

Constitution

Lanark Basic Income Network

Article 1 – Name

The name of the organization shall be Lanark Basic Income Network (LBIN).

Article 2 – Mission

The mission of LBIN is to advocate, within and beyond Lanark County, for a Basic Income Guarantee in Canada, ensuring that people have financial stability and security to meet their basic needs and support their participation in society. LBIN strives to educate and engage with communities, decision-makers, and stakeholders to help realize this future.

Article 3 – Structure

LBIN shall operate as an unincorporated association and on a not-for-profit basis. Its structure shall comprise the general membership and, from the general membership, a Steering Committee.

Article 4 – General Membership

Membership of LBIN is open to anyone who supports the mission of the organization. Membership shall be free of charge and shall be on a lifetime basis, until such time as a member requests from the membership list or is deceased. A member shall have the right to attend and participate in regular meetings of the membership, which shall occur a minimum of three times a calendar year (including an Annual General Meeting).

Article 5 – Steering Committee

The Steering Committee shall serve as the day-to-day decision-making body of the organization. It shall meet a minimum of six times a calendar year.

The Steering Committee shall number not more than nine persons and shall consist of, at minimum, a Chair, a Vice-Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Member-at-Large. The Secretary and Treasurer may be the same person. The Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be the Officers of LBIN.

The minimum number of Steering Committee members for decision-making at any meeting is three. Meetings of the Steering Committee can be in person or virtual (via Zoom or similar technology). Decisions of the Steering Committee can also be made by email at the discretion of the Chair.

Members of the Steering Committee shall be elected at a meeting of the membership. Only members of LBIN may serve on the Steering Committee. Members of the Steering Committee shall have a term of two years from the date on which a given member was elected to the last day prior to the same date two years hence.

Steering Committee members may be re-elected. Should a Steering Committee member resign, the remaining Steering Committee members shall work with the general membership to fill the position at the earliest opportunity.

The Steering Committee may, at its discretion, create sub-committees as needed. The decision to establish a sub-committee will be subject to a vote by the Membership at the next meeting of Members. Both Members and non-Members may serve on sub-Committees.

The Steering Committee may establish policies that govern the operations and activities of LBIN. Such policies must be in alignment with LBIN's mission and not inconsistent with this Constitution. All members of LBIN shall have access to these policies.

Article 6 – Fiscal Year

The fiscal year shall be January 1 to December 31.

Article 7 – Finances

LBIN shall maintain a bank account for the receipt and disbursement of funds. The Steering Committee shall ensure that LBIN's finances are transparent to the general membership. This shall be achieved by reporting annually, in writing, to the membership on the financial health of the organization.

Article 8 – Amendments

This Constitution shall be amended only at a meeting of members. Notice of proposed amendments shall be provided at least 30 days before a meeting of members when proposed amendments shall be considered. To change the Constitution, there must be a minimum of 10 members present or a majority of members, whichever number is smaller.

Article 9 – Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of LBIN, any funds remaining in the organization's bank account shall be donated to a not-for-profit organization with a similar mission as LBIN, as determined by the Steering Committee, or in the absence of a Steering Committee, at a meeting of the membership.

Date of Adoption or Amendment

This Constitution was adopted by consensus at a meeting of the membership on June 15, 2023 at the Perth & District Library, Perth, Ontario.

- Amendments approved on March 20, 2024 at a members' meeting, Smiths Falls, ON
- Amendments approved on June 11, 2024 at a members' meeting, Carleton Place, ON