

CONSTITUTION OF POLISH ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN STUDIES

General Provisions

Art. 1

1. The full name of the Association is: Polish Association for Canadian Studies, hereinafter referred to as PACS.
2. The Head Office of PACS is the city of Kraków. The Association may move the Head Office to another place within Poland as the General Assembly may deem expedient by resolution.
3. The scope of PACS activities is the territory of Poland and beyond.
4. PACS may become a member of any local or international organizations, the policy of which is convergent with the mandate and objectives of PACS.

Mandate and objectives

Art. 2

The objectives of PACS are as follows:

1. activities in favour of the development of Canadian studies in all scholarly areas
2. spreading knowledge about Canada
3. developing contacts with scholars and academics dealing with Canadian Studies and all people deeply interested in any form of expanding knowledge about Canada

Art. 3

The objectives of PACS are accomplished by:

1. organizing conferences at least once every three years
2. co-operating with other local and international organizations, the activities of which are convergent with the mandate and objectives of PACS
3. publishing PACS bulletin or newsletter

Conditions of Membership

Art. 4

1. PACS admits full, sustaining, honorary as well as corresponding members.
2. Full membership is granted to Polish citizens and foreigners who live in Poland and abroad after the submission of a membership application form. Full members have both active and passive vote, the right to participate and exercise one vote during PACS meetings, the right to express opinions, place questions and lodge complaints about the activities of PACS. Full members are obliged to pay annual membership fees in the amount determined by the Board.
3. Sustaining membership is granted to people keenly interested in the activities of PACS and eager to declare financial assistance. Decisions concerning the admission of sustaining members are taken by the Board in virtue of a membership application form.
4. Corresponding membership is granted to Polish citizens or foreigners living abroad whose activity is convergent with the mandate and objectives of PACS and who submit a membership

application in writing. Decisions concerning the admission of Corresponding members are taken by the Board.

5. Honorary membership is granted to a particularly meritorious person rendering great service to the idea of PACS irrespective of nationality, citizenship and place of residence. Decisions concerning granting honorary membership are taken by the General Assembly of PACS members.
6. Sustaining, corresponding and honorary members have the right to participate in General Assembly and PACS Board Meetings without a vote, to express opinions, place questions, and lodge complaints concerning the activities of PACS
7. PACS membership is terminated as a result of:
 - a) member's death
 - b) member's written resignation submitted to the Board
 - c) member's being in arrears with membership dues for the period of at least two years
 - d) member's doing a considerable disservice to PACS
8. Decisions concerning the exclusion of a Full member are taken by the Board and the person in question is to be notified in writing.
9. A Full member has the right to appeal against the decision mentioned in the point above to the General Assembly within the period of 30 days from the date of its receipt. The appeal is to be considered during the next General Assembly meeting in the presence of the member in question.

Authorities of PACS

Art. 5

The authority organs of PACS are:

- a) the General Assembly
- b) the Board
- c) the Board of Control

The term of each authority organ is three years.

Art. 6

1. The General Assembly of PACS members is summoned in writing by the Board at least once every three years. Extraordinary General Assembly meeting can be held at any time and is summoned by the Board on their own initiative, on a written request of 1/6 of all members, or on the demand of the Board of Control within the period of three months from the date of the request.
2. Decisions of PACS authorities are taken by the majority of votes in the presence of at least half of all members with a vote. This condition does not apply to the subsequent General Assembly meeting which is valid irrespective of the number of members present.
3. In the case of resignation of members of the Board or Board of Control during their term, the authorities have the right of co-optation provided the number of people co-opted does not exceed 2/3 of all elected members. If the number of vacant post allowed is exceeded and another vacant post appears, another extraordinary General Assembly meeting shall be summoned.

Art. 7

The General Assembly has the right to:

1. decide on the main directions of the essential activities of PACS
2. vote the acceptance of accounts for the resigning Board on the proposal of the Board of Control

3. elect the President and other members of the Board and the Board of Control in secret voting
4. decide on the amount of the annual membership fee

5. grant honorary membership
6. decide on the amendments to the statute or vote the dissolution of PACS
7. consider the appeals against the decisions of the Board
8. decide on the internal rules, regulations and by-laws
9. consider issues that other PACS authorities are not authorised or empowered to deal with

Art. 8

The Board of PACS exercises the supreme authority in the periods between the meetings of the General Assembly. The Board of PACS consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary General, and the Treasurer, and is constituted after General elections. PACS Board meetings are summoned by the President in case of need. During voting, when the number of votes for and against is equal, the vote of the President is decisive. Declarations of will on behalf of PACS are made by two members of the Board.

Art. 9

The Board of PACS is authorised to:

1. represent PACS outside and act on behalf of PACS
2. administer the property of PACS within the rights granted by the General Assembly
3. execute the decisions made by the General Assembly
4. develop strategies for PACS
5. draw up reports on the activity of PACS
6. to summon General Assembly meetings (regular and extraordinary)
7. to grant membership to Full members and sustaining members as well as to exclude them
8. to adjudicate disputes among PACS members concerning the activity of PACS

Art. 10

The Board of Control is a body of supervision and control whose mandate is:

1. to oversee the financial activity of the Board and decisions of the General Assembly whether in agreement with the charter
2. to put forward granting the acceptance of accounts for the resigning Board by the General Assembly

The Board of Control consists of three people from whom the President of the Board of Control is elected.

Property of PACS

Art. 11

The property of PACS consists of:

1. membership fees
2. subsidies, grants, donations and legacies from private persons and institutions
3. profits from business ventures run on the terms determined by the association law

Final Resolutions:

Art. 12

The amendments to the Constitution and the dissolution of PACS takes place in virtue of the

resolution accepted by the General Assembly by the majority of 2/3 votes in the presence of at

least half of all members during the first meeting, during the second one, irrespective of the number of members present.

The resolution of the General Assembly concerning the dissolution of PACS includes a decision on the appropriation of the property of PACS. In this instance, two members of the last Board shall be the liquidators of PACS.