

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) "PB" stands for Provincial Board, the board of directors who are the guiding and governing body of Manitoba COPP who also serve as members and Regional Representatives.
- (d) “Resource Council” means a body of representatives from support agencies.
- (e) “Provincial Administrator ” means the person providing administrative / operational services or support appointed by the Provincial Board

Article III– Mission Statement

The mission of Manitoba COPP shall be to work with law enforcement and partners to prevent crime and create a safer environment for all.

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 Board (PB)

Sc. 1 - The role of the PB is to coordinate and operate COPP, 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 PB shall consist of elected members of Manitoba COPP from each COPP region in Manitoba.

Sc. 3 - More than one PB member may be elected in a region, and a PB member may represent more than one region.

Sc. 4 - Terms of Office for Regional Representatives -

- (a) The Term of Office for PB Regional Representatives shall be 3 years.
- (b) Each Regional Representative may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive three (3) year terms.

Sc. 5 – Provincial Board Executive -

The PB Executive shall consist of:

- (a) Chairperson
- (b) Vice- Chairperson
- (d) Secretary
- (e) Provincial Administrator (ex-officio resource member non-Voting)

Sc. 6 – Resource Council

- (a) The Resource Council may include non-voting representation from each supporting agency.

(b) The PB may invite representation from new supporting agencies.

Article VIII - Dismissal of PB Members

(a) Failure by a PB 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 PB membership.

Article IX - Dissolution of a COPP Group

Failure to fulfill and/or adhere to the Program requirements as agreed to on 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) By-laws and policies and procedures will be established by the PB.

(b) Amendments to the COPP Constitution must be presented to the general assembly for ratification at the Annual General Meeting.

(c) COPP group coordinators will be notified of the proposed amendments to the Constitution 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.

Amended on October 27, 2019, at the AGM of delegates representing COPP groups throughout the province.

Amended on October 21, 2023 at the AGM of delegates representing COPP groups throughout the province.