

March 1986

AMENDED CONSTITUTION

ASSOCIATION OF INDO-CANADIANS INC.

C O N S T I T U T I O N

Article I

The name of this organization shall be "Association of Indo-Canadians, Inc."

Article II
OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

- Section 1 The objective of this Association shall be to promote a sense of fellowship and togetherness among its members; and to enhance the usefulness of the Association to the general community at large through cultural, educational, charitable and humanitarian programs.
- Section 2 The Association will not seek to obtain personal gain for any of its member or members; any moneys or property that might accrue to the Association will be solely utilized in the furtherance of its objectives.
- Section 3 It shall be the endeavour of the Association to help in charitable projects so as to ensure the progress of human welfare.

Article III
DIRECTIVE PRINCIPLES OF POLICY

- Section 1 These principles are not binding or enforceable but will serve as a guide and a frame of reference in respect of any action that the Association may take in the pursuance of its goals and objectives.
- Section 2 The Association seeks to promote the collective interests of its members in its various social, charitable and humanitarian endeavours.
- Section 3 The Association abjures commitment to any political party or to the latter's aims and objectives; the Association is non-political and will maintain the principle of political neutrality; individual members are free to join and engage in any kind of political activity but the Association will not commit itself to any political grouping.

Section 4 It shall be the general endeavour of the Association to protect the welfare and promote the image of the Indo-Canadian community whenever and wherever possible; it shall be the responsibility of the Executive Board to determine when and where such action becomes necessary.

Section 5 The Association whenever possible shall endeavour to participate in those activities of Canadian society which are likely to promote the attainment of multicultural, charitable and humanitarian goals.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Section 1 Membership is open to all adults who subscribe to the objectives of the Association and are eligible for membership.

Section 2 The procedure for securing membership is by a prospective member applying orally or in writing to the Secretary who will at the very next meeting of the Board submit the application for the Board's approval. Upon approval, the applicant shall, on payment of the required dues for the first year, be declared a member. There shall be three (3) categories of membership:

- (a) family membership with a maximum of two votes,
- (b) individual membership with full voting rights,
- (c) student membership at a reduced fee with full membership rights.

Section 3 Membership dues for each year shall be determined by the General Body Meeting a year in advance and payable for one year for the period commencing October of each year. The Treasurer shall notify members in arrears of two months and if dues are not paid within four weeks thereafter, membership will cease.

Section 4 Resignation from the Association shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary who shall submit it to the Executive Board for necessary action.

ARTICLE V THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section 1 The Executive Board of the Association shall comprise the President, Vice-President/Treasurer, Secretary and Social Secretary; for purposes of continuity in policy from the previous year, the past President shall be consulted by the Executive Board.

Section 2 The duties and responsibilities of the Executive Board are:-

- (a) to generally supervise the affairs of the Association between its meetings
- (b) fix the hour and place of General Body Meetings
- (c) perform other duties as are specified in this Constitution
- (d) implement the decisions of the General Body and act in accordance with the duly and constitutionally expressed wishes of the General Body
- (e) submit all matters of major importance for action and ratification to the General Body
- (f) perform all other duties prescribed by this Constitution.

In carrying out its duties, the Executive Board shall as far as is possible and convenient act in accordance with parliamentary rules prescribed for the transaction of similar business.

Section 3 The Executive Board shall meet at such times and at such intervals as the Executive Board may decide from time to time. Special meetings of the Board can be called at the request of at least two (2) members of the Board.

Section 4 Members who are residents of New Brunswick only shall be eligible for election to the Board.

Section 5 A Nominating Committee of three members, none of whom is a member of the Executive Board, shall be appointed by the President in consultation with the Executive Board at least sixty (60) days prior to the election of office bearers. This Committee shall nominate candidates for the offices to be filled in the Executive Board. Before election at the meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted. The Officers shall be elected by ballot to serve normally for two years or until their successors are elected; the latter's term of office shall begin immediately following their election.

Section 6 No member shall hold more than one office at a time and no member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

ARTICLE VI THE GENERAL BODY

Section 1 All members of the Association shall constitute the General Body.

Section 2 The Annual Meeting of the General Body shall be held in the month of October of each year. At least ten (10) days notice of such meeting shall be circulated. The Meeting shall be for the purpose if necessary of

- (a) discussing future plans for the Association, in particular, matters relating to educational programs and cultural events
- (b) Discussing any other business that members might wish to bring to the attention of the office-bearers or the General Body

- (c) electing office-bearers if required
- (d) appointing an auditor for the coming year
- (e) receiving annual progress reports of office-bearers and committees and the auditor's report

Section 3 A quorum shall comprise one-third of the total membership of the Association or twenty (20) members whichever is less.

Section 4 Special meetings of the Association can be called

- (a) by the President of the Association
- (b) upon the written request of five or more members of the Association

The purpose for such meeting shall be indicated in the notice summoning the meeting. Due notice shall be given for such meetings. In the case of an emergency meeting, the Executive Board may decide the period of notice required for convening such a meeting.

Section 5 Amendments, additions and modifications to this Constitution will be deemed duly adopted (a) provided twenty-one (21) days notice of such proposed changes have been given to the Secretary of the Association in writing; it shall be the responsibility of the Secretary to circulate such proposals in writing at least ten (10) days before the Meeting, and (b) if two-thirds of the members of the Meeting approve of the change.

ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES

Besides the Nominating Committee referred to in Article V, Section 5, the Executive Board shall constitute (a) an educational program committee, and (b) a cultural affairs committee/committees and such other committees as it deems appropriate. The maximum period of office of such committee shall coincide with that of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules Of Order - New Revised shall govern the Association in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special By-Laws this Association may adopt.

Article IX DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1 Should the Association at any time be for any reason wound up, the assets, after liabilities have been paid, shall be utilized for charities approved by the Executive.

ARTICLE X
TRANSITIONAL SECTIONS

1. The first Executive Board shall serve for the period April 1986 to October 1987.
2. The financial statement shall be for the period 1 April 1986 to 30 September 1987.
3. For the transitional period indicated, membership dues shall be one-and-one half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) times the regular annual fee for each category of membership.