

Constitution of NewPRIDE

Current as of October 27, 2023, adapted from April 2017 constitution

1. Article One – Name and Purpose

1.1 The official name of the recognized student group is “NewPRIDE”

1.2 The purpose, objectives, mission, and/or mandate of the organization is to

NewPRIDE is a student group based at New College that strives to support, advocate for, and advance the interests of students at U of T and New College, specifically those who identify as a member of the 2SLGBTQ+ community. The organization shall provide peer support and facilitate inclusive spaces under principles of equity, intersectionality, harm reduction, and anti-oppression.

2. Article Two – Membership and Membership Fee

This group shall maintain a list of group members. General membership to the group is open to all University of Toronto members (students, staff, faculty, and alumni). Executive positions are open to all U of T students, with priority going to New College students.

U of T members are permitted to run, nominate, and vote in elections and constitutional amendments. Voting membership is open to all/only registered students of the University of Toronto. The group is open to non-U of T members. However, these members do not hold the aforementioned rights. Members must register with a designated executive by submitting their full name and a valid email address.

There will be no membership fee.

For recognition by the University of Toronto Students’ Union (UTSU), the group must maintain a minimum of 20 members. The group must also maintain recognition from the Office of Student Life. These requirements are subject to change and should be checked with UTSU annually to ensure qualifications are met.

3. Article Three – Rights of Members

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

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

4. Article Four – Executive Committee

4.1 The Executive Committee shall be composed of nine (10) voting members. Two (2) Co-Presidents, one (1) Vice President, one (1) Treasurer, one (1) Secretary, three (3) Events & Outreach Coordinators, two (1) Executive Assistants, and one (1) Peer Support Coordinator.

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

5. Article Five - Executive Committee Composition and Duties

5.1 The Co-Presidents shall:

- 5.1.1 Be eligible to cast votes at the meetings of the Executive Committee
- 5.1.2 Oversee the operations, management, and success of the group
- 5.1.3 Be the spokesperson for the group
- 5.1.4 Responsible for setting the overall tone, engaging the executive members, and promoting a culture of collaboration, care, and anti-oppression.
- 5.1.5 Hold signing officer authority along with the Treasurer for financial purposes
- 5.1.6 Preside over meetings of the Executive Committee and/or members
- 5.1.7 Ensure a transition of office from one year to future Executives
- 5.1.8 Plan and execute events with the help of the rest of the Executive Committee
- 5.1.9 Additional responsibilities may include:
 - Managing the organization's social media presence and public relations
 - Onboarding new executive members and ensuring said members have a clear understanding of their roles and responsibilities.

5.2 The Secretary shall:

- 5.2.1 Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee
- 5.2.2 Maintain a list of group members
- 5.2.3 Maintain the group website and member contact list
- 5.2.4 Assisting with the creation of meeting agendas
- 5.2.5 Record minutes, attendance, notes, and motions for meetings
- 5.2.6 Sending out emails to general members
- 5.2.7 Handle all official correspondence of the organization
- 5.2.8 Schedule locations and times for executive meetings
- 5.2.9 Additional responsibilities may include:
 - Planning and executing events with the help of the rest of the Executive Committee
 - Assisting the rest of the Executive Committee however needed as best they can

5.3 The Treasurer shall:

- 5.3.1 Be eligible to cast votes at meetings of the Executive Committee
- 5.3.2 Hold signing officer authority along with the President for financial purposes
- 5.3.3 Maintain records of income, expenses, receipts, and budget
- 5.3.4 Advise members on the financial position of the group
- 5.3.5 Prepare an annual budget for the group as well as budgets for specific events
- 5.3.6 Track and maintain all financial transactions of the group
- 5.3.7 Seek out funding opportunities and writing grant proposals
- 5.3.8 Must have excellent time management as there are often strict deadlines set in place by funding and finance departments
- 5.3.9 Additional responsibilities may include:
 - Planning and executing events with the help of the rest of the Executive Committee

Assisting the rest of the Executive Committee however needed as best they can

5.4 The Events & Outreach Coordinator(s) shall:

5.4.1 Creating event proposals while ensuring accessibility, equity, and inclusivity for all folks

5.4.2 Plan and execute events with the help of the rest of the Executive Committee

5.4.3 Submitting budget proposals and approximate costs for initiatives and events to the Treasurer, to be reviewed by the President

5.4.4 Book the spaces needed for events, coordinate with partners, and keep the Executive Committee updated on the planning of events

5.4.5 Ensure that all events and venues are accessible and accommodate the needs of all attendees

5.4.6 Provide direction to the Executives-at-Large and volunteers during event planning and execution, and take initiative to solve problems that arise

5.4.7 Maintaining positive and meaningful relationships as well as the reputation of NewPRIDE with other students, groups, and organizations both inside and outside the University

5.4.8 Work with Social Media & Marketing Coordinator to do effective marketing and advertising for planned events

5.4.9 Additional responsibilities may include:

Doing outreach to various groups and organizations

Assisting the rest of the Executive Committee however needed as best they can

5.5 Executive Assistant shall:

5.5.1 Administrative tasks such as taking attendance and meeting minutes when the Secretary is unable to be present

5.5.2 Researching and assisting in the creation of promotional content for the Social Media & Marketing Coordinator as needed

5.5.3 Helping Event & Outreach Coordinators in the planning and execution of events as needed

5.5.4 Aiding in the creation of a resource guide with the President and Peer Support Coordinator

5.5.5 Assisting in outreach and managing general membership

5.5.6 Other tasks as needed

5.6 The Peer Support Coordinator shall:

5.6.1 The Peer Support Coordinator will be responsible for running peer support operations throughout NewPRIDE. This includes responsibilities such as:

5.6.1.1 Managing Peer Support Requests

5.6.1.2 MUST respect confidentiality

5.6.2 Provide peer support through a trauma-informed lens that values harm reduction and intersectionality

5.6.2.1 Engage in peer support skill-sharing with other members and folks who want to expand their knowledge on providing peer support

5.6.2.1.1 This will be done in collaboration with the President

5.6.2.2 Ensure that they are aware of various on and off-campus resources

5.6.2.2.1 It is not expected that the Peer Support Coordinator will have all information or resources off the top of their heads

5.6.2.3 Create a resource guide and ensure that the information is up to date

Termination of Executives or General Members:

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, may be given notice of removal.

The member up for removal shall have the right to defend their actions.

A two-thirds majority vote of the current members present in favour of removal is required.

The member will be removed from the club's membership and will lose any privileges associated with being a member of the club.

Executive members are subject to the same termination or impeachment process and, as determined by the vote, may lose their executive position along with their membership in the group.

6. Finances

The President and Treasurer shall keep records of all income and expenses. The Executive Committee shall present the group's financial health at the annual general meetings. The Executive Committee will vote on expenditures of over \$100.00 by majority vote at an executive meeting.

The group's executive or members may not engage in activities that are essentially commercial in nature. This is not intended to preclude the collection of membership fees to cover the expenses of the group, of charges for specific activities, programs, or events, or to prohibit groups from engaging in legitimate fundraising. However, the group will not have as a major activity a function that makes it an on-campus part of a commercial organization, will not provide services and goods at a profit when that profit is used for purposes other than those of the organization, and will not pay salaries to some or all of its officers.

7. Meetings

A) Annual General Meetings (AGMs):

The group shall hold general meetings at least twice per year, i.e. once per academic term.

The Executive Committee will announce these dates two (2) weeks prior to holding the meetings. These meetings are intended to go over the group's annual activity plan, and financial health and propose or vote on constitutional amendments, if any. Motions will require 2/3 majority of registered members in attendance for a vote to be cast. The motion with the most votes will be passed.

B) Executive Meetings:

The Executive Committee shall meet every month where dates and times are to be set by the Secretary. The quorum of executive meetings shall be 50%+1 of executives.

8. Amendments

Any registered U of T members may propose and vote on amendments to this constitution. The Executive Committee will administer the process of having amendments discussed at general meetings.

Constitutional amendments shall require a 2/3 majority to be passed at Annual General Meetings by registered U of T members in attendance.

The Executive Committee shall formally adopt the new constitution and submit the revised constitution to the respective University offices (i.e. The Office of Student Life, The University of Toronto Students' Union, etc.) within two (2) weeks of its approval by general members.