

can**ROC**

constitution

*Ratified by Canadian IWW members
August 30, 2009*

*Chartered by the General Executive
Board April 20, 2011*

Amended January 1, 2012

Article One

Structure

- a The Regional Organizing Committee (ROC) shall be a coordinating and decision-making body comprised of:
 - ROC Secretary-Treasurer.
 - ROC Organizing Department Liaison.
 - ROC Editor.
 - One ROC representative from each chartered organization.
- b IWW organizations in Canada:
 - Job Branch: Where three (3) or more members work at the same workplace.
 - Industrial Union Branch (IUB): Where five (5) or more members work in the same industry and the same area, they may form an industrial union branch.
 - General Membership Branch (GMB): Where ten (10) or more members work in different industries in the same locality, they may form a general membership branch.

The members of branches shall elect delegates and a secretary-treasurer to collect dues, manage funds and an officer to communicate with the ROC.

Article Two

Officers

- a **ROC Secretary-Treasurer (RST)**: The Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by annual referendum of IWW members in good standing, affiliated with the ROC.
- b The RST shall be responsible for producing a referendum ballot, receiving and remitting funds, and providing quarterly and annual financial reports to the Canadian Membership and GHQ. The RST shall open and maintain a bank account. The RST shall have a voice, but no vote in ROC meetings, unless if the ROC is faced with a tie, then the RST shall vote to break the tie.
- c **ROC Organizing Department Liaison**: The Organizing Department Liaison shall be elected by annual referendum of IWW members in good standing, affiliated with the ROC. This ROC officer has voice but no vote at ROC meetings.
- d The ROC Organizing Department Liaison shall be responsible for reporting to the Organizing Department Board and branch organizing department liaisons on a monthly basis. Secondly, this officer will be responsible for convening ROC meetings via teleconference (or in person, if possible) and shall furnish delegates with a draft agenda no less than thirty (30) days beforehand and compile any notes.
- e **ROC Editor**: The ROC Editor shall be elected by annual referendum of IWW members in good standing, paying dues to the ROC. This officer has voice but no vote in ROC meetings.
- f The Editor shall be responsible for compiling a quarterly internal bulletin. The Editor shall send an electronic copy of the internal bulletin to all individual members and branches of the ROC. The branches shall be responsible for distributing paper copies to their members and the Editor shall be responsible for mailing the bulletin to individuals who request a paper copy, to be reimbursed by the ROC for printing and postage.
- g **ROC Representative**: A ROC representative is elected by a branch to be the voice and vote of

its members on the ROC. The branch is responsible for electing the representative in accordance with its own bylaws. A ROC representative is subject to recall only by the members of the branch that elected the representative.

- h It is the responsibility of the ROC representative to consult one's branch and receive instructions on how to vote. It is the responsibility of the branch that elected the representative to provide timely and adequate instructions.
- i **Nomination and election procedure for ROC officers:** In July of each year, the ROC shall publish a notice in its internal bulletin calling for nominations. Nominations may be made by any member in good standing, affiliated with the ROC. All candidates for a ROC officer post must have been in continuous good standing for at least one year before their nomination, unless there are no other qualified candidates standing. The election shall take place in November of each year.
- j **Ballot Committee:** The votes shall be counted by a three person ballot committee from a chartered branch of the ROC. The ROC shall appoint a branch to host the ballot committee on a rotating basis, through all branches in the ROC. As is possible, the ROC referendum should happen simultaneously with the international IWW referendum. The ballot committee must report the ROC referendum results in writing by email to the membership upon completion of the counting and publish them in the internal bulletin.
- k The successful candidate(s) shall take office on January 1 and shall serve for one year. No officer may serve more than three consecutive terms, unless there are no other qualified candidates standing.
- l **Recall:** All officers, excluding ROC representatives, are subject to recall by a petition of ten percent of the members in good standing paying dues to the ROC as of the most recent June 1. The petition must be delivered to the ROC representatives and shared with the officer being recalled. The recall vote must be conducted within forty-five (45) days of receipt of the petition. All parties must have a fair opportunity to publish a statement on the recall ballot.
- m **Audit Committee:** A three-person audit committee shall be elected from a chartered branch of the ROC. The ROC shall appoint a branch to host the audit committee on a rotating basis, through all branches of the ROC. The committee shall audit and annually report the accounts of the ROC and responses to member questions in the internal bulletin.
- n **Committee rotation:** All committees shall rotate annually. No branch shall perform the duties of any committee consecutively unless there are three or less chartered branches.

Article Three

Financing

- a The ROC and General Administration (GA) shall define dues share through the negotiation of the CANROC-GA administrative agreement.
- b The ROC shall define its own dues rates and structure as well as that of affiliated branches. Changes to the ROC dues rates and structure shall be ratified by referendum vote.
- c The ROC shall maintain a dedicated Organizing Fund. The Organizing Fund shall be used for organizing and defense purposes. Thirty percent (30%) of all dues collected by the ROC can be used for administrative costs, and at least seventy percent (70%) of all ROC income will be committed to the Organizing Fund.
- d The RST shall be responsible for managing the Organizing Fund within the ROC bank account. The ROC shall be responsible for distributing funds, or making monetary decisions, at quarterly or special meetings.
- e The ROC shall issue assessment stamps to offset any additional expenses.

Article Four

Meetings

- a **ROC meetings:** The ROC shall conduct its daily business by email list. Any IWW member in good standing affiliated with the ROC may subscribe to this list.
- b ROC meetings shall be chaired by the ROC Organizing Department Liaison to conduct meetings. ROC representatives shall approve bylaws for its procedures.
- c ROC meetings are held by communication interface at a regular quarterly interval that is mutually agreed upon by the ROC. Minutes will be made available to the membership on the ROC listserv.
- d A special meeting may be called at the request of two chartered organizations of the ROC.

Article Five

Constitutional Amendments

- a This constitution may only be amended in the annual referendum. All members affiliated with the ROC in good standing two months prior to the mailout of the ballots are eligible to vote.
- b The amendments shall be passed by a simple majority of the ballots cast.
- c Proposals shall be submitted to the ROC and internal bulletin by August 1st. Proposals may originate from a chartered branch or from a petition signed by ten (10) percent of the ROC's members in good standing on June 1st of that year.

Article Six

Membership

- a All members of chartered branches voluntarily affiliated with the ROC are considered ROC members.
- b All disparate members of the IWW within the borders of the Canadian state are considered ROC members unless they choose to disaffiliate from the ROC.

Appendix I

Procedure and Regulations for Referenda

- a The ROC Secretary-Treasurer shall be responsible for producing a referendum ballot. All ballot papers will be sent by first class post to branches and to individuals not attached to branches no later than thirty (30) days before the closing date of said ballot. The RST shall be responsible for sending out the ballots.
- b Candidates may request a scrutineer attend the count of the ballot papers. A scrutineer shall only observe the count and register objections or approvals of contested ballots.
- c On the closing date for receipt of ballot papers, the ballot committee shall count ballots and compile a report which shall be issued to members.
- d No member of the ballot committee or scrutineer can be an existing officer of the ROC nor member running for ROC office.

Appendix II

ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CANROC AND THE INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE IWW

Ratified by the CANROC Representatives July 28, 2011.

Passed by the General Executive Board July 23, 2011.

1. This is the administrative agreement between the Canadian Regional Organizing Committee (CANROC) and the General Administration. No part of this agreement may overrule the CANROC or international IWW Constitutions. It shall be appended to the CANROC constitution as Appendix 2.
2. This agreement will be reviewed every June by the CANROC and its GEB representative for fairness and effectiveness. Any changes to the CANROC constitution shall be voted on by the CANROC membership in its annual referendum.
3. The Canadian Regional Organizing Committee was chartered by the GEB in April 2011. It has its own constitution approved by Canada-wide referendum in August 2009.
4. **Membership:** Its membership consists of the following General Membership Branches: Vancouver Island, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa-Outaouais and Montreal. Its jurisdiction extends to all IWW members in Canada who are not affiliated with any branch. Affiliation of new branches is voluntary and must be decided by members at a regular business meeting. The Vancouver GMB is not affiliated and is responsible for its members and its relationship with the General Administration.
5. **Communication:** The ROC Secretary-Treasurer (RST) and General Secretary-Treasurer (GST) shall be in monthly contact to share information and coordinate activity.
6. **Organizing Department Liaison:** The ROC Organizing Department Liaison and the Organizing Department Board shall be in monthly contact to share information on organizing activities.
7. **GOB:** The General Secretary-Treasurer (GST) will send an electronic copy of the GOB to all members of the CANROC unless the member has no email or elects to receive it by mail. The GST shall maintain the list of members who chose to receive the GOB by mail.
8. **Industrial Worker:** GHQ will send print copies of the *Industrial Worker* to all members of the CANROC.
 - a. Chartered branches shall be responsible for ordering and paying for bundles at the regular rate of \$0.20 per copy.
9. **CANROC internal bulletin:** CANROC will publish a quarterly internal bulletin for its members. The GST and GEB Chair may submit brief international reports.
10. **International referendum:** The GST will email a blank electronic copy of each year's General Referendum to the RST, with sufficient time for the CANROC to translate it into French. The RST will promptly print, uniquely number each ballot, and mail one to each CANROC member in good standing

no later than October 20th with a voucher envelope. The CANROC ballot committee shall count the international ballots and report the results to the GST by December 1.

11. **Delegate credentials, rigging and supplies:** The GST will send membership supplies and delegate rigging to the CANROC RST at no charge. Membership supplies will include dues cards, membership buttons, IWW constitutions, and “One Big Union” pamphlets. New CANROC delegates will receive numbers in the 4000 block; current or former delegates who return to service will continue to use their delegate numbers. The CANROC will issue delegate clearance forms in February of each year.

12. **Dues:** The CANROC will have the same dues structure as in the international constitution, in Canadian dollars. The ROC, chartered branch, and General Administration (GA) shall share dues as follows:

a. 45% to the branch, 15% to the ROC, and 40% to the GA.

b. Disparate CANROC members shall pay dues to the CANROC, and the CANROC will remit 50% to GHQ and retain 50%.

c. The CANROC and its chartered branches shall remit 100% of initiation fees to GHQ.

d. Sub-minimum dues collected by the CANROC and its chartered branches shall be shared as follows: \$3 to the General Administration, \$2 to the chartered branch or, if a disparate member, to the CANROC.

13. **Translation fund:** The General Administration shall budget \$1,500 for French translation of IWW materials. The CANROC branch representatives shall receive requests for translation and communicate their decisions to the GST. The GST will send the funds for approved requests to the CANROC for disbursement.

14. **Database:** Chartered branch secretaries and delegates at large shall send a copy of their report to the RST who will update the General Administration database. The RST will have administrative access.

15. **Charters:** The CANROC shall issue charters and shop cards within its jurisdiction.