

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
CANADIAN STUDENTS FOR SENSIBLE DRUG POLICY
CONSTITUTION**

ARTICLE I -- Name and Purpose

1.1 The name of this organization shall be the University of Toronto Canadian Students for Sensible Drug Policy Student Chapter (herein referred to as “the organization”).

1.2 The official acronym of the group shall be UofT’s CSSDP.

1.3 The first objective of the organization shall be to provide the University of Toronto campus community and the Toronto public with informative and educational information about current drug policy reform in Canada.

The second objective of the organization shall be:

- (a) To encourage wide recognition of the social threat posed by the war on drugs and to promote an awareness of the dangers inherent in extensive reliance on prohibitionist policies and politics;
- (b) To involve the University of Toronto students and the public in developing and supporting programs that promote effective drug policies;
- (c) To foster debate and exploration within the Toronto community in order to understand the role that the current drug policies play in the general social order;
- (d) To work for a world in which drug policies are discussed as public health issues instead of criminal justice issues.
- (e) To foster debate in favor of viable alternatives to existing drug policies, such as needle exchange programs, methadone treatment for heroin addicts, decriminalization, and other harm reduction strategies.

ARTICLE II -- Membership

2.1 There shall be (2) classes of membership in this organization. Student membership; any person dedicated to the purposes of this organization and who either works on the campus of the University of Toronto or is a student enrolled at the University of Toronto. The second class shall consist of any interested person from the greater Toronto community.

2.2 The group shall maintain a list of group members.

2.3 Voting membership is open to any member of the club who is a current registered student with the University of Toronto.

2.4 The membership fee will be \$0.00 per year.

ARTICLE III -- Rights of Members

3.1 All members have a right to attend all general meetings of members.

3.2 All members have a right to cast votes at all general meetings of members.

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

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

3.5 All members have a right to propose and vote on amendments to this constitution.

ARTICLE IV -- Executive Committee

4.1 The term for all positions on the Executive Committee shall be from May 1st to April 30th.

4.2 The Executive Committee shall be comprised of six (6) voting members, all who are current registered students of the University of Toronto.

4.3 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.

4.4 The club shall be run horizontally, with the executive committee having no more power than the rest of the members without official titles.

ARTICLE V -- Executive Committee Composition and Duties

5.1 The President shall:

- Be eligible to cast votes at meetings,
- Oversee the operations, management, and success of the group,
- Serve as spokesperson for the group,
- Hold signing and financial authority along with the Treasurer,
- Preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and/or members,
- Ensure a transition of office from one year to the next.

5.2 The Vice-President shall:

- Be eligible to cast votes at meetings,
- Assume duties of the President in their absence,
- Ensure activities of the club comply with policies of the University of Toronto,
- Coordinate organizational recruitment efforts.

5.3 The Secretary shall:

- Be eligible to cast votes at meetings,
- Maintain a list of group members,
- Maintain the group website and member contact list,
- Record notes and motions for meetings,
- Notify all members of general meetings.

5.4 The Treasurer shall:

- Be eligible to cast votes at meetings,
- Record all financial transactions of the group,
- Hold signing and financial authority along with the President,
- Maintain a budget of income and expenses,
- Advise members on financial position of the group,
- Prepare an annual budget for the group.

5.5 The Ethics Director shall:

- Be eligible to cast votes at meetings,

- Ensure the club operates in a way that is ethical and fair to all,
- Receive complaints and comments about the club,
- Share and implement the complaints and comments,
- Monitor accessibility needs and ensure they are met and updated.

5.6 The Communications Director shall:

- Be eligible to cast votes at meetings,
- Monitor the club's email,
- Run the club's instagram and any other possible social medias,
- Communicate with other groups.

ARTICLE VI -- Elections

6.1 All positions on the Executive Committee shall be filled through an annual election.

6.2 All group members shall be eligible to seek nomination to and cast a ballot for each position.

6.3 The nominee winning the plurality of votes cast in the election for each position shall be deemed the winner.

6.4 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.

6.5 The elections must be held in an unbiased manner. No individual who is seeking election may participate in planning or administering the election.

ARTICLE VII -- Finances

7.1 The Treasurer shall keep an active record of income and expenses.

7.2 The Treasurer 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.

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.

ARTICLE VIII -- Meetings

8.1 The club shall meet at least once a semester. The quorum for these meetings shall be 50% of the Executive Committee and at least one of the members.

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.

8.4 Meetings of the membership shall be held at any place within or outside of the University of Toronto campus designated by the Coordinator/President of the organization.

ARTICLE IX -- 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.

ARTICLE X -- Amendments

10.1 All constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority vote to be passed at a general meeting.

10.2 All 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.³