criminal, administrative, investigative or other proceeding in which the individual is involved because of that association with the Corporation or other entity, if such individual (a) acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Corporation or, as the case may be, to the best interests of the other entity for which the individual acted as director or officer or in a similar capacity at the Corporation's request; and (b) in the case of a criminal or administrative action or proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, had reasonable grounds for believing that such conduct was lawful. The Corporation shall also indemnify such person in such other circumstances as the Act or law permits or requires. Nothing in this by-law shall limit the right of any person entitled to indemnity to claim indemnity apart from the provisions of this by-law.

SECTION 12 – DISPUTE RESOLUTION

12.01 Dispute Resolution Mechanism

If a dispute or controversy among members, directors, officers or committee members of the Corporation arising out of or related to the articles or by-laws, or out of any aspect of the activities or affairs of the Corporation is not resolved in private meetings between the parties, then such dispute or controversy shall be settled by a process of

dispute resolution as follows to the exclusion of such persons instituting a lawsuit or legal action:

- (a) the dispute shall be settled by arbitration before a single arbitrator, in accordance with the *Arbitration Act, 1991* (Ontario) or as otherwise agreed upon by the parties to the dispute. All proceedings relating to arbitration shall be kept confidential, and there shall be no disclosure of any kind. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to appeal on a question of fact, law or mixed fact and law; and
- (b) all costs of the arbitrator shall be borne by such parties as may be determined by the arbitrator.

SECTION 13 – BY-LAWS AND AMENDMENTS

13.01 By-laws and Amendments

The board may not make, amend or repeal any by-laws that regulate the activities or affairs of the Corporation without having the by-law, amendment or repeal confirmed by the members by special resolution. The by-law, amendment or repeal is only effective on the confirmation of the members and in the form in which it was confirmed.

13.02 Invalidity of any provisions of this by-law

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this by-law shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this by-law.

SECTION 14 – EFFECTIVE DATE

14.01 Effective Date

This By-law No. 2 comes into force upon confirmation by the members of the Corporation in accordance with the Act.

Operational Procedures

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Operating Procedure 0:

Definitions

Effective: March 2019

Replaces: March 2018

1. Purpose

This Operating Procedure prescribes meaning, unless the context reasonably requires otherwise, to certain terms used throughout CASA's governing documents in order to assist and clarify interpretation.

Certain definitions are listed in the By-law and repeated here. In the case of any conflict between definitions listed in the By-law and those repeated here, the By-law definitions shall prevail.

2. Definitions

Act shall mean the Canadian Not-for-profit Corporations Act S.C. 2009,c.23 including the Regulations made pursuant to the Act, and any statute or regulations that may be substituted or amended from time to time.

Articles shall mean the original or restated articles of incorporation or articles of amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganizations, arrangement or revival of the Corporation.

Board shall mean the board of directors of the Corporation.

Board Action Plan shall mean the annual plan for the Board that provides direction to Directors and the Executive Director.

By-law shall mean the By-Law and any other by-laws of the Corporation as amended and which are, from time to time, in force and effect.

Code of Conduct shall mean a policy by which all Delegates present at CASA conferences or official events shall abide.

Code of Conduct Officer shall mean a Delegate elected by a Meeting of Members and identified as a contact person for the purpose of receiving and investigating any complaints regarding violations of the Code of Conduct.

College & Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall mean the group of college and/or polytechnic Delegates elected by the Members to represent the interests of college and/or polytechnic Members to the Board of Directors.

Committee shall mean a standing or ad-hoc Committee established by the Board or Operating Procedure.

Committee Chair shall mean the person appointed to preside over a Committee.

Conflict of Interest shall mean a set of circumstances in which the private interest of an individual, directly associated person or organization may be reasonably perceived to bias a decision-maker's judgement in the exercise of an official power, duty, or function.

Corporation shall mean the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations or CASA.

CASA shall mean the Corporation or the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations.

Director shall mean a member of the Board.

Delegate shall mean a representative of a Member, authorized to act on that Member's behalf.

Executive Director shall mean the individual appointed by a Meeting of Members to fill the office of National Director as contemplated in the By-law and who shall be responsible for the operations of CASA and who is an ex-officio member of the Board.

Fiscal Year shall mean the period beginning May 1 and ending April 30.

Graduate Advisory Committee shall mean the group of Graduate Delegates elected by the Members to represent the interests of graduate Members to the Board of Directors.

Internal Review shall mean a review of a decision or action made by an individual or body within the jurisdiction of CASA that contravenes CASA policy or values with the exception of the Code of Conduct.

Meeting of Members shall mean an annual meeting of members or a special meeting of members, which is commonly conducted during the plenary session of a CASA conference.

Member shall mean a student association authorized by its governing body to join CASA.

Membership Term shall mean the period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

National Indigenous Advisory Committee shall mean the group of Indigenous Delegates from Member associations that represent the interests of Indigenous students to the Membership, and Board of Directors.

Non-Regularly Scheduled Meeting means a meeting of a Committee that is scheduled on an as needed basis and does not reoccur at a regular interval.

Observer shall mean a student association that has been granted Observer Status by the Board.

Operating Procedure shall mean an internal governance policy or procedure.

Ordinary Resolution shall mean a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast on that resolution.

Policy Committee shall mean a Committee of CASA responsible for reviewing and drafting Political Policy or amendments and making recommendations to a Meeting of Members.

Policy Paper shall mean a Political Policy that is non-binding on CASA's public relations and advocacy, and instead provides guidance for Member and Delegates on a relevant topic.

Policy Statement shall mean a Political Policy that is binding on CASA's public relations and advocacy.

Political Policy shall mean policy of CASA that expresses an opinion, sentiment, or principle about public policy matters relating to post-secondary education.

Press Release shall mean an official statement issued to media providing information on a particular matter.

Private Document shall mean a document determined by the Board to be confidential or for use only by Members or Delegates.

Progress Report shall mean reports provided to a Meeting of Members that detail the status of the Corporation with respect to the Board Action Plan and the Strategic Plan.

Public Document shall mean a document determined by the Board to be non-confidential or for public information.

Public Statement shall mean a public message released by CASA that shall specifically include a social media post but exclude a Press Release, Private Document, or Public Document.

Regularly Scheduled Meeting means a meeting of a Committee that is determined in advance and reoccurs at a regular interval.

Regulations shall mean the regulations made under the Act, as amended, restated or in effect from time to time.

Special Resolution shall mean a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the votes cast on that resolution with such two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) majority of votes representing at least 50% of fulltime equivalent students represented by the Members.

Strategic Plan shall mean the overarching three-year plan to guide the development of the Corporation and detail the vision, mission, and values of CASA.

Operating Procedure 1:

Board of Directors

Effective: March 2022

Replaces: March 2018

By-law

The By-law provides for the regulation of the Board on the following matters:

- Powers of the Board and Directors;
- Number of Directors;
- Election and term;
- Removal of Directors;
- Vacancies in the office of a Director;
- Rules regarding meetings of Directors; and
- The establishment of certain offices.

This operating procedure is intended to provide further detail regarding the composition, election, and roles and responsibilities of the Board.

Where a conflict arises between this Operating Procedure and the By-law, the provisions of the By-law shall prevail.

Composition

The Board shall be comprised of the following Directors:

- Chair;
- Secretary;
- Treasurer;
- Director-at-large, Advocacy;
- Director-at-large, Policy;
- Director-at-large, Member Relations;
- Director-at-large, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion; and
- Executive Director (ex-officio, non-voting).

Directors shall be Delegates of a CASA member.

Members shall be limited to one Delegate as a Director.

Election

The Board shall be elected at the first Meeting of Members of each membership year.

Delegates may nominate themselves for specific Director positions through nomination forms provided to them by the Executive Director.

Nomination forms shall be submitted to the Executive Director no later than 48 hours prior to voting. Nomination forms shall have space for nominees to include a short bio and/or platform.

Completed nomination forms shall then be distributed to all delegates by the Executive Director no later than 24 hours prior to voting.

Nominations from the floor shall not be allowed except for when:

- A Director position does not receive a nomination by form; or
- The membership does not elect any of the Delegates nominated by form.

The Executive Director shall be responsible for all administrative matters pertaining to the election process, including preparing nomination packages and ballots, and providing other assistance as needed.

The election process at the meeting, including facilitating speeches and questions, supervising voting, counting ballots, and addressing member concerns regarding the election results and process shall be overseen by a chief returning officer (CRO).

- The CRO will be an outgoing board member who is no longer a CASA delegate and shall be chosen using a nomination and voting process.
- Nominations shall be received from the floor at the meeting prior to the election of Directors.

- If only one nomination is received, that nominee shall be appointed by acclamation.
- If more than one nomination is received, each nominee shall have one (1) minute to give a speech. Following this, all delegates present shall vote by preferential ballot to elect the CRO.
- Delegates shall rank the nominees from most preferred to least preferred.
- The Executive Director shall collect the ballots and determine the winner by eliminating the nominee with the fewest votes and redistributing those ballots to the other nominees until a nominee has received more than 50% of the vote.
- In the case of a tie, the appointment will be decided by a coin flip.
- If no outgoing board member is nominated the CRO position will default to the appointed chair of the plenary session.

Prior to the commencement of voting for the new Board members, there shall be time for nominee speeches and questions to the nominees.

- Each nominee shall be given two minutes to give a speech.
- Following speeches, there will be a question period.
- Any delegate, including those nominated for a position, may ask a question Those nominated for a position will be limited to one question.

Ballots shall be prepared by the Executive Director as follows:

- Nominees shall be listed alphabetically.
- "None of the above" shall be listed as a choice for each position and nominees shall be listed alphabetically.
- Where a voter's intention is clear, that voter's ballot shall be counted.

Voting shall occur by secret ballot using a preferential voting system.

- Each primary delegate shall be entitled to cast one, and only one, ballot.

- Each delegate shall rank their choices for each position using natural numbers with one representing the first choice, and increasing numbers representing less desirable choices.
- A candidate shall require a majority of voters to indicate them as their first choice in order to be elected.
- In the event that no candidate receives a majority of first place votes, the candidate with the fewest first place votes shall be eliminated.
- Any voter who has selected an eliminated candidate with a number shall have the candidate marked with the next highest number (following the number by which the eliminated candidate has been indicated) take the place of the eliminated candidate, and so on.
- Where all remaining candidates have an equal number of first place votes, or where the remaining candidate with the fewest first place votes is tied with another remaining candidate, the candidate that had the fewest first place votes on the first count in which a differential existed shall be eliminated.
- Where all remaining candidates have an equal number of first places votes, or where the remaining candidate with the fewest first place votes is tied with another remaining candidate, and where this tie has existed on every count, the CRO shall start the election process for the position again by opening the floor for nominations.
- Where "None of the Above" is declared victorious, no further candidates shall be declared victorious and the CRO shall start the election process for the position again by opening the floor for nominations.
- Ballots shall be counted by the Executive Director and CRO and the winner of each position declared at the same meeting at which the ballots were cast.

The Executive Director shall provide all Delegates with notice of elections, process (including nomination forms), and descriptions of

Director positions in advance of the first Meeting of the Members of each Fiscal Year.

Roles and Responsibilities

All Directors shall;

- Maintain an awareness of current issues and developments relevant to CASA and their respective portfolios;
- Understand and communicate all policies and positions of CASA;
- Present reports at Meetings of Members regarding current issues and developments relevant to CASA and their respective portfolios;
- Perform all duties and responsibilities as outlined in the Act or the By-law;
- Chair Committees as designated by CASA By-law or Operating Procedure; and
- Fulfill any other duty or responsibility that may be assigned or delegated by the Board or a Meeting of Members.

The Board shall;

- Develop the Board Action Plan in accordance with the Strategic Plan and provide Progress Reports;
- Establish any Committee or other advisory body as it deems necessary or appropriate;
- Provide oversight of and direction to the Executive Director; and
- Fulfill any other duty or responsibility that may be assigned or delegated by a Meeting of Members.

Operating Procedure 2:

Committees

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: March 2019, March 2018

Purpose

In accordance with the By-law, this Operating Procedure shall establish and outline general terms of reference for all Committees. This Operating Procedure shall establish and outline the specific delegated powers and further details of each Committee.

General Terms of Reference

Committees shall be populated by election at the first Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

Delegates may nominate themselves or someone else for a Committee position from the floor at the meeting.

If the number of nominees for Committee positions is equal to or less than the number of available seats, then they shall be appointed by acclamation.

If the number of nominees for Committee positions is greater than the number of available seats, an election shall occur by secret ballot using preferential voting.

The CRO shall oversee the election of Committee members and shall count the ballots with the Executive Director by eliminating the nominee with the fewest votes and redistributing those ballots to the other nominees until a nominee has received more than 50% of the vote. That nominee shall then be removed from the pool, and counting shall occur again in the same fashion as the Board election until all of the Committee seats are filled.

In the case of an election, each nominee may make a one-minute speech before voting occurs.

The nominations for the designated College and Polytechnic or Graduate student seats will commence first. If a designated seat remains vacant during or after the July Meeting of Members, the designated seat may be filled by any delegate.

Vice Chairs and Secretaries of Committees shall be appointed by internal Committee election.

Quorum for any committee shall be three (3) voting members of the Committee.

Unless otherwise designated, all members of a Committee shall be considered voting members.

Members shall be limited to one Delegate sitting as a voting member of a Committee.

Committees shall create a work plan outlining specific tasks and measurable objectives for the year and provide a progress report at every Meeting of Members.

Committees may create subcommittees as appropriate.

Committee Chairs may delegate any tasks necessary for the proper functioning of the Committee to the Executive Director or designate.

Committees may approve non-substantive changes to Political Policies or Operating Procedures under their authority to review and draft.

Committees may operate on a consensus basis but shall require a simple majority (50% +1) of quorum for official decisions to be made.

Committees may conduct meetings and voting electronically, in accordance with CASA By-laws, if deemed necessary by the Committee Chair for the efficient conduct of business.

Committees will typically meet monthly but may on rare occasions be required to meet more frequently to meet deadlines.

Committee Chairs shall provide an agenda to the Committee two (2) business days prior to the Regularly Scheduled Meeting.

Committee Chairs may schedule a Non-Regularly Scheduled Meeting by providing all permanent members 24 hours to notify the Chair of their availability over a minimum of the next five (5) business days.

Committee Chairs may schedule a Non-Regularly Scheduled Meeting that allows for the greatest number of permanent members or a composition of permanent members that allows the Committee to make progress on the Committee's work plan.

Committee Chairs may schedule a Regularly Scheduled Meeting by ensuring that the timing and reoccurrence accommodates all permanent members of the Committee.

Permanent members may be removed by the Board on the recommendation of the Committee Chair.

Permanent members may be removed by the Committee Chair if they are absent from four (4) Non-Regularly Scheduled Meetings or three (3) Regularly Scheduled Meetings in a membership year.

A permanent member may resign at any time by providing a written notice of resignation to the Committee Chair.

In the case of a vacancy, the Board may appoint a Delegate to be a permanent member of a Committee, with full voting rights, until an election takes place at the next Meeting of Members.

The Members shall fill any vacancies that exist at Meetings of Members.

Committees

The following committees shall be established:

- Federal Policy Committee;
- National Advocacy Committee;
- Governance and Internal Review Committee;
- Member Relations Committee; and
- Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

The Board may establish ad-hoc Committees as required to fulfill a specific, one-time mandate or purpose.

Federal Policy Committee

The Federal Policy Committee shall be delegated the authority for reviewing and drafting Political Policy.

The Federal Policy Committee may recommend Political Policy or amendments to a Meeting of Members for approval.

The Federal Policy Committee shall consist of:

- Director-at-large, Policy, as Committee Chair;
- Seven (7) Delegates elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Committee;
- Of the seven (7) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a College and/or Polytechnic Student Association when possible.
- Of the seven (7) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a Graduate Student Association when possible.
- All other Delegates (non-voting); and
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting).

National Advocacy Committee

The National Advocacy Committee shall be delegated the authority for organizing and tracking all non-conference advocacy and political engagement by Members

The National Advocacy Committee shall be delegated the responsibility for annually reviewing the national advocacy strategy.

The National Advocacy Committee shall consist of:

- Director-at-large, Advocacy, as Committee Chair;
- Seven (7) Delegates elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Committee;
- Of the seven (7) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a College and/or Polytechnic Student Association when possible.
- Of the seven (7) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a Graduate Student Association when possible.
- All other Delegates (non-voting); and
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting).

Governance and Internal Review Committee

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall be delegated the authority for reviewing and drafting Operating Procedures.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee may recommend Operating Procedures or amendments to a Meeting of Members for approval.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall be delegated the authority for reviewing and drafting the Strategic Plan and recommending the Strategic Plan to a Meeting of Members for approval.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee may review and draft By-laws if directed to do so by a Meeting of the Members. Any By-laws or amendments shall be approved by a Meeting of the Members.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall be delegated the authority for performing Internal Reviews in accordance with CASA Operating Procedures.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall consist of:

- Secretary, as Committee Chair;
- Five (5) Delegates elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Committee;
- Of the five (5) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a College and/or Polytechnic Student Association when possible.
- Of the five (5) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a Graduate Student Association when possible.
- All other Delegates (non-voting); and
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting).

Member Relations Committee

The Member Relations Committee shall be delegated the authority to oversee and improve the membership experience at CASA including working with the Board and Executive Director to:

- Ensure that all CASA conferences meet the needs of Members;
- Commission and review Member feedback surveys;
- Recommend conference improvements;
- Develop communication strategies;
- Develop Member satisfaction metrics;
- Develop internal communication metrics;
- Engage observer schools and potential Members to understand their unique issues and campus needs; and

- Produce transition documents to facilitate changeover of Delegates.

The Member Relations Committee shall consist of:

- Director-at-large, Member Relations, as Committee Chair;
- Five (5) Delegates elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Committee;
- Of the five (5) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a College and/or Polytechnic Student Association when possible.
- Of the five (5) Delegates, at least one (1) will be a student from a Graduate Student Association when possible.
- All other Delegates (non-voting); and
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting).

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee (EDIC) shall be delegated authority to enhance CASA's efforts in creating an inclusive and diverse environment for its members.

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be responsible for fulfilling CASA's EDI Strategic Plan.

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall act as the Responsibility Centre for ensuring Gender Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) is adequately followed in the development of Political Policies. The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be responsible for reviewing

submitted GBA+ Policy Development Forms and providing feedback to the Federal Policy Committee.

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall be delegated the authority for drafting the EDI Strategic Plan and recommending the CASA EDI Strategic Plan to a Meeting of Members for approval.

The Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall consist of:

- Director at-Large, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, as Committee Chair;
- Five (5) Delegates elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent member of the Committee;
- One (1) designated National Indigenous Advocacy Committee member, to be permanent member of the Committee;
- All other Delegates (non-voting) ; and
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting).

Operating Procedure 3:

Mentorship Network

Effective: September 2022

Replaces: OP 3 – Alumni Network

Purpose of a CASA Mentorship Network

Mentorship is a relationship in which an individual with lived experience and knowledge in certain domains guides another individual who may want to develop themselves in that area over a period of time.

For over 2 decades, student leaders and young professionals have started their advocacy careers with CASA. The organization has a vast group of former delegates and staff members.

These former Delegates and staff members are uniquely positioned to understand and mentor the organization, its members, and its staff.

Due to high turnover within the organization, CASA believes that building stronger networks between past and current Delegates will:

- Enhance the organization's institutional memory;
- Strengthen CASA'S reputation with decision makers;
- Provide valuable guidance to the organization;
- Provide support to Delegates; and
- Increase the value of membership in CASA.

Role and responsibilities

Mentee:

A CASA mentee is someone who is a current Delegate, staff member or National Indigenous Advisory Committee member and recognizes that there is value in learning from someone who has been there before.

The roles and responsibilities of a mentee are but not limited to:

- Maintain an ongoing and engaged relationship with your mentor throughout your term; and
- Explore your challenges, learn about your mentor's lived experience, and work with your mentor to build an ongoing supportive relationship.

Mentor:

A CASA Mentor is someone who has been involved with the organization in the past, be it as a Delegate, staff or National Indigenous Advisory Committee members, and is willing to walk alongside a current CASA Delegate as they take the next steps in their personal growth and professional development.

The roles and responsibilities of a mentor are but not limited to:

- Offer guidance to your mentee as they embark on their term; and
- Explore mentee's challenges, share your own lived experiences, and work with your mentee to build an ongoing supportive relationship.

Network Membership

The CASA Mentorship membership shall consist of:

- Past CASA Delegates, National Indigenous Advisory Committee members and/or staff members, also referred to as Alumni/mentors;
- Current CASA Delegates;
- National Indigenous Advisory Committee members; and
- The Member Relations Officer as facilitator, unless otherwise designated by the Executive Director.

Appointment

The CASA Mentorship Network will operate as a "choose your own path" experience.

Alumni mentors will fill out a form, created by the Member Relations Officer, that will identify how they will like to participate that academic year.

Mentors are able to provide mentorship to the whole membership, their home province, the province in which they served in, or the SU/SA they served for.

Mentors can also identify if they would like to focus on just Vice Presidents, Presidents, or members of the National Indigenous Advisory Committee.

Finally, they will be able to select what areas they would like to mentor, such as policy, communications, government relations, or general.

Similarly, mentees will have access to an application form prior to Foundations and throughout the academic year where they will be able to identify what kind of mentorship they are looking for.

Once the Member Relations Officer identifies a mentor matching the support a mentee is looking for, the Member Relations Officer will make the initial reach out to both the mentor and mentee. From there, mentor and mentee are expected to establish their relationship

Network Formation

Every Foundations Conference, the Member Relations Officer will present the mentor-mentee pairings.

CASA alumni and current delegates will have access to the application forms throughout the year and are able to apply to become a part of the network at any point during the year.

Network Business

Mentors and Mentees are to meet as regularly as is established by parties involved.

A feedback survey will be sent out by the Member Relations Officer at the end of each semester where mentors and mentees will be able to provide insight of what is working and what is not within their mentorship. This will also allow CASA Home Office to evaluate any room for improvement. All submissions will remain confidential.

At any point throughout the year, mentors and mentees are able to reach out to the Member Relations Officer for guidance and/or with any questions/concerns that might have about being part of the CASA mentorship network.

Commitment

Commitment between mentor/mentee is to be determined and established by the parties involved.

Operating Procedure 4:

Code of Conduct

Effective: March 2022

Replaces: March 2019

Policy Statement

CASA has the responsibility to ensure that those who enter our spaces know that they will be treated with respect, dignity, and will be free from undue harm. This Operating Procedure will set what criteria shall be used to guide the Code of Conduct document that is circulated to the attendees before arrival.

CASA encourages individuals to attempt to resolve issues or conflicts by direct communication with the individual or body whose decision or action has contributed to the issue or conflict, but when that is not reasonable or effective CASA encourages the use of the following Operating Procedure.

Purpose

In accordance with CASA policy, this Operating Procedure shall establish the:

- Formal principles and processes whose purpose shall be to ensure the accountability of individuals and bodies relevant to CASA;
- Code of Conduct principles and processes of CASA which may be further determined in such Code of Conduct.

Individuals participating in an Internal Review or reviewing a Code of Conduct investigation shall have a duty to act fairly, and such duty shall be upheld to provide for the good governance, well-being, and best interest of CASA and its Members.

Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct and any subsequent amendments shall be approved by a Meeting of the Members.

The Code of Conduct shall be reviewed and agreed to by Delegates as a condition of attendance at any CASA conference or official event.

Violation of the Code of Conduct or failure to agree to abide by the Code of Conduct shall result in consequences as contemplated in the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct shall address human rights standards such as anti-harassment and anti-discrimination, substance usage standards, and other expected standards for CASA related business practices.

Hosts of CASA conferences may establish other standards of conduct to which Delegates shall be expected to adhere. These standards shall be brought to Delegates' attention prior to a conference or official event.

The contact information of the Code of Conduct Officers shall be provided to all Delegates at the commencement of a conference or official event.

Code of Conduct Officers shall be responsible for receiving and performing initial investigation of Code of Conduct complaints. If the circumstances require, the Officer may also make interim orders to protect the safety and health of the complainant and other attendees until the matter is transferred to the board.

Code of Conduct Officers shall participate in training by staff to understand their role and best practices for receiving complaints or disclosures.

Board of Directors

In keeping with the Board's mandate and fiduciary responsibility to CASA, the Board shall be responsible for determining if a Code of Conduct violation has taken place.

The Board shall determine the consequences of a Code of Conduct violation if it determines that one has taken place in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

The Board shall adhere to the principles of fairness, impartiality, and due diligence.

The Board shall set its own procedures for deciding on reports of Code of Conduct violations.

If a Director has a Conflict of Interest, which shall specifically include being the subject of a Code of Conduct investigation, then they shall be recused.

Code of Conduct Investigation Review

A Code of Conduct officer may request the Board review the results of a Code of Conduct investigation by providing written notice to the Board via the Chair or the Executive Director or designate.

The Board shall meet to determine:

- Whether it has the jurisdiction to consider the matter;
- Confidentiality requirements;
- Process;
- Standing of individuals;
- Whether a violation has taken place; and
- Recommend consequences if a violation is determined to have taken place.

The Board may pursue further investigation at any time.

The Board shall issue a decision within 30 days.

The Board shall make its final decision in writing and set out the findings of fact on which it based its decision, and the reasons for the decision.

Decisions shall be provided to relevant individuals or bodies for information.

Decisions which recommend consequences shall be provided to the relevant individual or body delegated the authority to enforce such consequences.

Dismissal and Appeals

Where an attendee has been found to have violated the Code, the attendee shall have ten days from the date of discipline to appeal this discipline.

If a Board member is a party to an appeal, they shall recuse themselves from any related proceedings of the Board.

All appeals shall be directed to the Board, in writing, and describe the nature of the events giving rise to the discipline as well as the remedy sought [a "Letter of Appeal"].

The decision of a Code of Conduct investigation review may be appealed back to the Board upon the grounds of fairness or new information.

Upon receipt of a Letter of Appeal, the Board shall, in its sole discretion, determine whether to uphold, modify or revoke the discipline imposed. The board shall advise the attendee, in writing, of that decision within 30 days. The decision of the Board shall be final.

Operating Procedure 5:

Meetings of Members

Effective: November 2022

Replaces: March 2019, November 2018

Paramountcy

Where there arises a conflict between this Operating Procedure and the Act or the By-law, both the Act and the By-law shall prevail.

Meetings of Members

There shall be a minimum of four regularly scheduled Meetings of Members, one of which shall be designated as an annual general meeting as prescribed in the Act and shall occur no later than sixteen (16) months after the previous annual general meeting.

CASA will endeavor to plan conferences that correspond with each Meeting of Members

The Board may call a Meeting of Members in accordance with notice requirements set forth in the Act and the By-law.

All powers of the membership as prescribed by the Act and the By-law may be exercised at any Meeting of Members.

Membership shall elect Directors to the Board, Committee Chairs, and permanent Committee members at a Meeting of Members held during the month of May.

Membership shall approve the Board Action Plan, the audited financial statements for the past Fiscal Year, the budget for the next Fiscal Year, and determine the host Member and location of the July Meeting of Members for the upcoming year at a Meeting of Members held during the month of July.

Membership shall be provided the opportunity to engage in direct lobby opportunities with federal government representatives and other groups relevant to post-secondary education at a Meeting of Members held during the month of November or in accordance with the parliamentary schedule.

Membership shall approve amendments to the By-law, draft budgetary recommendations for the next Fiscal Year, and determine the host Member and location of the March Meetings of Members for the upcoming year at a Meeting of Members held in the month of March.

In extraordinary circumstances the schedule of Meetings of Members may be amended at a Meeting of Members.

Meeting Administration

Meetings of Members shall be governed according to the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised in all instances to which those rules are applicable and not inconsistent with this Operating Procedure, the By-law, or the Act.

Agendas shall be prepared by the Board for approval by the Members at the opening of a Meeting of Members.

Members may submit items to the Board for consideration on agendas no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the Meeting of Members or the first day of the corresponding conference, whichever is first.

Agendas and supporting documentation shall be distributed to the Members no later than ten (10) days prior to the Meeting of Members or the first day of the corresponding conference, whichever is first.

Special Resolutions

The following categories of motions shall require a Special Resolution:

- Ratification of an Executive Director;
- Ratification of a new Member;
- Approval of a budget;
- Motion to dissolve the Corporation; and
- Any motion requiring a Special Resolution by the Act or By-law.

Operating Procedure 6:

Membership Term and Fees

Effective: September 2022

Replaces: March 2015, March 2012, March 2011, June 2010

Membership Term

The term of membership in CASA shall be July 1 through June 30.

Full-Time Equivalent Calculation

A Member's assessed number of full-time equivalent students (assessed FTE) shall be the sum of half of the number of part-time students enrolled at a Member's parent school and the number of full-time students enrolled at the Member's parent school.

This data shall be collected from Statistics Canada's Postsecondary Student Information System.

Should a Member not represent undergraduate, graduate, college, trades, full-time or part-time students, then the appropriate enrollments shall be subtracted from the assessed FTE.

The assessed FTE for a fiscal year shall be the most recent data available from Statistics Canada on the first day of the fiscal year.

Special Circumstances

Should a Member believe their assessed FTE disagrees with the number of FTEs they represent, they may, in writing, submit to the Executive Director a request for an altered FTE.

The Executive Director shall review all applications for an alteration and shall be permitted to request the following documentation from a Member: a copy of the bylaws or articles of incorporation, the audited financial statements, and a letter from the parent school's registrar or equivalent position calculating the represented FTE.

The Executive Director shall issue notice to each Member of their right to request an alteration every two years.

An alteration shall be assessed as the FTE value for two years and then shall be reviewed.

Membership Fee Calculation

A full Member's fees for the fiscal year shall be according to the following formula, using a base year of 2022/2023:

Range	Cost per FTE in Range
1 to 6,000	\$3.66
6,001 to 12,000	\$3.37
12,001 to 20,000	\$3.11
20,001 and above	\$2.77

Membership Fee Structure

Membership fees shall be subject to a maximum of \$59,533 and a minimum of \$5,777 per fiscal year, using a base year of 2022/2023.

The Board may increase the cost per FTE and the maximum and minimum membership fee by the rate of the Canadian Consumer Price Index for the beginning of each fiscal year.

Any proposed increase in the cost per FTE or maximum and minimum membership fee greater than the Canadian Consumer Price Index must be passed by a special resolution.

Any proposed variation greater than by the rate of the Canadian Consumer Price Index to fees must be passed by special resolution and membership must be given 12 months' notice of this change.

Payment of Membership Fees

The Executive Director shall forward an invoice of the complete fee breakdown, including the financial equation and input figures used in calculating fees to each member. The invoices shall be forwarded to the members at least one (1) month before payment is due.

Members shall pay thirty percent (30%) of their membership fees by the first of July in any calendar year. The remainder shall be paid by the first of October in that calendar year.

In the event that a member cannot pay thirty percent (30%) of their assessed fees by the first (1) of July, the member must notify the Executive Director, and make alternate arrangements for payment. Any such alternate arrangements with the Executive Director must be in writing, and co-signed by the Treasurer, or designate, and a signing officer of the member.

A financial penalty shall be assessed to all members that default on membership dues of a rate of three percent (3%) every fifteen (15)

calendar days or portion thereof, compounded. The Executive Director, through the Office Manager will send a detailed invoice of the current formula and current account balance to each Member school in arrears every two (2) weeks.

Operating Procedure 7:

Political Policies

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: March 2018, November 2017, March 2015

Formatting Conventions

All Policy Statements shall have consistent formatting and may include the following sections as appropriate:

- Name;
- Policy ID;
- Category;
- Dates regarding when the Policy Statement was adopted, last reviewed, amended, and repealed;
- Background regarding the origin of the Policy Statement; and
- Resolution.

Policy Lifecycle

The Federal Policy Committee may, at any time, initiate the development or amendment of a Political Policy to be recommended to the membership.

An individual may, at any time, initiate the development or amendment of a Political Policy to be recommended to the Federal Policy Committee.

A Political Policy or amendment requiring any addition or alteration in its Recommendations and/or BIRT section shall come into effect after being approved by Ordinary Resolution of the membership.

A Political Policy or amendment requiring any addition or alteration excluding modifications to its Recommendations and/or BIRT section shall come into effect after being approved by a majority vote (50% + 1) of the Federal Policy Committee.

A Political Statement shall remain in effect for three (3) years after approval by the membership unless otherwise specified in the Ordinary Resolution.

A Policy Paper shall remain in effect indefinitely unless repealed and shall be reviewed within three years of approval.

A Political Policy may be repealed by Ordinary Resolution of the membership.

The Executive Director or designate shall be responsible for maintaining an up-to-date policy manual.

Policy Development Process

The Policy Development Process involves the following steps:

- 1) Complete the GBA+ Policy Development Form.
- 2) The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee will review the GBA+ Policy Development Form and provide recommendations to ensure the form is filled accurately and represents the diverse student population.

3) The Federal Policy Committee will review the updated GBA+ Policy Development Form and then will decide what the Political Policy recommendation will be (i.e. “Be it Resolved That…”).

4) The Policy & Research Analyst, Executive Director and/or the Director-at-Large, Policy will then draft a Policy Statement for approval at a Meeting of Members.

The Executive Director or designate will maintain and distribute an up-to-date GBA+ Development Form for any member that requests it.

Interpretation

If a conflict arises between Policy Statements, the Executive Director and the Director-at-Large, Policy shall decide together which policy prevails for the interim and shall instruct the Federal Policy Committee to reconcile the conflict.

Policy Statements from Non-Member Organizations

As a statement of principle, CASA welcomes Political Policy or amendment recommendations on topics within CASA’s scope from non-member organizations.

Non-members may contact the CASA office and shall be provided with information on how to recommend a Political Policy or amendment.

Information shall include:

- Contact information for the appropriate Federal Policy Committee Chair;
- Formatting convention guidelines; and
- Other information that may be relevant to their recommendation as determined by the Executive Director or designate.

After receiving the above information from CASA Home office, non-members will provide an information package to recommend a Political Policy or amendment. The information package shall include:

- GBA+ Policy Development Form;
- Prepare a briefing note to describe and analyze a problem or policy area for the federal government concerning post-secondary students. The briefing note should state the concern, explain why it is a problem for the federal government, and state a solution that would help fix the concern. The briefing note should not exceed 1,000 words; and
- Other relevant federal policies currently in effect.

Once the recommended Political Policy has been received, the Federal Policy Committee will review the information package to determine if the Federal Policy Committee would like to accept or decline the recommendation.

If the recommended Political Policy provided by the non-member organization is accepted by the Federal Policy Committee, the recommendation shall proceed through the regular Political Policy development process.

At the discretion of the Federal Policy Committee Chair, the non-member may be included and provided the ability to speak to the recommendation at the various stages of development.

Operating Procedure 8:

Campaign Initiation Process

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: March 2018, March 2017

Purpose

The following Operating Procedure is established to guide the creation of membership driven awareness campaigns regarding issues facing post-secondary students.

Campaign Proposals

The National Advocacy Committee will facilitate CASA's annual campaign as part of their annual work plan. The National Advocacy Committee will engage the interest of the membership through consultation to reveal a campaign that aligns with the interest of the membership. The National Advocacy Committee will develop a proposal to present to the membership at a Meeting of Members.

Campaign proposals shall outline the following, as appropriate:

- Rationale and mission statement;
- Required resources;
- Objectives and measures of success;
- Risks associated with the campaign;
- Involved Stakeholders;
- Expectations from the membership; and
- Timeline or schedule.

Campaign proposals shall be submitted to the Executive Director and the Board of Directors for consideration by the membership at a Meeting of Members.

Campaign proposals shall require approval by Ordinary Resolution (simple majority, 50% +1) of a Meeting of Members and a direct commitment from one third (33%) of the membership for the campaign to be initiated.

Campaign Committee

Upon approval of a campaign proposal by a Meeting of Members, the National Advocacy Committee shall establish an ad-hoc campaign committee for the duration of the campaign. The campaign committee shall be delegated the authority to oversee and plan the campaign. The campaign committee shall provide a report at every Meeting of Members. The Director-at-Large, Advocacy will provide regular updates to the Board of Directors. The campaign committee shall adhere, where applicable, to the general terms of reference outlined in CASA's Operating Procedures.

The campaign committee shall consist of:

- Director-at-large, Advocacy, as Committee Chair;
- Three (3) voting members of the National Advocacy Committee
- All other Delegates (non-voting); and
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting).

Once the campaign is completed, the Director-at-Large, Advocacy will provide an impact report to the membership at the March Meeting of Members.

Operating Procedure 9:

Strategic Planning

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: March 2018, March 2017, March 2015, April 2012

Drafting

Every three years the Governance and Internal Review Committee shall consult with Members and draft a Strategic Plan for approval by the membership.

At the beginning of each Fiscal Year the Board shall draft a Board Action Plan based on the previously approved Strategic Plan.

The Board Action Plan and the Strategic Plan shall be drafted in accordance with CASA's mission, vision, values, and the priorities of the membership.

Approval

The Board Action Plan and the Strategic Plan shall be approved by a Meeting of Members.

Implementation

The implementation of the Board Action Plan and the Strategic Plan shall be the responsibility of the Board and the CASA staff.

Reporting

The Strategic Plan and a Progress Report shall be presented to the membership at the first Meeting of Members of each Fiscal Year.

Providing Progress Reports shall be the responsibility of the Board Chair and the Executive Director. The Progress Reports shall be provided through both verbal and written communication to the membership.

Progress Reports may be requested by Members at any point in the year by Ordinary Resolution.

Operating Procedure 10:

Non-partisanship Policy

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: March 2015, March 2014

Purpose

CASA is a national voice for Canada's post-secondary students. Independence and impartiality are fundamental to CASA's credibility and respect amongst its many stakeholders.

CASA Directors and staff members must be independent, impartial, fair, and honest. Therefore, it is essential that Directors and staff members refrain from engaging in partisan activities while in their roles within CASA.

CASA acknowledges that we operate in an often hyper-partisan environment, and may have to engage in multi-partisan events to pursue advocacy goals; however, CASA will always judge ideas based on their merit, and not the political party who put them forward.

If a Director or staff member wishes to be involved in any partisan activities, statements, or messages, that individual must clearly state that such activity, statement, or message is exclusively in a personal capacity and not reflective of any affiliations that the Director or staff member has.

Partisan Activity

Partisan activity is defined as any activity that provides direct or indirect support or opposition to any political party. This activity can occur at any time, including outside of the election period. The following apply to all nominations, general elections or inter-party appointments (ie: National Board of Directors, Electoral District Association).

Directors and staff members are asked to refrain from public partisanship activities for the duration of their time involved in CASA.

This includes:

- Seeking to become a candidate in a federal or provincial nomination, general election or inter-party appointments (ie: National Board of Directors, Electoral District Association);
- Publicly endorsing or working for a federal or provincial candidate;
- Giving money or in-kind donations to a candidate or political party, either directly or indirectly;
- Making public statements that express support or oppose a candidate or political party; and
- Suggesting that people should vote for a particular candidate or political party, either directly or indirectly.

CASA directors and staff are prohibited from involving the organization in a conflict of interest with any provincial or federal candidate, party or organization. This includes:

- Using CASA's website to post or hyperlink to statements made by a third party that support or oppose a candidate or political party;
- Allowing a candidate or political party to use CASA's equipment, facilities, volunteer time, or other resources;

- Referencing partisan activity or preferences when acting as a representative for CASA; and

Distributing partisan literature or voter guides that promote or oppose a candidate or political party, directly or indirectly at any CASA event or conference.

Political Statements

CASA may support or oppose a policy that is also supported or opposed by a candidate or political party, but CASA must do so in a non-partisan manner.

When supporting or opposing a policy, CASA and its Directors and staff members should:

- Focus on the policy itself; and
- Not explicitly connect its views to any candidate or political party.

In all positive or negative statements, referencing a politician or party by name is strongly discouraged.

Dealing with Partisan Activities

The Non-partisanship Policy is designed to set the public non-partisan expectations from CASA Directors and staff Members. The policy is designed to not micromanage, but to ensure the organization's reputation is not harmed from personal affiliation. However, when a Director or staff member is found to have engaged in partisan activities, contrary to this policy, the Board shall request that the individual immediately refrain from engaging in such partisan activities.

If the Director or staff member does not comply with the Board's request, has previously been found to have engaged in partisan

activities while a Director or staff member of CASA, or has committed a flagrant and substantial violation of this policy, the individual may be asked to resign or may be subject to removal pursuant to CASA's By-laws and Operating Procedures.

Operating Procedure 11:

Communications in Official Languages

Effective: March 2018

Replaces: March 2015, July 2011, March 2011

Policy Statement

CASA places great importance on communication in both of Canada's official languages in order to properly represent and engage all Canadian post-secondary students.

Quality

All Press Releases, Private Documents, Public Documents, or Public Statements released in both official languages shall have a translation quality comparable to other bilingual Canadian organizations.

Publishing

All Press Releases shall be published in both official languages.

When urgent Press Releases are required, they may be published in one official language before the other.

All Private Documents and Public Documents may be published in both official languages at the discretion of the Board.

Public Statements may be published in both official languages at the discretion of the Executive Director or designate.

Meetings

A Member may request that translation services be provided at a Meeting of Members up to fifteen (15) days prior to the start of the Meeting of Members.

Translation services may be provided at a Meeting of Members at the discretion of the Board.

Operating Procedure 12:

Accessible Conferences and Communications

Effective: November 2018

Replaces:

Purpose

The following operating procedure is established to ensure that CASA will be active in removing barriers that would prevent those interested in participating in our organization from doing so. Whether it be delegates joining our conferences, MPs reading our lobby documents, or students viewing our promotional videos, we should strive to make essential elements of the CASA experience as inclusive as possible.

Principles

- CASA believes in creating environments where everyone in attendance has the opportunity to meaningfully contribute,
- CASA will build relationships with leaders in accessible design standards,
- CASA understands that everyone has different needs when it comes to participating or interacting with various aspects of our organization, and we should take the initiative to address these needs,
- CASA understands that standards respecting accessible spaces continue to evolve, and that we will monitor the best practices in this field to improve our organization.

Accessible Conference Spaces

- CASA will be guided by “A Planning Guide for Accessible Conferences” by Accessible Campus to ensure that the spaces where conference attendees will be encompassing are, to the best of our ability, free from physical accessibility barriers.
- CASA will communicate with delegates prior to conferences to understand their specific accessibility needs and do our best to make accommodations.

- CASA will work with the hosting member association at each conference to complete the Accessible Campus checklist before the arrival of delegates.

Accessible Communication Documents

- CASA will employ clear print accessibility guidelines recommended by the Canadian National Institute for the Blind when designing materials that will be distributed internally and externally,
- CASA will consult the World Wide Web Consortium's web content accessibility guidelines when doing a review and update of our website.
- CASA will ensure that online communications text and images are screen-reader enabled,
- CASA will ensure that edited online videos contain subtitles,
- CASA will do a review of this operating procedure every 2 years.

Operating Procedure 13:

Observer Status

Effective: March 2019

Replaces:

Purpose

CASA is comprised of member schools representing students across Canada. Establishing full membership within CASA requires commitment both in finances and time, therefore, CASA has allowed for potential members to hold an Observer Status before making a decision to become a full member.

In accordance with the By-laws, this Operating Procedure shall establish and outline general terms for Observer membership.

Timelines

Prospective Observers shall be required to apply to CASA's Board through a letter of intent before formally being granted Observer Status. This serves as an official recognition of the start in their status.

Observers are allowed to maintain their observer status over a time period of two years, during which period they are allowed to attend all conferences. This allows observers to have the potential to see each conference the organization hosts, as well as have two years of executive councils' input into the organization. After two years, Observers shall be required to wait one year before re-applying for Observer Status.

Full membership shall be governed as per S.2.01 Membership Conditions in the Bylaws.

Duties and Responsibilities of Observers

Observers are permitted to participate in roundtable discussions and activities at each conference. This shall be limited to the discretion of

the membership regarding any conversation of strategic direction for the Corporation. Observers shall not vote in matters during a meeting of members.

Observers are permitted to participate in Committee meetings and work throughout the year, but shall not vote in matters in a Committee meeting.

Observers shall adhere to the Code of Conduct and are subject to the same disciplines as members

Conferences

During Advocacy week conferences, Observers shall be permitted to participate in advocacy meetings.

Observers shall have an opportunity to attend a feedback session at each conference; this will be administered through the Board or designates.

Observer Fees

Observer fees shall be set out annually by the authority delegated to the Board.

Operating Procedure 14:

Internal Review

Effective: March 2019

Replaces: March 2018

Policy Statement

CASA believes that Delegates and Members should be able to request the review of decisions or actions taken by the organization, its leadership, or other Members or Delegates while performing their duties at CASA.

CASA encourages individuals to attempt to resolve disagreements by direct communication with the individual or body whose decision or action has contributed to the issue or conflict, but when that is not reasonable or effective CASA encourages the use of the following Operating Procedure.

Purpose

In accordance with CASA policy, this Operating Procedure shall establish the:

- Formal principles and processes whose purpose shall be to ensure the accountability of individuals and bodies relevant to CASA;
- Internal Review principles and processes of CASA.

Individuals participating in an Internal Review or reviewing a Code of Conduct investigation shall have a duty to act fairly, and such duty shall be upheld to provide for the good governance, well-being, and best interest of CASA and its Members.

Governance and Internal Review Committee

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall be responsible for carrying out Internal Reviews within the jurisdiction of CASA.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall be guided by the principles of fairness, impartiality, and due diligence.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee may set its own procedures.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee may request additional resources from the Board or Executive Director when such resources are required to effectively and completely adjudicate on any matter.

If a member of the Governance and Internal Review Committee has a Conflict of Interest, which shall specifically include being the subject or a member of a body which is the subject of an Internal Review, then they shall recuse themselves.

Internal Review Process

Individuals or Delegates either on their own behalf or on the behalf of Members may request an Internal Review of a decision or action (other than decisions or actions relating to Code of Conduct violations or investigations) by providing written notice to the Governance and Internal Review Committee via the Executive Director or designate, if they have a good faith belief that the action or decision violates CASA policy or the values set out in the Strategic Plan.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall meet to determine:

- Whether it has the jurisdiction to consider the matter;
- Confidentiality requirements;
- Process;
- Standing of individuals;
- Whether to uphold or overturn a decision; and
- Recommend action.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee may request any additional information from any individual within CASA, at any time, as needed to conduct an Internal Review.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall issue a decision within 30 days.

The Governance and Internal Review Committee shall make its final decision in writing and set out the findings of fact on which it based its decision, and the reasons for the decision.

Decisions shall be provided to relevant individuals or bodies and the Board for information.

Decisions which recommend action shall be provided to the relevant individual or body delegated the authority to carry out such action.

Dismissal and Appeals

An Internal Review investigation may be dismissed at any point if found to be frivolous or vexatious in nature, or if there is insufficient evidence upon which to continue.

The decision of an Internal Review may be appealed to a Meeting of Members. The grounds for such appeal shall be enumerated upon a request to a Meeting of Members via the Chair or Executive Director or designate.

Operating Procedure 15:

National Indigenous Advocacy Committee

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: National Indigenous Advisory Committee

Purpose

This Operating Procedure shall establish and outline general terms of reference for the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee.

General Terms of Reference

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall be populated by Indigenous students from CASA Membership. It is recommended that Indigenous students join the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee prior to the First Meeting of Members or at any time throughout the year by contacting the Co-Chairs of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee.

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall consist of:

- Two Co-Chairs selected by consensus from the delegates of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee during the first meeting of the Committee. Co-Chairs shall serve their appointment from their election until the appointment of their successor in the next fiscal year.
- Indigenous student representatives put forward by individual Members, with one (1) voting delegate per Member.
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting)

Unless removed, the NIAC Co-Chairs shall remain in their positions until:

- The Co-Chair's successor is appointed,

- The Co-Chair's resignation,
- The Co-Chair ceases to be a student.

NIAC Co-Chairs shall:

- Have full access to Basecamp and all other material that is distributed to the rest of the membership.
- Be included in the decision-making of setting a regular Board of Directors meeting time.
- Have full access to the Board of Directors meeting agenda at a minimum of two (2) business days before the meeting is set to take place.
- Participate in all meetings of the Board of Directors including at the discretion of the Board in-camera sessions.

Quorum for the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall be $\frac{1}{3}$ of the voting members.

Unless otherwise designated, all members of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee will be self-identified Indigenous students.

Members shall be limited to one Delegate sitting as a voting member of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee.

Co-Chairs of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee may delegate tasks necessary for the proper functioning of the respective Advocacy Committee to the Executive Director or designate.

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee may operate on a consensus basis.

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall meet at a minimum of six (6) times a Fiscal Year, outside of an official Meeting of Members.

Members of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall have, at a minimum, one (1) meeting with the Board, and Executive Director or designate to discuss concerns and provide perspective on issues during a Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee may conduct meetings and voting electronically, in accordance with CASA By-laws, if deemed necessary by the Co-Chairs of the Advocacy Committee for the efficient conduct of business.

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall create a work plan at the annual NIAC conference outlining specific tasks and measurable objectives for the year and provide a progress report at every Meeting of Members.

National Indigenous Advocacy Committee

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall serve as a forum for Indigenous students to directly lobby post-secondary education stakeholders on Indigenous post-secondary issues of which are relevant to the Committee. The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee will be a direct form of contact between Indigenous students, the Membership and the Board of Directors on matters of importance to the organization. The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee will strive to engage the Committee members and Canadian Alliance of Student Association's delegates with Indigenous cultural teachings, knowledge sharing, storytelling and perspectives on CASA's advocacy.

CASA will strive to develop and maintain a relationship with Indigenous learners across Turtle Island that value reciprocity, respect Indigenous nationhood and advance their right to self-determination. CASA will strive to highlight Indigenous voices, include Indigenous culture at Meetings of Members and provide opportunities for Indigenous learners to have autonomy over their affairs.

Co-Chairs of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee will participate in any or all Meetings of the Members after their selection, and have their travel, accommodations, and per diems provided by the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations. Logistics required for participation at any or all Meetings of the Members will be coordinated by the Executive Director or designate.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations will strive to provide honorariums for voting members of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee based on the capacity of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee's budget line. These honorariums will be determined by consensus of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee.

The National Indigenous Advocacy Committee shall participate in an annual Indigenous Student Conference after May 1 of any year.

Financial Support Criteria

Member associations are able to apply for funding to assist with costs associated with CASA conference attendance for Indigenous students from their campus. In order to be eligible for funding, a member association must demonstrate a financial need that would limit the ability of this individual to participate in the events.

Application Process

To apply for financial support, a member association will need to send a letter to the Co-Chairs of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee and the Executive Director with the following information no later than 8 weeks before the start of the event.

- Overview as to why the association is not able to cover the cost themselves,
- Amount of funding being requested from CASA,
- Amount of funding that the member association can contribute,
- Breakdown of costs for the event.

Approval Process

The Co-Chairs of the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee will ensure that all funding requests are circulated to the Board after the 8-week deadline has expired. A discussion item to review the applications will also be put on the next Board meeting agenda. During the meeting, the Board will evaluate the applications to see if they have clearly demonstrated why they need the funds and if the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee's budget line can accommodate the request. After all the applications have been discussed, the Board may put forward a motion with consensus received from the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee Co-Chairs to approve funding requests. In situations where the National Indigenous Advocacy Committee budget line will not allow all qualified funding requests to be approved, two steps are to follow. First, the Executive Director will analyze to see if additional funding can come from an alternative budget line. If the line has also been exhausted, then, the preference will be given to those individuals who have not received funding in the past. The Board will strive to have applications approved at least 6 weeks

before the event so that adequate time is allotted for travel arrangements.

Notification: Upon completion of the Board meeting, the Executive Director or designate will notify each applicant and let them know the result of their application. For approved funding requests, the Executive Director or designate will work with the association to ensure that arrangements are made to cover the approved costs. The Executive Director or designate will also maintain a list of all successful applicants to help the Board evaluate future applications.

Operating Procedure 16:

Graduate Advisory Committee

Effective: September 2022

Replaces: September 2021

Purpose

This Operating Procedure shall establish and outline general terms of reference for the Graduate Advisory Committee.

This Operating Procedure shall establish and outline the specific responsibilities and further details of the Graduate Advisory Committee.

General Terms of Reference

The Graduate Advisory Committee shall be populated by election at the first Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

The Graduate Advisory Committee shall consist of:

- A Chair appointed from within the Graduate Advisory Committee during the first meeting of the Committee. Preference will be given to a Graduate student (voting member)
- Up-to Four (4) voting delegates from different graduate student associations elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Advisory Committee (voting members)
- Up-to Two (2) voting delegates (preferably graduate students) from different student associations that represent both undergraduate and graduate students elected by a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Advisory Committee (voting members)
- A graduate student representative from the Quebec Student Union (non-voting)
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting)
- A member of the Board of Directors, if not already represented

(non-voting)

All work done and approved by the Graduate Advisory Committee will be conducted through consensus-based decisions of the voting members.

The Chair of the Graduate Advisory Committee may delegate any tasks necessary for the proper functioning of the Advisory Committee to the Executive Director or designate.

The Graduate Advisory Committee shall meet at a minimum of four (4) times per Fiscal Year, outside of an official Meeting of Members.

Quorum for the Graduate Advisory Committee shall be 2/3 of the voting members of the committee.

Members of the Graduate Advisory Committee shall have, at a minimum, one (1) meeting with the Board and Executive Director or designate to discuss concerns and provide perspective on issues of the members they represent during a Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

The Graduate Advisory Committee may conduct meetings and voting electronically, in accordance with CASA By-laws, if deemed necessary by the Chair of the Advisory Committee for the efficient conduct of business.

Graduate Student Definition

A student who is studying at a university for a degree that is higher than the one received after completion of an undergraduate degree. These may include both full-time and part-time Masters and Ph.D. programs taken at a university institution.

Graduate Advisory Committee

The Graduate Advisory Committee shall serve as a forum for graduate

student concerns. The Graduate Advisory Committee will be a direct form of contact between graduate students, the Board of Directors, and the Membership on matters of importance to the organization.

The Graduate Advisory Committee shall create a work plan outlining specific tasks and measurable objectives for the year and provide a progress report at every Meeting of Members.

The Advisory Committee may be responsible for partaking in a biennial Graduate Forum, to be hosted at a Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year. This Forum will be organized jointly with Home Office and the Board of Directors.

The Advisory Committee shall have a representative on each of CASA's committees, per their respective Operative Procedures. These representatives will ensure that graduate students' voices are present in all of CASA's committees and act as liaisons between other committees and the Graduate Advisory Committee.

The Advisory Committee may recommend an advocacy ask or topic area to the Board of Directors. This recommendation must be received prior to the approval of the current year advocacy asks. The Board will strive to include the ask or topic area into the current year advocacy document, if possible. If it is not included in the advocacy document, the Board will develop a written report and will meet with the Advisory Committee to discuss how the recommendation will be addressed within CASA's advocacy. The plan will outline what steps the organization will take to ensure that the recommended ask or topic area is being advanced. The Board may delegate tasks to appropriate committees to accomplish this.

The Graduate Advisory Committee may develop an annual report to be delivered to the Board of Directors. The report may focus on any of the following areas pertaining to graduate students, or be written to reflect other priorities areas identified by the Advisory Committee:

- Membership retention and recruitment, or;
 - This report may provide the Board with strategic advice on potential recruitment schools broken down by region, and assess the current retention atmosphere around graduate student associations that are already members of CASA.
- Governance, or;
 - This report may provide the Board strategic advice on how CASA can improve its internal governance structures to better ensure that graduate students are receiving adequate support by the organization
- Policy development
 - This report may provide the Board with gaps in existing policy held by CASA and identify potential new areas of policy development in the federal sphere of government.

Upon receipt of the report, the Board of Directors will consider the recommendations and may delegate recommendations to specific committees for further exploration.

If required, the Board will prepare a written report that describes the progress to date on the specific recommendations from the report in addition to the received advocacy ask or topic by the Annual General Meeting. In the event of a special conference schedule, the final report will be delivered at a time agreed upon by the Board and the Advisory Committee.

Operating Procedure 17:

College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: March 2020

Purpose

This Operating Procedure shall establish and outline general terms of reference for the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee.

This Operating Procedure shall establish and outline the specific responsibilities and further details of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee.

General Terms of Reference

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall be populated by election at the first Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall consist of:

- An appointed member of the Board of Directors as Advisory Committee Chair,
- Six (6) voting delegates from different college and/or polytechnic student associations elected at a Meeting of Members, to be permanent members of the Advisory Committee,
- Executive Director or designate (non-voting),
- A member of the Board of Directors, if not already represented (non-voting).

The four Delegates shall be the elected college and/or polytechnic delegates elected to each of CASA's committees.

Members shall be limited to one Delegate sitting as a voting member of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee.

Unless otherwise designated, all members of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee will be representatives of college and/or polytechnic members.

Quorum for the College and/or Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall be three voting members of the Advisory Committee.

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee may operate on a consensus basis but shall require a simple majority (50% +1) of quorum for official decisions to be made.

The Chair of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee may delegate any tasks necessary for the proper functioning of the Advisory Committee to the Executive Director or designate.

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall meet at a minimum four (4) times per Fiscal Year, outside of an official Meeting of Members.

Members of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall have, at a minimum, one (1) meeting with the Board and Executive Director or designate to discuss concerns and provide perspective on issues of the members they represent during a Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee may conduct meetings and voting electronically, in accordance with CASA By-laws, if deemed necessary by the Chair of the Advisory Committee for the efficient conduct of business.

The Chair of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall provide an agenda to the Advisory Committee at the same time as the notice of the meeting is given.

The Chair of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee may schedule a Non-Regularly Scheduled Meeting by providing all permanent members 24 hours to notify the Chair of their availability over a minimum of the next five (5) business days.

Permanent members may be removed by the Board on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee. A 2/3 majority motion from the Advisory Committee would be required.

A permanent member may resign at any time by providing written notice of resignation to the Chair of the Advisory Committee.

In the case of a vacancy, the Board may appoint a Delegate to be a permanent member of the College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee, with full voting rights, until the next Meeting of Members.

The members shall fill any vacancies that exist at a Meetings of Members.

College and Polytechnic Student Definition

A student who is studying at a college or polytechnic institution enrolled in an apprenticeship, certificate, diploma, degree, post-bachelorette, graduate certificate or graduate diploma program either full-time or part-time.

College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall serve as a forum for student concerns at college and polytechnic institutions. The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee will be a direct form of contact between college and polytechnic students and the Board of Directors on matters of importance to the organization.

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee shall create a work plan at the July Meeting of Members outlining specific tasks and measurable objectives for the year and provide a progress report at every Meeting of Members.

The Advisory Committee shall be responsible for partaking in a biannual College and Polytechnic forum, to be hosted at a Meeting of Members after May 1 of any year.

The Advisory Committee may recommend an advocacy ask or topic area to the Board of Directors. This recommendation must be received prior to the approval of the current year advocacy asks. The Board will strive to include the ask or topic area into the current year advocacy document, if possible. If it is not included in the advocacy document, the Board will develop a written report and will meet with the Advisory Committee to discuss how the recommendation will be addressed within CASA's advocacy. The plan will outline what steps the organization will take to ensure that the recommended ask or topic

area is being advanced. The Board may delegate tasks to appropriate committees to accomplish this. The Board will also present this report to the membership at the next Meeting of Members.

The Advisory Committee shall be responsible for the creation of an annual report to be delivered to the Board of Directors.

The report will focus on any of the following areas pertaining to college and polytechnic students:

- Membership Retention and Recruitment
 - This report will provide the Board with strategic advice on potential recruitment schools broken down by region, and assess the current retention atmosphere around college or polytechnic associations that are already members of CASA.
- Governance
 - This report will provide the Board strategic advice on how CASA can improve its internal governance structures to better ensure that college and polytechnic students are receiving adequate support and representation within CASA's governing systems.
- Policy Development
 - This report will provide the Board with gaps in existing policy held by CASA and identify new areas of policy development in the federal sphere of government.

The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee will present its chosen area(s) of focus to membership no later than the November Meeting of Members. The College and Polytechnic Advisory Committee will prepare a report for delivery to the Board of Directors and the membership no later than the March Meeting of Members.

Upon receiving the report, the Board of Directors will consider the recommendations and present the document during their transition to the next Board of Directors who may delegate recommendations to specific committees for further exploration.

Operating Procedure 18:

Financial Support Request Guidelines

Effective: March 2020

Replaces: February 2018

Principle

It is expected that all CASA member associations cover the costs associated with participating in CASA events. However, members and/or member associations may experience financial difficulty that limits their ability to participate in CASA conferences, events, and/or advocacy initiatives. It is recognized that full participation of members and/or member associations is a benefit for both the member/member associations and CASA as an organization. As such, the CASA Board of Directors may approve a request for financial support based on the following guidelines.

Application Criteria

Member associations may apply for funding to assist with the following CASA initiatives:

- Hosting/running a CASA-led advocacy initiative.
- Attendance of one or more members of a member association at a CASA event/conference.

Eligible funding applications must include the following:

- A clear, demonstrable financial need that justifies the funding request.
- Evidence that the member/member association would be unable to participate in the advocacy initiative, event, or CASA conference without funding support.
- The benefit of the member/member association's participation in the conference, event, and/or advocacy initiative to CASA (as an organization).
- An explanation as to why the member association cannot cover the cost of participation.

- Total amount of funding being requested from CASA.
- Amount of funding that the member association can contribute (if any).
- Clear cost breakdown for requested funding.

Application Process

To apply for financial support, a member association must send a letter to the Board Chair and the Executive Director no later than 8 weeks prior to the start of the event, advocacy initiative, and/or conference. This letter must clearly outline the criteria set out in the previous section.

All funding applications will remain confidential. The member association, the CASA Board of Directors, and the CASA Executive Director are the only groups that may view the funding application in full.

Approval Process

The CASA Board Chair will ensure that all funding requests are circulated to the CASA Board of Directors once the funding deadline for a CASA conference, event, and/or advocacy initiative has passed. Funding requests will be reviewed at the next regularly scheduled CASA Board of Directors meeting.

The CASA Board of Directors will evaluate all received applications against the aforementioned criteria and determine whether the CASA budget has the capacity to accommodate funding requests. If there are one or more funding requests pending approval, the Board may put forward a motion to approve these requests.

The Board will make every effort to grant as many eligible funding requests as possible.

Budgetary restrictions may place limits on the number of eligible funding requests that are granted in a single fiscal year. If this is the

case, then preference will be given to member associations that have not received funding/financial support from CASA in the past fiscal year.

The CASA Executive Director is responsible for maintaining an accurate list of member associations that have submitted funding requests.

The CASA Executive Director will be responsible for notifying all funding applicants post-Board meeting of the status of their application. Every effort will be made to notify applicants at least 6 weeks prior to the advocacy initiative, event, or conference.

The CASA Executive Director will work with member associations that have successfully submitted a funding application to ensure appropriate funding disbursement.

Operating Procedure 19:

Environmental Sustainability

Effective: March 2023

Replaces: N/A

Purpose

The purpose of this Operating Procedure is to provide a sustainability framework for the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). This framework is designed to ensure that protecting the environment is taken into account through the actions of Home Office staff, the Board of Directors, and the membership of CASA.

General Terms of Reference

With this Operating Procedure comes a commitment to educate and use critical thinking to reflect upon environmental sustainability within the corporation. As CASA experiences high turnover of Home Office Staff, Directors, and membership, this Operating Procedure serves to remind environmental sustainability is not a stand alone pillar, but a horizontal foundation that aims to interact with the entire organization.

CASA strives to make decisions through the Seventh Generation Principle, understanding that the decisions made today will impact generations of students to come. Through relationship building and approaching decision making with a holistic lens, CASA holds a unique position to educate, advocate, and inspire student leaders to walk forward together and collectively uphold environmental sustainability. And with this Operating Policy, this process starts from within.

Actions and Principles

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations strives to embody environmental sustainability within the corporation, wherever possible. This includes internally, externally and through all actions of the corporation.

This policy is not written to be prescriptive, but instead defines principles that CASA aims to incorporate within its operations, information sharing, and advocacy.

1) Events and Operations

- a) CASA events and operations will strive to incorporate a sustainability lens through planning and execution. This includes transportation, event space, food and accommodations;
- b) Encouraging Members to adopt environmentally friendly practices when appropriate; and
- c) CASA will consider and strive to limit the environmental impact of the corporation's financial decisions.

2) Knowledge Sharing

- a) Continued relationship building with knowledge holders;
- b) Continuous efforts made to strive for the indigenization of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations; and
- c) A commitment to continually learn, improve and share knowledge between CASA members, CASA Home Office Staff and partner organizations about ways to improve CASA's environmental impact.

3) Research and Advocacy

- a) When applicable, incorporating an environmental lens in CASA's advocacy and policy development;
- b) Continued efforts made to assess opportunities of growth that will make the corporation more environmentally sustainable.