

**CONSTITUTION OF  
P.E.I. FEDERATION OF UNION RETIREES  
OF THE  
CONGRESS OF UNION RETIREES OF CANADA  
AND THE  
CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS  
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND**

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## **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

### **PREAMBLE**

Inherent in this proposition is the attainment of economic, health, social and legislative objectives through the organization of Canadian retirees from free trade unions, and the promotion and advancement of their interests in all fields of common endeavor by the utilization of their collective strength, abilities and resources.

Founded to contribute to the realization of the legitimate aspirations of those who toil for a living, this organization will not deviate from the pursuit of the cause of peace, freedom and security for all peoples.

It will, at all times, hold true to the high ideals and principles of social justice on which the labour movement was founded.

With a keen appreciation of the tremendous responsibilities it has assumed, this organization accepts the challenge of the future to foster and defend the principles of democracy in the economic, social political life of the nation.

### **ARTICLE 1 – NAME AND HEADQUARTERS**

1.1 This organization shall be known as the Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees (PEIFUR)

### **ARTICLE 2 – OBJECTIVES**

2.1 To unite, through membership in chapters of clubs of retired workers from unions affiliated with the Canadian Labour Congress, and other organizations representing retired officers and staff of affiliated unions and the Canadian Labour Congress; to monitor social, health, economic, educational, legislative and political events of interest to working people and retirees of Prince Edward Island.

2.2 To fight for the rights of all persons to have a decent and equitable standard of living.

2.3 To cooperate with other organizations and affiliates with similar objectives on mutual campaigns for long-term goals.

### **ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in the Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees (PEIFUR) shall consist of:

3.1 Area councils of union retiree organizations of the Canadian Labour Congress affiliates in the Province of Prince Edward Island.

3.2 Organizations representing retired officers and staff of affiliated unions and the Canadian Labour Congress.

3.3 Individual union retirees, their spouses, as well as those retirees actively paying union dues, who have reached the age of fifty (50) may directly join PEIFUR and the Regional councils.

### **ARTICLE 4 - FEES**

4.1 Members of the Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees shall be required to obtain membership in the Congress of Union Retirees of Canada.

4.2 The annual membership fee in the Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees shall be such as approved by a majority of the votes at AGM.

### **ARTICLE 5 – OFFICERS**

5.1 The officers for the PEIFUR Council shall consists of: Officers will normally be elected to serve terms of two years, except in the first AGM where First VP and Treasurer will be elected for a one year term

A) President – two (2) year term

B) 1st Vice President elected in even numbered years initially elected for a one year term, thereafter for a two year term.

C) A second Vice President who shall be a woman Elected for a two year term

D) A treasurer elected in even numbered years for a two year period

E) A recording Secretary elected in uneven years for a two year period.

5.2 Each officer shall be a member in good standing of CURC/PEIFUR and at the Annual General Meeting each year thereafter.

5.3 Initial election of officers shall take place at the Founding Meeting of PEIFUR and at the Annual General Meeting each year thereafter.

## **ARTICLE 6 – EXECUTIVE and STANDING COMMITTEES**

6.1 The Executive Council consists of the officers, as outlined in Article 5.1.

6.2 The Executive Council is authorized to act on behalf of the PEIFUR between annual general meetings.

6.3 The Executive Council shall meet at the Call of the President or the agreement of a majority of the Executive Council

6.4 The Executive Council shall be authorized to reimburse members of the PEIFUR for necessary expenses in performing their PEIFUR duties and responsibilities.

## **ARTICLE 7 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

7.1 To be eligible to run for office, a member must be in good standing of CURC and the PEIFUR.

7.2 The election of the President and Treasurer, shall take place at the PEIFUR Founding Meeting, unless otherwise determined by the Meeting, and at the Annual General Meeting each year thereafter.

7.3 Election of officers shall be by secret ballot. A majority of votes cast shall be required before any candidate can be declared elected, and second and subsequent ballots shall be taken if necessary to obtain such a majority. On the second and subsequent ballots, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes in the previous ballot shall be dropped. In case of a final tie vote, the chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.

7.5 When two or more nominees are to be elected to any office by ballot, each delegate voting shall be required to vote for the full number of candidates to be elected or the delegate's ballot will be declared spoiled.

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

7.7 Nominees allowing their names to go forward for election to any office, shall accept the following obligation: ‘In accepting nomination, he/she agree to support the constitution, principles and policies of the PEIFUR.

7.8 All officers before assuming office in the Federation shall take the following oath:

“I (name) do hereby sincerely pledge my word and honor to perform my duties with integrity, to the best of my ability as an officer of the PEIFUR. I will attend, when able to do so, all meetings of the Executive Council of which I shall be a member, and at the end of my term of office, I shall turn over to my successor of the PEIFUR all properties or funds in my possession that belong to the Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees.

7.9 The term of officers of the PEIFUR commence immediately following the adjournment of the AGM.

## **ARTICLE 8 – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### **8.1 The President**

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the PEIFUR. The President shall sign all official documents and preside at regular and special meeting of the Executive Council he/she has called. The President shall have authority to interpret the Constitution and that interpretation shall be conclusive and in full force and effect unless reversed or changed by the Executive Council or AGM. The President shall report on the administration of that office and on the affairs of the Executive Council, AGM through the Report of the Executive Council.

8.2 The First Vice President shall assume the duties of the President should he/she be unable to carry out the responsibility of the office of president

8.3 The Second Vice President shall be responsible for Equity issues and in consultation with the other officers speak to equity issues on behalf of the Federation.

#### 8.4 Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be the Chief financial Officer of the PEIFUR. He/she shall prepare a financial statement of the PEIFLR for each meeting of the Executive Council and for the PEIFLR AGM. The Treasurer will keep a record of all receipts and expenditures and will have the books audited in a timely manner before each PEIFLR AGM and such audit to be reported to the AGM through the Executive Committee Report. The Treasurer shall be bonded in such amount as may be determined by the Executive Council. The Treasurer will receive and pay out moneys as authorized by Executive Council.

#### 8.5 Signing Officers

The Signing Officers for financial and legal documents shall firstly be the President and Treasurer, except where the first named officers are not reasonably available, the Vice President or act for the President or the Treasurer. One of two signatures must be that of the President or the Treasurer.

#### 8.6 Bonding

All officers authorized to deal with finances shall be bonded through the bonding procedure of the Canadian Labour Congress.

### **ARTICLE 9 – ANNUAL GENERAL AND GENERAL MEETINGS**

9.1 The Executive Council of PEIFUR shall meet three (3) times each year. (spring, fall & winter)

9.2 The AGM shall be the supreme governing body of the PEIFUR.

9.3 Decisions shall be by a majority vote except as provided in Article 11.

9.4 The AGM shall be held yearly, in the spring, at a location and date decided by the Executive Council, with advance notice of thirty (30) days, provided to the membership.

9.5 Current members of the PEIFUR are eligible to attend the AGM with voting privilege.

9.6 Resolutions may be submitted to the Executive Council, preferably seven (7) days prior to the AGM. Emergency resolutions, with the approval of registered members in attendance, may be accepted from the floor.

9.7 A registration of members will occur upon arrival at the AGM. A quorum consisting of twenty five (25%) of the membership registered at the start of the AGM, including a least fifty (50%) of Executive Council Members, shall be required to continue carrying on official PEIFUR business for the duration of said AGM.

## **ARTICLE 10 – RULES AND ORDER OF BUSINESS**

10.1 The President or Vice President (in the absence of or at the request of the President) shall take the chair at any AGM or general membership meeting.

10.2 No questions of a sectarian or racially prejudicial character shall be discussed.

10.3 A member wishing to speak shall proceed to one of the microphones provided for that purpose. When recognized by the Chairperson, the member shall proceed and confine his remarks to the question at issue.

10.4 Speeches shall be limited to five minutes, except in moving a resolution, when the member shall be allowed ten minutes.

10.5 A member shall not speak more than once upon a subject until all who wish to speak on the subject have had an opportunity to do so.

10.6 A member shall not interrupt another except if it be to call a point of order or privilege.

10.7 If a member be called to order, at the request of the Chairperson, the member shall be seated until the question, point or order or privilege has been decided.

10.8 Should a member persist in un-parliamentary conduct, the Chairperson will be compelled to name the member and submit such conduct to the judgment of the meeting. In such case, the member whose conduct is in question should explain and then withdraw, and the members in attendance will determine what course to pursue in the matter.

10.9 When a question is put, the Chairperson, after announcing the question, shall ask “Are you ready for the question?” If no member wishes to speak, the question shall be put.

10.10 Questions may be decided by a show of hands, or a standing vote on the basis of one vote per member. A roll call vote may be demanded by one-third of the members present. In a roll call vote each member shall be entitled to one vote.

10.11 Two members may appeal the decision of the chair. The Chairperson shall then put the questions thus: “Shall the decision of the chair be sustained?” The question shall not be debatable except that the Chairperson may make an explanation of the decision.

10.12 The Chairperson shall have the same rights as other members to vote on any question. In case of a tie vote, the Chairperson shall cast the deciding vote.

10.13 When the previous question is moved, no discussion or amendment of either motion is permitted. If the majority votes that “the question be now put, the original motion has to be put without debate. If the motion is put and the question is defeated, discussion will continue on the original motion.

10.14 Committees may combine resolutions or prepare a composite resolution to cover the intent of the question at issue. Reports of committees are not subject to amendment except such as is acceptable to the committee, but a motion to refer back to the committee for reconsideration shall be in order.

10.15 A member shall not move a motion to refer back after speaking on the question at issue.

10.16 A motion to refer back is not debatable and when properly seconded, the question shall be immediately put to the meeting.

10.17 If the report of a committee is adopted, it becomes the decision of the meeting; if defeated, it may be referred back to the committee for reconsideration.

10.18 When a question is pending before the meeting, no motion shall be in order except – to refer – for the previous question - to postpone for a definite time. If any of the foregoing motions are negated, they cannot be renewed until after an intermediate proceeding.



10.19 A motion may be reconsidered provided the mover of the motion to reconsider voted with the majority and said notice of motion is supported by two-thirds (2/3) of the members qualified to vote.

10.20 The Executive Council is empowered to establish the hours of the meeting.

10.21 In all matters not regulated by these rules of order, Bourinot's Rules of Order shall govern.

## **ARTICLE 11 – CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**

11.1 Constitutional amendments must be submitted at least 15 days prior to the Annual General Meeting and must be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.

11.2 Amendments to this Constitution must be adopted by two thirds (2/3) majority ratification of PEIFUR members voting.

11.3 Unless otherwise specified, any decision by the Annual General Meeting shall take effect immediately upon adjournment of the Meeting.

11.4 The Executive Council of the PEIFUR may submit constitutional amendments when deemed necessary. For passage, these amendments will also require a two-thirds (2/3) PEIFUR ratification of members present at the Convention.

This Constitution was approved at the "Founding Meeting of the Prince Edward Island Federation of Union Retirees" on April 28, 2010.