

Canada-Wide Peace and Justice Network: A Process for Working Together

1. Criteria for inclusion in the network and expectations of members:

- a. Broad definition of inclusion, open to individuals and organizations who are working in or committed to working in anti-war, peace, environmental, international solidarity, decolonization, and/or social justice areas. Members share broad support for anti-war, peace, and disarmament activities.
- b. Members are Canada-based or have branches/chapters in Canada.
- c. Members communicate in a respectful manner using inclusive language that recognizes the diversity of positionality, interests, and viewpoints represented in the network.
- d. The network is non-partisan and is not open to political parties
- e. Members are committed to work towards cooperation and unity of action to support the network's activities, but always have the option to opt-out of shared campaigns. Members are not obligated to participate in/promote all of the network's activities. Participating in any action is voluntary.
- f. The network promotes and is committed to nonviolent methods for peacebuilding and conflict resolution, and recognizes the important role of civil disobedience in our movements. Events and actions organized or endorsed by the network won't use or advocate violence.
- g. Network-wide meetings are held every 2 months during the formative phase of establishing the network. Subsequently, meetings are held at a minimum on a quarterly basis (every 3 months). Meetings are hosted via Zoom to allow for remote participation from members across Canada.
- h. If an organization or individual meets and agrees with this criteria, they can confirm their membership by completing a membership sign-up form. The form lists the criteria for membership, and asks if the signer is officially signing on as an organizational representative or as an individual.
- i. There is an annual check-in with all members (individuals and organizations) to reaffirm their membership, to make sure the network's membership list remains up-to-date.
- j. There is a coordinating committee of up to 9 members that helps with logistics for keeping the network functioning, such as scheduling meetings, planning agendas, facilitating meetings, etc. The coordinating committee is not a decision-making body; decisions are made by the entire network. Members of the network self-nominate to join the coordinating committee. For those who represent an organization on the committee, it is recommended that organizations internally decide who to self-nominate to represent their group on the coordinating committee. If self-nominations greatly exceed 9 members,

a waiting list will be created and a lottery system will be used to randomly pick coordinating committee members. Terms are staggered, so 3 members are added and 3 members depart every 12 months to ensure that there is not 100% turnover each time. The network encourages self-nominations that maximize regional (urban/rural and geographic) diversity, racial diversity and organizational diversity on the committee, encouraging inclusion of those who have experienced impacts of war.

2. **Decision-making procedures:** Recognizing the diversity of opinions in the network, the network is a platform for facilitating info sharing and promotion of members' activities and campaigns. At times when the network wants to organize a shared campaign or take positions as a network, this decision-making procedure helps to facilitate collaborative work as a network.
 - a. Modified consensus: The network seeks agreement from all members. Complete and unified agreement may not be feasible. In order to reach a decision, members can support or stand aside. To reach modified consensus, there are no individuals or organizations actively blocking the decision from moving forward.
 - b. Regarding voting:
Modified consensus is the preferred decision-making process. However, members can request a supermajority 66% vote *only* for procedural and structural decisions that would, for example, affect the terms of reference, process for working together, criteria for membership, or for removal of members from the network. To request a vote, one member needs to put forth a request and at least 1 other member needs to second it.
 - c. The voting body consists of members who have attended at least 2 out of the last 4 meetings. The meeting at which a vote is taking place may constitute a member's 2nd meeting.
 - d. For decisions made outside of the quarterly calls, such as simple or logistical decisions made over email or other suitable online tool, there is a timeline of 1 week. If no concerns are raised within 1 week of a proposal being put forward, then the decision can be made. Proposals that require a network decision (for network action or endorsement) must be sent with **CONSENSUS NEEDED** in the subject line.