

## **Constitution of “University of Toronto – Trek for Teens Student Chapter”**

### **1. Article One – Name and Purpose**

- 1.1. The official name of the recognized student group is “University of Toronto – Trek for Teens Student Chapter”
- 1.2. The official acronym or abbreviation of the group is “Trek for Teens – U of T Student Chapter”, and/or “TTF – U of T
- 1.3. The purpose, objectives, mission and/or mandate of the organization is to:
  - 1.3.1. To raise funds and awareness for youth homelessness, with a particular emphasis on the organizations supported by the Trek for Teens Foundation Inc.
  - 1.3.2. To support the Trek for Teens Foundation Inc. in their events, campaigns and activities.
  - 1.3.3. To provide students with the opportunity to volunteer for local homeless service providers.
  - 1.3.4. To help students grow through the organization of awareness and fundraising campaigns, activities, and events.
  - 1.3.5. To enable students to reach out to the community, to act in leadership positions and to develop their public speaking skills. This will be accomplished primarily through workshops and presentations to post-secondary, high school and elementary level students.
- 1.4. The group is committed to maintaining transparency, accessibility, and democratic participation, in alignment with the Policy on Open, Accessible, and Democratic Autonomous Student Organizations of the University of Toronto.

### **2. Article Two – Membership and Membership Fee**

- 2.1. The group shall maintain a list of group members.
  - 2.1.1. Students may become members by completing a membership sign-up form provided by the Executive Committee.
- 2.2. Voting membership is open to all registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.3. Voting membership is open only to registered students of the University of Toronto.
- 2.4. Non-voting membership is open to University of Toronto staff, faculty, alumni, and to persons from outside the University. Unless otherwise stated, non-voting members do not hold any rights awarded to voting members.
- 2.5. The membership fee will be \$0 per year.
- 2.6. Fees for membership may be instated by the President with a majority vote of the executive committee. Students must, however, pay all costs of involvement in the official team competitions and for any purchases made for any such competitions, which are not covered by the club.

### **3. Article Three – Rights of Members**

- 3.1. All members may apply for a full refund of their membership fee within one (1) month of becoming a member.
- 3.2. All voting members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.
- 3.3. All voting members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.
- 3.4. All

voting members have a right to stand for election unless otherwise stated in this document.

3.5. All voting members have a right to cast votes in all group elections and referenda.

3.6. All voting members have a right to propose and vote on amendments to this constitution. 3.7. The rights prescribed in Article Three are not awarded to non-voting members as described in Article Two.

#### **4. Article Four - Executive Committee**

4.1. The term for all positions on the Executive Committee shall be from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>.

4.2. The Executive Committee shall be comprised of 10 voting members.

4.3. All voting members of the Executive Committee must be currently registered students of the University of Toronto.

4.4. Non-voting members may hold only non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.

4.5. The maximum amount of non-voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be one (1) position or ten per cent (10%) of the positions on the Executive Committee, whichever is greatest. A non-voting position on the Executive Committee can be created at the discretion of the president.

4.6. Persons holding non-voting positions on the Executive Committee cannot serve as an officer, financial authority, signing authority, primary contact, or secondary contact. 4.7. No person may serve as a financial authority or signing authority for the group if they are currently serving as a financial authority or signing authority for another recognized student group at the University of Toronto.

#### **5. Article Five - Executive Committee Composition and Duties**

##### **5.1. The Co-President shall:**

5.1.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,

5.1.2. Oversee the operations, management, and success of the group,

5.1.3. Serve as spokesperson for the group,

5.1.4. Hold signing and financial authority along with the Vice President of Finance,

5.1.5. Preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and/or members, 5.1.6. Holds the right to assign additional responsibilities to executive members, 5.1.7. Holds the right to instate or remove membership fees with a majority vote of the executive committee,

5.1.8. Hold the right to create a titled non-voting executive position,

5.1.9. Ensure a transition of office from one year to the next.

##### **5.2. The Co-Newsletter Editor shall:**

5.2.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,

5.2.2. Research and create monthly newsletters on relevant topics related to homelessness and youth homelessness in Toronto.

5.2.3. Ensure write ups are clear and free of errors.

5.2.4. Communicate with the executive team on relevant news related to the UofT Trek for Teens Club that can be added to the newsletters.

5.2.5. Promptly email newsletter to mailing list at the end of each month.

**5.3. The Secretary shall:**

- 5.3.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.3.2. Maintain a list of executive members, voting members, and non-voting members,
- 5.3.3. Record notes, motions, and minutes for all meetings,
- 5.3.4. Schedule and notify members of meetings,
- 5.3.5. Must undergo Co-Curricular Record (CCR) process training,
- 5.3.6. Ensure the club has a CCR validator and all members receive CCR recognition at the end of the term.

**5.4. The Vice President of Finance shall:**

- 5.4.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee,
- 5.4.2. Record all financial transactions of the group,
- 5.4.3. Hold signing and financial authority along with the President,
- 5.4.4. Maintain a budget of income and expenses,
- 5.4.5. Advise members on financial position of the group,
- 5.4.6. Prepare an annual budget for the group,
- 5.4.7. Assist in sponsorship duties if required.

**5.5. The Co-Vice President of Sponsorship shall:**

- 5.5.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the executive committee,
- 5.5.2. Research and create a list of companies/organizations that could sponsor the club,
- 5.5.3. Create a sponsorship package,
- 5.5.4. Research and create a list of grants offered by the University of Toronto or outside companies that the club can apply for.

**5.6. The Co-Vice President of Promotions shall:**

- 5.6.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the executive committee,
- 5.6.2. Hold authority over Trek for Teens' social media accounts,
- 5.6.3. Create all promotional material,
- 5.6.4. Act as the main point of contact with the Trek for Teens Foundation's marketing director

**5.7. The Co-Vice President of Events shall:**

- 5.7.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the executive committee,
- 5.7.2. Propose possible events that can be planned at executive meetings,
- 5.7.3. Hold authority when administering tasks for a required event and the specified deadline for each task,
- 5.7.4. Create a budget for the event with the Vice President of Finance's approval,
- 5.7.5. Connect with guests on admission to events.

**5.8. The Co-In-Kind Donations Manager shall:**

- 5.8.1. Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the executive committee,
- 5.8.2. Will reach out to shelters to gauge interest about participation in the donation

- drives,
- 5.8.3. Will reach out to colleges to gauge interest about participation in the donation drive,
- 5.8.4. Hold authority when administering tasks for the donation drive and the specified deadline for each task,
- 5.8.5. Create a budget for the donation drive with the Vice President of Finance's approval,
- 5.8.6. Oversee the collection and sorting of items during the duration of the donation drive,
- 5.8.7. Ensure items are delivered to the shelter.

## **6. Article Six – Elections**

- 6.1. All voting positions on the Executive Committee shall be filled through an annual election.
- 6.2. All voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination to and cast a ballot for each voting position.
- 6.3. All non-voting group members shall be eligible to seek nomination only for non-voting positions on the Executive Committee.
- 6.4. Non-voting group members shall not be eligible to cast a ballot for any elected position.
- 6.5. The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.
- 6.6. On the condition that multiple candidates are to be elected for a single position, the nominees winning the largest share of the votes cast shall be deemed the winners until all positions are filled.
- 6.7. The elections must be held in an unbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

## **7. Article Seven – Finances**

- 7.1. The Vice President of Finance shall keep an active record of income and expenses.
- 7.2. The Vice President of Finance shall present the group's updates on the group's financial position at annual general meetings.
- 7.3. The Executive Committee must approve all expenditures over \$100.00 through a majority vote at a meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 7.4. The group may not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature.
- 7.5. The group will not have as a major activity a function that makes it an on-campus chapter of a commercial organization.
- 7.6. The group will not provide services and goods at a profit when that profit is used for purposes other than those of the group.
- 7.7. The group will not pay salaries to any of its officers.

## **8. Article Eight – Meetings**

- 8.1. The Executive Committee shall meet weekly. The quorum for Executive Committee meetings shall be 50%+1 of the voting members of the Executive Committee.
- 8.2. The group shall hold general meetings at least twice per year to provide the general

membership an opportunity to review the group's annual activity plan, financial health, and propose or vote on constitutional amendments.

8.3. The Executive Committee must announce the date of a general meeting to the general membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the date of the meeting.

## **9. Article Nine - Termination of Membership**

9.1. The Executive Committee may revoke the membership of any member of the club who commits an act negatively affecting the interests of the club and its members, including non-disclosure of a significant or continuing conflict of interest.

9.2. A vote to revoke membership must be held at a meeting of the Executive Committee.

9.3. A two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee is required to approve any motion to revoke membership.

9.4. Any member facing removal shall have the right to appeal the decision of the Executive Committee to the general membership.

9.5. In the case of an appeal, a simple majority vote at a meeting of the general membership shall be required to sustain the revocation of membership.

9.6. Following a termination of membership, the member will be removed from the club's membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the club. 9.7.

Executive Committee members are subject to the same termination of membership process as general members.

## **10. Article Ten – Amendments**

10.1. All constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote to be passed at a meeting of the voting members.

10.2. All voting members may propose and vote on amendments to the constitution. 10.3.

The Executive Committee shall submit the revised constitution to staff in the Division of Student Life at the University of Toronto within two (2) weeks. 10.4.

Amendments to the constitution shall take effect only once the revised constitution has been approved by staff in the Division of Student Life at the University of Toronto.