

Союз Українців Самостійників у Канаді
СУС

Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada
USRL



СТАТУТ
BYLAWS

Article 1 NAME: UKRAINIAN SELF-RELIANCE LEAGUE OF CANADA

1.1 The Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada (USRL) is a broadly based federation which, through its component and affiliate organizations, embraces and co-ordinates spheres of activity of Orthodox Canadians of Ukrainian descent and which addresses issues from the position of a Self-Reliant ideology and Canadian citizenship.

Article 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF USRL

2.1 The aims and founding objectives of USRL are:

- a) to cultivate and propagate the concepts of self-respect, self-help and self-reliance,
- b) to provide direction and assistance for the work of the component organizations with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada and to assist in its growth,
- c) to provide direction and assistance for the work of the affiliate organizations,
- d) to assist and support, within the framework of Canadian citizenship, in the development of the Ukrainian nation as a self governing, sovereign and democratic state,
- e) to encourage all Canadian citizens of Ukrainian descent to take full part in the educational, cultural, social, economic and political life of Canada based on the equality of rights and privileges of its citizens, as well as on their responsibilities,
- f) to oppose all undemocratic movements among Ukrainians in Canada and among Canadians in general, and
- g) to retain, cultivate and develop the cultural and religious heritage of Orthodox Canadians of Ukrainian descent for the enrichment of their lives and in the interest of Canadian and Ukrainian cultural development.

Article 3 COMPONENT AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS OF USRL

3.1 Component and affiliate organizations of USRL are:

- a) Component organizations:
 - i. Ukrainian Self-Reliance Association (USRA)
 - ii. Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada (UWAC)
 - iii. Canadian Ukrainian Youth Association (CYMK)
- b) Affiliate organizations of USRL:
 - i. St. Petro Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon

- ii. St. John's Institute in Edmonton
- iii. St. Vladimir Institute in Toronto
- iv. Ukrainian Museum of Canada of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada
- v. SUS Foundation
- vi. St. John's Fraternal Society in Edmonton

3.2 Each component organization of USRL functions in the framework of its own bylaws, but on all ideological issues subordinates itself to the decisions of the General Convention and National Executive Committee (NEC) of USRL.

3.3 Each affiliate organization of USRL functions in the framework of its own bylaws.

3.4 A component organization is not permitted to withdraw from USRL. An affiliate organization may withdraw from USRL in accordance with its own constitution or bylaws.

3.5 Any other organization or institution which agrees to support the aims and objectives of USRL can apply to be a member of USRL, subject to the approval of the General Convention of USRL.

Article 4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMPONENT AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

4.1 Each component organization of USRL:

- a) acknowledges the validity of the resolutions of the General Conventions of USRL and complies with the decisions and the directives of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of USRL,
- b) carries on its own work consistent with the USRL in terms of principles, programs, aims and objectives,
- c) carries out the decisions of the USRL conventions, conferences and consultations and the directives of the NEC
- d) co-ordinates its activities with the work of other component and affiliate organizations of USRL,
- e) presents reports of its activities at the General Convention of USRL, and
- f) assists the NEC in fulfilling its program and the aims and objectives of USRL.

4.2 Each affiliate organization of USRL

- a) presents reports of its activities at the General Convention of USRL, and
- b) assists the NEC in fulfilling its program and the aims and objectives of USRL.

Article 5 RIGHTS OF THE COMPONENT AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS OF USRL

5.1 Each component and affiliate organization of USRL:

- a) through its membership participates in the conventions, conferences, consultations and decision-making of USRL, and
- b) is represented in the NEC

Article 6 COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF USRL

6.1 National Executive Committee of USRL

- a) The membership of the National Executive Committee (NEC) of USRL shall be
 - i. Past President of USRL,
 - ii. Three members elected at the General Convention of USRL: President, Secretary and Treasurer,
 - iii. One representative from each of the National Executives of USRA, UWAC and CYMK, from which will be elected by the General Convention of USRL, the First, Second and Third Vice President of the NEC,
 - iv. The six elected members of the NEC as detailed in ii) and iii) immediately above will be the Officers of the NEC.
 - v. One representative elected by the General Convention of USRL from each of the Boards of Director of St. Petro Mohyla Institute, St. John's Institute and St. Vladimir Institute, as well as the Boards of the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, the SUS Foundation, St. John's Fraternal Society and other Affiliates which are members of USRL, and
 - vi. One representative elected by the General Convention of USRL from each the Provincial/Regional USRL Executives.
- b) In addition to the above members the NEC will include a Chaplain (non-voting) blessed by the Bishop.
- c) In the absence of the President, who is the Chairperson of NEC, the First Vice-President assumes the Chairmanship, and in the event the First Vice-President is unable to so act, the remaining members of the NEC elect one person from among themselves to be Chairperson until the President or the 1st Vice-President become available or until next General Convention of USRL whichever comes first.
- d) The Directors of the NEC shall be the elected representatives of the Board of Directors of St. Petro Mohyla Institute, St. John's Institute and St. Vladimir's Institute, as well as the elected representatives of the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, the SUS Foundation, St. John's Fraternal Society in Edmonton and the

- Provincial/Regional USRL Executives.
- e) Six members of the NEC, four of whom must be officers of the NEC will constitute a quorum of NEC for a regular or annual meeting.
 - f) All Officers and directors of the NEC named in clause 6.1.a herein have full voting rights at meetings of the NEC on all matters put to a vote thereat as well as on all matters set out in Article 7.4 herein.
 - g) The duties of all officers of the NEC shall be such as the terms of their engagement call for or the NEC requires of them.

6.2 Duties of Officers and Directors of the USRL

- a) The President shall be the chief executive officer of the USRL. The President shall be the Chairperson and preside at all meetings of the NEC, shall be responsible for the general and active management of the affairs of the NEC and shall see that all orders and resolutions of the NEC are carried into effect.
- b) Each Vice-President shall, in the absence or disability of their President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of their President and shall perform such other duties as shall from time to time be imposed by the NEC.
- c) The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds and securities of the USRL and shall keep full and accurate accounts of all assets, liabilities, receipts, and disbursements of the USRL in the books belonging to the USRL and shall deposit all monies, securities and other valuable effects in the name and to the credit of the USRL in such chartered bank or trust company as may be designated by the NEC from time to time. The Treasurer shall disburse the funds of the USRL as may be directed by proper authority taking proper vouchers for such disbursements, and shall render to the NEC at the regular meetings thereof, or whenever the NEC may require it, an accounting of all the transactions and a statement of the financial position of the USRL. The treasurer shall also perform such other duties as may from time to time be directed by the NEC.
- d) The Secretary may be empowered by the NEC upon resolution thereof to carry on the affairs of the USRL generally under the supervision of the officers thereof and shall attend all meetings and act as clerk thereof and record all votes and minutes of all proceedings in the books to be kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall give or cause to be given notice of all meetings of the NEC, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the NEC or the President.
- e) The Past President shall perform such duties as may be assigned from time to time by the NEC.
- f) The Chaplain, blessed by the Bishop, shall be the primary spiritual advisor.
- g) The duties of the Directors as named in clause 6.1.e of the NEC shall be such as the terms of their engagement call for or the NEC requires of them.

6.3 Provincial/Regional Executives of USRL

- a) Provincial/Regional Executives of USRL are made up of the Presidents of the Provincial/Regional Executives of USRA, UWAC and CYMK, and Chairpersons of the Board of Directors or representatives of affiliate organizations who choose Provincial/Regional officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer) from among themselves.
- b) Provincial/Regional Executives of the component organizations USRA, UWAC and CYMK are chosen at the Provincial Conventions of their respective organizations.
- c) Provincial Executives are organized in the West on a provincial basis: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Regional Executive in Eastern Canada is chosen at the convention in Eastern Canada which includes all provinces east of the Lakehead.
- d) The duties of all officers of the Provincial/Regional Executives of USRL shall be such as are outlined in the respective bylaws of the component and affiliate organizations and as are set out in Article 7.5 herein.

6.4 Remuneration

- a) No officer of the USRL or the NEC and no member of the Provincial/Regional Executives of the USRL shall receive for his or her services any stated remuneration; however, an officer or a member may be paid reasonable expenses incurred in the exercise of his or her duties, the final authority for which shall be by a duly passed resolution of the NEC in the former case and the Provincial/Regional Executive in the latter case.

Article 7 RIGHTS AND POWERS OF THE GOVERNING BODIES OF USRL

7.1 Annual Meeting of the USRL

- a) The USRL shall hold an annual meeting, which will take place during the General Convention. During the years when the General Convention is not held the complete NEC, as named in clause 6.1.a, will meet for the purpose of conducting an annual meeting.
- b) Notice of such annual meeting as to time, place and agenda shall be submitted in writing (which could be by email) to the Presidents/Chairpersons of the component and affiliate organizations of USRL.
- c) Conventions of USRL address matters which pertain to the work of component and affiliate organizations of USRL.
- d) The component and affiliate organizations of USRL are entitled to choose, from among their membership in good standing, delegates to attend the General Convention. In addition to such delegates, attendance at conventions is open to guests.

- e) All motions and resolutions of conventions are resolved by majority vote, with the exception of voting on changes in bylaws, unless otherwise specifically provided for by the Canada Corporations Act.
- f) At the General Convention the delegates shall decide whether or not to waive the need for a formal audit of the financial records of the USRL and choose, in lieu, a review, but notwithstanding three members shall be elected to the audit committee for a term of two years to the time of the next General Convention. The audit committee:
 - i. shall consist of a Chairperson plus two members, all of whom must be members in good standing of any of the component and affiliate organization,
 - ii. shall be entitled to receive a copy of the minutes of the General Convention or of the annual general meeting within three months of the date thereof,
 - iii. shall be entitled to examine all books and records of USRL as they deem necessary,
 - iv. in the absence of a formal audit as 7.1.f above, shall review the financial records of USRL for the two year term and submit to the General Convention its report thereof, and
 - v. shall have the right to employ a professional accountant if they consider it necessary.

7.2 General Convention of USRL

- a) The foremost legislative body of USRL is the General Convention.
- b) The General Convention of USRL takes place once every two years at the time and place designated by the NEC.
- c) The delegates in attendance at the General Convention have full participatory rights and full voting rights on any matters put to a vote. Guests do not have a vote at the General Convention.
- d) Each component and affiliate organization of USRL has the right to designate a portion of the agenda or program of the General Convention for specific discussions. These specific discussions shall be of a nature consistent with the bylaws of the component and affiliate organizations. Participation in such specific discussions is limited to delegates and is not open to guests.
- e) The General Convention of USRL elects three members of the NEC: President, Secretary and Treasurer.
- f) A quorum for the transaction of the affairs of a General Convention shall consist of at least 50% (fifty percent) of delegates that registered for the General Convention.

7.3 Annual Meeting of USRL

- a) An Annual Meeting of USRL shall be called by the NEC every year following the year of the General Convention for the purpose of discussing and resolving pertinent issues.
- b) The NEC, as named in clause 6.1 shall meet to discuss issues and to review the work that was completed during the previous year.
- c) The officers and directors of NEC, as named in clause 6.1., in attendance at the annual meeting shall have full participatory rights therein and full voting rights on any matter put to a vote thereat.
- d) Five members of the NEC, two of whom must be from among the Presidents of USRA, UWAC and CYMK, and two from the three elected at the General Convention of the USRL: President, Secretary and Treasurer constitute a quorum for the annual meeting.

7.4 National Executive Committee of USRL

- a) The NEC has the following responsibilities:
 - i. to carry out the resolutions of the conventions, to address ongoing matters, to assign USRL funds, to be generally responsible for the welfare and operation of the organization,
 - ii. to establish and administer the annual budget for the USRL,
 - iii. in consultation with the National Executives of component and affiliate organizations, to convene a General Convention of USRL once every two years and an annual meeting in the years when General Conventions are not held, to develop the program for each convention or annual meeting and to carry out all preparatory work leading up to each convention or annual meeting,
 - iv. to meet periodically but no fewer than four times a year; such meetings are called by the President or Vice-President, or by the Secretary with the approval of the President or Vice-President, and notice of such meetings shall be communicated by letter or e-mail. The meetings of the NEC can be held in person, by conference calls or by other means as decided by the NEC as long as all officers and directors can participate meaningfully in the deliberations of the meetings,
 - v. the NEC attempts to ensure that all component organizations and their branches operate within the framework of their bylaws, objectives and principles within the USRL, and
 - vi. the NEC can use email or other electronic means to conduct its business and to make decisions which normally must be made at times between meetings of the NEC as long as all members and directors of the NEC have had an opportunity to participate meaningfully in the deliberations.

7.5 Provincial/Regional Executives of USRL

- a) Provincial/Regional Executives of USRL are operating bodies of USRL and yearly, at the end of June, or one month before the General Convention of USRL must submit to the NEC written reports of their activities.
- b) Provincial/Regional Executives of USRL have the following responsibilities:
 - i. to oversee organizational work in their province and to be responsible to the NEC for such work,
 - ii. to plan their work in agreement with the NEC and to put such plans into effect,
 - iii. to correspond with the NEC and to receive important resolutions of the NEC dealing with organizational matters,
 - iv. to be responsible for funds which are allocated to their executive, and
 - v. to carry out the role of a coordinating committee for their respective province/province.
- c) In the event of the resignation of a member of the Provincial Executive, that organization or affiliate which the member represented may appoint a new representative to the Provincial Executive.

7.6 Removal from Office or Committee

- a) Any officer or director of the NEC may be removed from office by resolution of the NEC properly convened and supported by a 75% (seventy five percent) vote of the NEC. A notice of vote for removal, signed by the President and Secretary, shall be issued, at least 14 (fourteen) days prior to the vote on such a resolution, to person intended to be removed. Removal of any officer or director shall be only on the following grounds:
 - i. ceasing to support the aims and ideology of USRL,
 - ii. causing action which is detrimental to USRL, or
 - iii. failure to perform one's duties as an officer or member.

7.7 Other Limitations and Powers of the NEC

Other limitations and powers of the NEC are as detailed in Schedule I attached hereto.

Article 8 FUNDS

8.1 Sources of funds for USRL are:

- a) annual dues of the component and affiliate organizations,
- b) voluntary donations, and
- c) fund drives called by the NEC or its component and affiliate organizations.

Article 9 DISPUTES

9.1 The NEC settles disputes in component organizations.

Article 10 SEAL AND EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

10.1 The official seal of USRL shall bear the design of the official emblem and the inscription of USRL in both Ukrainian and English.

10.2 An impression of the official seal of USRL is stamped below.



10.3 The Secretary of NEC shall have custody of the official seal of USRL.

10.4 Contracts, documents or any instruments in writing requiring the signature and/or seal of USRL shall be signed by any two of the following: President, Secretary or Treasurer of the NEC. All contracts, documents or instruments in writing so signed and/or sealed shall be binding upon USRL when authorize proper resolution of the NEC.

Article 11 CHANGES IN BYLAWS

11.1 The General Convention of USRL may amend the Bylaws by a majority vote of the delegates at the General Convention except as noted in clause 11.2.

11.2 Amendments to the Bylaws concerning the aims or objectives of USRL or rights and competence of the annual meetings of USRL may be changed at a General Convention by a 75% (seventy five percent) vote of delegates present at the General Convention.

- 11.3 Any proposed amendments to the Bylaws of USRL shall be submitted to the NEC at least 4 (four) months prior to the General Convention. Proposed amendments may be made by the NEC or by a component or affiliate organization. The notice of motion shall set forth particulars of the proposed amendment, the names and addresses of the moving party and the person seconding same and shall be accompanied by a copy of the resolution and the minutes of the meeting of the NEC component or affiliate organization proposing the amendment.
- 11.4 A notice of motion for an amendment of these bylaws shall be distributed to all the NEC members of the USRL at least 90 (ninety) days before the General Convention. The component and affiliate organizations of the NEC shall distribute the motion of amendment to their respective members at least 60 (sixty) days before the General convention.
- 11.5 Any amendment of these Bylaws shall not take effect, nor shall such amendment be acted upon or enforced, until the prior written approval of the Federal Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs or from any Federal agency(ies) having jurisdiction.

Dated at the City of Saskatoon, in the Province of Saskatchewan this 23rd day of August, 2013.

TONY HARRAS (PRESIDENT)

DR. ED. KLOPOUSHAK (SECRETARY)

NOTE: This document was accepted as the official by-laws of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada by the federal Department of Consumer & Corporate Affairs as part of the Letters Patent granted April 21, 1987 effective on the date of submission of application, being February 20, 1986.

These by-laws were submitted for ratification by the General Convention of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on August 17 and 18, 1987.

Further amendments to these Bylaws as required by the federal agency having jurisdiction were made by the General Convention of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada held in Calgary, Alberta on August 7 & 8, 2015.

SCHEDULE I

- a) The Corporation shall be carried out without the purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions to the Corporation shall be used in furtherance of its purposes;
- b) If authorized by by-law, duly passed by the National Executive and sanctioned by at least two-thirds of the votes cast at a special meeting duly called for considering the by-law, the National Executive of the Corporation may from time to time:
- i) borrow money upon the credit of the Corporation;
 - ii) limit or increase the amount to be borrowed;
 - iii) issue debentures or other securities of the Corporation;
 - iv) pledge or sell such debentures or other securities for such sums and at such prices as may be deemed expedient; and
 - v) secure any such debentures, or other securities, or any other present or future borrowing or liability of the Corporation, by mortgage, hypothec, charge or pledge of all or any currently owned or subsequently acquired real and personal, movable and immovable, property of the Corporation, and the undertaking and rights of the Corporation.

Any such by-law may provide for the delegation of such powers by the National Executive Committee to such officers or National Executive Committee of the Corporation to such extent and in such manner set out in the by-law.

Nothing herein limits or restricts the borrowing of money by the Corporation on bills of exchange or promissory notes made, drawn, accepted or endorsed by or on behalf of the Corporation.