

Western Washington Native American Education Consortium

BYLAWS

Article I

The name of the Consortium shall be the Western Washington Native American Education Consortium, hereafter referred to as WWNAEC. The definition of boundaries for the purpose of the Consortium will be:

**North: -Canadian Border
South: -Columbia River
East: -Cascade Rim
West: -Pacific Ocean**

Article II

The term of the existence shall be PERPETUAL.

Article III

The Purpose of the Consortium

- Section 1 To serve as a Native American Education Organization in Western Washington**
- Section 2 To support local, state, and national policies affecting Native American Education**
- Section 3 To share and nurture cultural and technical resources and information**
- Section 4 To develop and coordinate joint Native American Education efforts between members, individuals, and groups who are interested and supportive of Native American Education**
- Section 5 To promote the awareness and involvement of parents and students in the area of Native American Education.**

Article IV
Membership

- Section 1** The corporation shall have a registered agent and a membership body.
- Section 2** General membership will consist of anyone who is interested in Native American Education including but not limited to: OIE Indian Education Programs, JOM, and Higher Ed.
- Section 3** Voting membership will consist of regularly attending members who are current on their membership dues.

Article V
Directors & Officers

- Section 1** **Directors' Titles** will be as follows: Chairperson, Vice-chairperson Secretary and Treasurer. There will be 2 Members At-Large Officers and One Historian Officer.
- Section 2** **Election of Board of Directors and Officers**
- a) The directors and officers of the WWNAEC shall be selected by a majority vote of the WWNAEC at the May general meeting.
 - b) The directors and officers shall assume their duties immediately following the May general meeting.
 - c) The term of the Directors shall be as follows: Chairperson-2 years, Vice-Chair and Secretary-1 year, and Treasurer-3 years, The officers' term will be for 2 years.
- Section 3** **Duties of the Board of Directors**
- A. **Chairperson**: The chairperson will preside at all general and executive committee meetings and perform those duties that ordinarily pertain to that office including the delegation of responsibilities and tasks to members.
 - B. **Vice-Chairperson**: The vice-chairperson, will assume the duties and powers of the chairperson in his/her absence.
 - C. **Secretary**: The secretary will ensure that the minutes are kept of all regular Consortium meetings and executive meetings. He/She will maintain accurate records of all proceedings and correspondence.

He/She will provide minutes for each meeting at all general meetings to be approved by membership present.

D. **Treasurer**: The treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining financial records and for providing a financial report at all general meetings and a written itemized report at the end of the year.

Section 4 Election of directors and officers will take into consideration a balanced geographic representation of Western Washington.

Section 5 A nomination and acceptance will precede the vote.

Section 6 Nominees must be voting members.

Section 7 Nominations for the election of directors and officers will be taken from the floor. Nominees must be present or provide a letter of intent.

Section 8 Election of directors and officers will be by simple majority of members in attendance.

Article VI **Meetings**

Section 1 A schedule of the following year's Consortium meetings, stating the host district and dates, will be determined at the May meeting.

Section 2 Special Executive Committee meetings can be called at any time by the Chairperson.

Section 3 Notification of regular Consortium meetings will be the responsibility of the host program. Host responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. Plan and develop agenda with chairperson
- B. Provide a map and/or directions.
- C. Reserve meeting place.
- D. Mail announcements and map to members at least two weeks prior to scheduled meeting.
- E. Request reimbursement invoice and send to treasurer.

Section 4 All regular meeting of the Consortium will be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

Section 5 A quorum of the WWNAEC will consist of a minimum of ten voting members.

Section 6 No proxy voting will be permitted.

Section 7 It will be the responsibility of the participating project directors to disseminate information regarding Consortium meetings and business to the parent committees and communities.

Article VII
Permanent and Special Committees

Section 1 The executive board and officers of the Consortium can create special or permanent committees as they see necessary to carry out the purpose(s) of the Consortium.

Section 2 Membership of permanent and special committees will be composed of volunteers, appointees, or elected by the members present.

Section 3 Permanent committees:

A. Permanent committees to the WWNAEC will be:

- 1. Conference**
- 2. Merit Award**
 - a.** The WWNAEC Merit Award will be awarded to at least two Native American high school seniors.
 - b.** The student must have a sponsor with a current membership in WWNAEC by application due date. Organizational memberships can have multiple applicants, and individual memberships can only sponsor one senior for the merit award.
- 3. Fundraising**

B. Each permanent committee shall include a committee coordinator.

Section 4 Special committees are defined as temporary committees appointed or elected to perform a special task, make a report or recommendation, and cease to function when its duties are completed.

Article VIII
Removal or Resignation of Members

Section 1 Removal of a director or officer will occur automatically after two unexcused absences from regularly scheduled Consortium meetings.

Section 2 Removal of a permanent committee coordinator will occur automatically after two absences or failure to conduct committee meetings. A vacancy created by the resignation or removal of the permanent committee coordinator will be filled by vote of the permanent committee.

Section 3 A vacancy on the Board will be filled by vote of the Consortium membership.

Section 4 Resignation of executive board members will be required in writing.

Section 5 Resignation of permanent committee coordinator will be verbal.

Article IX
Amendments of Bylaws

Section 1 The power to amend the bylaws of the WWNAEC will reside in the Consortium voting membership at a regular scheduled meeting. Previous notice to amend will be required.

Section 2 Approval will occur by two-thirds vote of the members present.

Article X
Dissolution Clause

In the event of the dissolution of the corporation, the net assets are to be distributed as follows: All such property shall be transferred to such other organizations or tribes as may be deemed advisable by the General Membership providing such organizations or tribes shall be non-profit and preferably having the same purposes of the education consortium and such property will then be distributed by the Board of Directors at the final meeting of the WWNAEC before disillusionment is final.

Article XI
Conflict of Interest

Any member of the board who has a financial, personal, or official interest in, or conflict (or appearance of a conflict) with any matter pending before the Board, of such nature that it prevents or may prevent that member from acting on the matter in an impartial manner, will offer to the Board to voluntarily excuse him/herself and will vacate his seat and refrain from discussion and voting on said item.

By-laws amended: March 19, 2009