

## **Manitoba Citizens on Patrol Program Constitution**

### **Article I – Name of Organization**

This organization shall be known as the Manitoba Citizens on Patrol Program (herein referred to as Manitoba COPP).

### **Article II – Definitions**

In these Articles, including this clause, and unless the context of the Manitoba COPP Constitution requires a different meaning:

- (a) “Annual General Meeting” means the regular meeting of the delegation of registered groups belonging to the Citizens on Patrol Program.
- (b) “COPP” stands for Citizens On Patrol Program.
- (c) “PAC” stands for Provincial Advisory Committee, the directing and governing body of Manitoba COPP.
- (d) “Resource Council” means a body of representatives from support agencies.
- (e) “Provincial Coordinator” means the person appointed by the sponsoring organization(s).

### **Article III– Mission Statement**

The mission of Manitoba COPP shall be to build safer communities by mobilizing citizens throughout Manitoba to participate in a community-based crime prevention initiative in cooperation with law enforcement agencies.

### **Article IV- Goals and Objectives**

Sc. (1) - The goals of this organization shall be to encourage, mobilize and support individuals and groups interested in improving the safety of Manitoba's communities through a coordinated sustainable approach.

Sc. (2) - The objectives of this organization shall be:

- (a) Deterrence: to provide a presence within the community through patrolling.
- (b) Education: to educate Manitobans on crime prevention.
- (c) Awareness: to increase Manitobans' awareness on crime related issues.

### **Article V – General Membership**

Membership shall consist of individuals registered with Manitoba COPP.

## **Article VI - Structure of COPP Groups**

- Sc. 1 - Each registered COPP group will consist of a general membership of individuals as noted in Article V.
- Sc. 2 - Each registered COPP group may select one coordinator and one co-coordinator to act as a liaison between the general membership, law enforcement agencies and Manitoba COPP.
- Sc. 3 - Each registered COPP group may elect its own executive.

## **Article VII– Provincial Advisory Committee (PAC)**

- Sc. 1 - The role of the PAC is to provide advice and support to COPP groups through information sharing and recommendations from members of Manitoba COPP regarding the program and its operations.
- Sc. 2 - The PAC shall consist of elected members of Manitoba COPP from each COPP region in Manitoba.
- Sc. 3 - More than one PAC member may be elected in a region that has more than eight active groups.
- Sc. 4 - Terms of Office for Regional Representatives -
- (a) The Term of Office for Regional Representatives shall be 3 years.
  - (b) Each Regional Representative may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms.
  - (c) Each Regional Representative must reside in the region they are elected to represent.
- Sc. 5 – Provincial Advisory Committee Executive -  
The PAC Executive shall consist of:
- (a) Chairperson
  - (b) 1<sup>st</sup> Vice- Chairperson
  - (c) 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson
  - (d) Secretary
  - (e) Provincial Coordinator
- Sc. 6 – Resource Council
- (a) The Resource Council may include non-voting representation from each supporting agency.
  - (b) The PAC may invite representation from new supporting agencies.

### **Article VIII - Dismissal of PAC Members**

- (a) Failure by a PAC member to adhere to the program requirements may result in dismissal from the Committee.
- (b) The consequence in Article VIII (a) will be determined by a majority vote of the PAC membership after consultation with the Provincial Coordinator. The Provincial Coordinator may veto the decision of the PAC.

### **Article IX - Dissolution of a COPP Group**

Failure to fulfill and/or adhere to the Program requirements as agreed to upon application to become a Manitoba COPP group, may result in the group being suspended or dismissed from the program.

### **Article X- Amendments to Governing Documents**

- (a) Amendments to the COPP Constitution must be presented to the general assembly for ratification at the Annual General Meeting.
- (b) By-laws and policies and procedures will be established by the PAC.
- (c) COPP group coordinators will be notified of the proposed amendments no less than 60 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by a simple majority of delegates at a General Meeting.

### **Ratification:**

Ratified on April 19, 2009 at the AGM of delegates representing COPP groups throughout the province.