



**THE
CONSTITUTION OF
(BYE-LAWS)**

**EDO PEOPLE ASSOCIATION OF MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA
ASSOCIATION DU PEUPLE EDO DE MONTRÉAL, QUÉBEC, CANADA
(AMENDED IN THE YEAR 2016)**



PREAMBLE

We the Edo People residing in the Province of Quebec in Canada on this 24th day of October 2004, gathered together in the city of Montreal and declare:

- (a) That we are law-abiding residents of the Province of Quebec, and Canada.
- (b) That we have resolved to form an organization, in order to promote our cultural Heritage within Canada Society and Community Network;
And therefore,
- (c) Write, Enact and ratify this Constitution to formalize rules for civility and sanity in the Organization; and for achieving the Organization's Aim(s) and Objective(s).

ARTICLE 1: NAME OF ORGANIZATION

The Organization's Name shall be called "**Edo People Association of Montreal, Quebec, Canada.**"

ARTICLE 2: MOTTO

Evbuomwan Aghogho N' Amen Rho Yi -
Everyone wants the Best for his or her Community.

ARTICLE 3: MISSION STATEMENT

Aligning to enhance society to be viable where every person(s) is important, respected and significant.

ARTICLE 4: LOCATION

Edo People Association, hereinafter referred to as the “Association” shall have its main office and chief place of business in Montreal (Ville-LaSalle), Quebec, Canada.

ARTICLE 5: MAILING ADDRESS

Section 1:

The Association shall maintain a postal/mailing address at all times for mail correspondence.

Section 2:

The Association shall maintain a website, and an email media address for electronic correspondence and disseminating information.

ARTICLE 6: MEETINGS

Section 1:

The Association shall convene and hold Annual General Meeting (AGM) ones a year in the month of March of each year.

Section 2:

The Association shall convene and hold Monthly General Meeting (MGM) ones every month.

Section 3:

The Executive Committee shall have the right to convene and hold Executive Committee Meeting as necessary at their discretion.

Section 4:

The Executive Committee shall have the right to call for an Emergency Meeting of the General Assembly when the need arises to do so.

Section 5:

The Board of Trustee shall have the right to hold Board Meetings at their discretion.

Section 6:

The Association shall conduct its deliberations in English; French and various Edo languages.

Section 7:

The Executive Committee shall communicate, venue, date and time of Annual General Meetings; Monthly General Meetings; and Emergency General Meetings to members through the office of the General Secretary or Public Relation Officer one week prior to the meetings.

Article 7: LOGO OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1:

Crafted Queen Idia N'lyesigie Head Mask: Symbolic of the sophistication of Edo Art and Cultural Heritage.

Section 2:

Leopard: The official animal and pet of Benin Kingdom.

Section 3:

Ada and Eben: Edo people symbols of physical strength and vigor.

ARTICLE 8: COLOUR OF THE ASSOCIATION

The official Colour of the Association shall be Red.

ARTICLE 9: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1:

Promote economy well being among Edo People.

Section 2:

Enhance unity within Edo Community.

Section 3:

Project good image of Edo people, and organize events, activities and program that promote Edo cultural heritage and social values.

Section 4:

Liaise and cooperate with other Nigerian and people of Africa descent in projecting good image of Nigeria and Africa; and promoting unity amongst Nigerians and Africans at all times.

Section 5:

Attract the World attention to Edo state.

Section 6:

Understand, relate, cooperate, and contribute to a better Canadian society.

Section 7:

Assist members with immigration, education, and other legitimate matters whenever the need arises.

Section 8:

Assist immigrant to integrate into Quebec society.

Section 9:

Organize from time to time other programs, seminar, sporting events that is beneficial to the entire Community (Lasalle Borough and beyond).

Section 10:

Organize classes and seminars that teach Edo language, History and Culture.

Section 11:

Participates and be part of all social and cultural events/programs organize by Lasalle Borough Council; Greater City of Montreal; Province of Quebec; and Canada in general.

Section 12:

Volunteer services at any given time when call upon to do so by Lasalle Borough Council; Greater City of Montreal Council; Province of Quebec, and Canada Government.

ARTICLE 10: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1:

Membership is not automatic irrespective of whether a person is from Edo State. Prospective member must subscribe to Article 9, and must fulfill Article 11.

Section 2:

Membership of the Association shall be open to all Adult of Edo state origin, their spouse and children.

Section 3:

Others that either one of the parents or both parents are from Edo State.

Section 4.

Any other person(s) who have affinity to Benin Kingdom

ARTICLE 11: REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS

Section 1:

Registration shall be done individually

Section 2:

Prospective member shall complete an application form, and pay a non-refundable application fee of thirty Canadian dollars (\$30.00) per person regardless of their marital status.

Section 3:

Prospective member must be law abiding; a person who has not broken the law of the land.

Section 4:

A person shall be registered if Article 10, and Article 11: section 1 through 3 is fulfilled.

ARTICLE 12: ACTIVE MEMBER

Section 1:

A registered member.

Section 2:

A member in good standing.

Section 3:

A member who paid his/her annual dues and other levies.

Section 4:

A member who participates in all of the association's activities, events and programs.

Section 5:

A member who attend meetings regularly; and or not less than eighty percent during the Association calendar year.

ARTICLE 13: DISTANT MEMBERSHIP

A distant member shall be any member who resides outside Montreal and its suburbs; and who fulfils Article 11, and Article 17 section 4.

ARTICLE 14: HONORARY MEMEBERSHIP

Section 1:

Honorary membership shall be confer on any distinguish person who is otherwise not a registered member of the Association, but has supported the Association financially and morally.

Section 2:

The General Assembly of the Association must give an approval before such honor is to be granted.

ARTICLE 15: PATRON / MATRON

Section 1:

The Executive Committee shall recommend any person(s) to be bestowed the responsibilities and Title of a Patron and a Matron when these positions become vacant. The association's general assembly shall deliberate on the recommendations, and can also make its recommendations prior to confirmation.

Section 2:

The Patron and Matron shall play fatherly and motherly role in the association; and they shall command and enjoy the respect and loyalty of the association's membership.

ARTICLE 16: RIGHT OF MEMBERS

Section 1:

All members shall have equal rights.

Section 2:

All members shall have equal privileges.

Section 3:

All members shall have one vote in the General Assembly resolution and, in the general election and any election.

Section 4:

All qualify members shall enjoy the benefit of the Association as stated in Article 18.

ARTICLE 17: ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FINANCIAL DUE

Section 1:

A member shall, and is required to pay one hundred Canadian dollars, (\$100.00) annually - within the Association calendar year.

Section 2:

Member shall individually pay the said one hundred dollar (\$100.00) annual dues irrespective of his/her marital status.

Section 3:

New immigrant; High school and Cegep students are exempted from paying the annual dues as long as he/she can provide proof of their immigration and school status. And must not be over twenty-five years.

Section 4:

A distant member shall pay annual due of two hundred Canadian dollars (\$200.00)

Section 5:

If a member did not pay his/her annual dues within the Association calendar year, a twenty dollar (\$20.00) late fee will be incurred.

ARTICLE 18: BENEFITS AND ASSISTANCE

Section 1:

Five hundred Canadian dollars (\$500.00) shall be given to support a marriage ceremony of a member. This money shall be levied in equal ratio among active and distant members with the exemption of the member(s) who is being supported.

Section 2:

Two hundred Canadian dollars (\$200.00) shall be given to open a savings account for a new born baby of a member(s). This money shall be levied in equal ratio among active and distant members with the exemption of the parents of the new born baby who is being supported.

Section 3:

Two thousand Canadian dollars (\$2,000.00) shall be given to condole with a member who is bereaved due to the death of his or her father. This money shall be levied in equal ratio among active and distant members with the exemption of the member who is being condoled.

Section 4:

Two thousand Canadian dollars (\$2,000.00) shall be given to condole with a member who is bereaved due to the death of his or her mother. This money shall be levied on active and long distance members in equal ratio with the exemption of the member who is being condole.

ARTICLE 19: ORGANS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Section 1: The Executive Committee

Section 2: The Youth Affairs

Section 3: The Women's Wing

Section 4: The Social Committee

Section 5: The Welfare Committee

Section 6: The Finance Committee

Section 7: The Publicity Committee

Section 8: The Disciplinary Committee

Section 9: The Board of Trustees

Section 10: The Patron and Matron

Section 11: The Ad Hoc Committees

ARTICLE 20: FUNCTIONS OF THE ORGANS OF THE ASSOCIATION

See Articles 22, 33, 30, 34, 29, 54, 15, and 31, 41 section 3 accordingly.

ARTICLE 21: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Association shall have the following Officials:

- Section 1: The President
- Section 2: The Vice-President
- Section 3: The General Secretary
- Section 4: The Treasurer
- Section 5: The Social Secretary
- Section 6: The Public Relation Officer
- Section 7: The Financial Secretary
- Section 8: The Chief Whip
- Section 9: Women Leader
- Section 10: The Youth Affairs Secretary
- Section 11: Assistant General Secretary
- Section 12: Assistant Social Secretary

ARTICLE 22: DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The President

Section 1(a)

The President is the Chief Executive and Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Section 1(b)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 1(c)

Shall summon and presides over all General and Executive meetings.

Section 1(d)

Shall have the deciding vote at all General and Executive meetings.

Section 1(e)

Shall approve and advise the Financial Secretary and Treasurer on all payments and financial transactions; and reports to the General Assembly on quarterly basis.

Section 2: THE VICE-PRESIDENT

Section 2(a)

Shall be the Chairperson of the Welfare Committee.

Section 2(b)

Shall be the second in command.

Section 2(c)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 2(d)

Shall perform every functions assigned to him/her by the President.

Section 2(e)

Shall assist the President in all issues and shall assume the office of the President in case the President was impeached or incapacitated.

Section 3: THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Section 3(a)

Shall be responsible for the up to date records and administrative duties of the Association.

Section 3(b)

Shall be in charge of the Association's Secretariat.

Section 3(c)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all times.

Section 3(d)

Shall keep all records of minutes of all Executive and General Meetings.

Section 3(e)

Shall communicate notice of meetings to all members.

Section 3(f)

Shall keep at all time an up to date register of all members?

Section 3(g)

Shall act for the President in the absence of the President and the Vice-President when requested to do so.

Section 3(h)

Shall perform every functions assigned to him/her by the President.

Section 4: THE TREASURER

Section 4(a)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 4(b)

Shall be responsible for the Association's Account keeping

Section 4(c)

Shall receive, pay and sign for all monies on behalf of the Association.

Section 4(d)

Shall deposit the Association money within two banking days.

Section 4(e)

Shall practice general accepted Accounting principles, and in collaboration with the Financial Secretary prepare a comprehensive income and expenditure statement to the General House on quarterly basis and to the Executive Committee as requested.

Section 4(f)

Shall perform every function assigned to him/her by the President.

Section 5: THE SOCIAL SECRETARY

Section 5(a)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 5(b)

Shall perform all functions assigned to him/her by the President.

Section 5(c)

Shall coordinate the Association's Social and Cultural Activities, and assigned activities duties to members.

Section 5(d)

Shall keep documents of Social Activities and present report to the General Assembly.

Section 5(d)

Shall present annual cultural and social calendar to the general assembly at the Annual General Meeting convene in the month of March of each year.

Section 5(e)

Shall prepare and present budget of each annual cultural and social event schedule for each Association's calendar year to the General Assembly convene in the month of March of each year.

Section 6: THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Section 6(a)

The Financial Secretary shall be the Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

Section 6(b)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all times.

Section 6(c)

Shall perform all functions assigned to him/her by the President.

Section 6(d)

Shall be responsible for the collection of annual dues, fines, levies, donations and pledges due to the Association, and issues receipts.

Section 6(e)

Shall hand over all monies to the Treasurer for deposit.

Section 6(f)

Shall prepare a payment voucher for all payments.

Section 6(g)

Shall work together with the Treasurer in preparing financial statement of account for all General Meetings.

Section 6(h)

Shall present statement of account at every general meeting showing balances, what the Association owes and who owes the Association.

Section 6(i)

Shall practice general accepted Accounting principles and in collaboration with the Financial Secretary prepare a comprehensive income and expenditure statement to the General House on quarterly basis and to the Executive Committee as requested.

Section 7: THE PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER

Section 7(a)

Shall be the Chairperson of the Publicity Committee

Section 7(b)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 7(c)

Shall perform all the functions assigned to him/her by the President.

Section 7(d)

Shall be responsible for the publicity of the Associations activities through electronic/print media, approved by the general assembly and the President.

Section 7(e)

Shall be responsible for the Association's Public Image.

Section 7(f)

Shall liaise with the Social Secretary in all of the Association's social event and activities.

Section 8: THE WOMEN LEADER

Section 8(a)

The Women Leader shall be the Chairperson of the Women's Wing.

Section 8(b)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 8(c)

Shall perform all functions assign to him or her by the President.

Section 8(d)

Shall coordinate participation of Women in the Association's activities.

Section 8(e)

Shall organizes and be responsible for children and their welfare.

Section 8(f)

Shall liaise with the Social Secretary in all of the Association's social event and activities.

Section 9: THE CHIEF WHIP / SPEAKER

Section 9(a)

Shall be the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee.

Section 9(b)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 9(c)

Shall perform all functions assign to him/her by the President.

Section 9(d)

Shall be the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the Association.

Section 9(e)

Shall enforce Association Code of Conduct as in Article 23.

Section 9(f)

Shall maintain order during meetings and enforce any disciplinary action for disturbing the peace during meetings.

Section 9(g)

Shall hand over the late fees and other fines to the Financial Secretary.

Section 10: THE YOUTH AFFAIRS SECRETARY

Section 10(a)

Shall coordinate the youth and children's activities.

Section 10(b)

Shall be the chairperson of the Youth and Children Affairs

Section 10(c)

Shall abide by the Constitution at all time.

Section 10(d)

Shall perform all functions assign to him/her by the President

Section 10(e)

Shall Coordinates participation of the Youth and children in the Association's activities.

ARTICLE 23: ASSOCIATION CODE OF CONDUCT

Section 1:

Every meetings and activities of the Association shall be conducted in pleasant and dignified manner; therefore all members shall endeavor to achieve this goal.

Section 2:

Members shall give selfless and unpaid service; be dedicated and relentless in achieving the aims and objectives of the Association.

Section 3:

Members shall make good, unbiased and unselfish decisions for the enhancement of the aims and objectives of the Association.

Section 4:

Members shall endeavor to conduct themselves in a dignify manner at all times, and respect every one whether a child or an adult.

Section 5:

All members must be mindful of his/her language, choice of words and demeanor during Association's meetings and at all times.

Section 6:

The notion that I am a man and as such women are subservient to me shall not be tolerated or be an acceptable conduct in this Association.

Section 7:

Members shall avoid allowing their personal feud and ego to interfere during Association's meetings and activities.

Section 8:

If in case any member wishes to resolve an issue with another, the case shall be brought before the disciplinary committee.

Section 9:

All members are allowed to disagree with any issue or motion raised by other members. However it must not be done in a confrontational and uncivil manner.

Section 10:

Edo indigenes different family base morning salutation is one of the unique cultural value specific to Edo People, and therefore every parent must endeavor to teach and encourage their children to greet older Edo person(s) with their family base morning salutation.

Section 11:

Members shall endeavor to be present and be on time at all meetings and events of the Association.

Section 12:

The Executive Committee shall command the respect and loyalty of the association's membership at all time.

Section 13:

Member shall not be insubordinate to the Executive Committee.

Section 14:

Other Executive Committee members shall not be insubordinate to the President.

ARTICLE 24: THE ASSOCIATION CALENDAR YEAR

The Association calendar shall be from January 1st through December 31st.

ARTICLE 25: QUORUM

A quorum of the General Assembly shall be deemed formed if in a duly convened meeting two-third registered members are present and among them four Executive Committee members.

ARTICLE 26: PASSING OF MOTION

A motion shall deem passed if it obtain a simple majority of the total vote cast during general assembly meeting.

ARTICLE 27: CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

Section 1:

The Constitution is subject to amendment every four years if over a four year period, issues concerns and motions were raised by members to that effect.

Section 2:

If good precedent began to yield good dividends within a four year time period as a way of resolution, the Constitution shall be amended at the appropriate time to incorporate such precedent.

ARTICLE 28: OFFENSES

Section 1:

Any conduct and action that undermines Article 23.

Section 2:

Defrauding the Association of money or monies, properties through illegal means.

Section 3:

Refusal to withdraw any derogatory remark that undermines Article 23.

Section 4:

Using the Association name for any reason without the prior written approval and consent of the Executive Committee.

Section 5:

If a member's attendance record indicates less than eighty percent during the Association's calendar year.

Section 6:

If a member is considered to be late for meeting after the opening prayer must have been said without an excuse call to the Chief Whip or any of the Executive Committee members.

ARTICLE 29: DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

Section 1:

Shall be a standing Committee.

Section 2:

The Chief-whip shall be the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee.

Section 3: The Association's general Assembly shall approve nomination of members into the Disciplinary Committee.

Section 4:

Shall receive all complaints and endeavor to work out differences between members.

Section 5:

Shall give report of its findings, and make recommendations to the Executive Committee prior to making presentation to the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 30: WELFARE COMMITTEE

Section 1:

Shall be a standing Committee that comprises of the Vice-president, Women Leader, Financial Secretary and any other person nominated and approved by the General Assembly.

Section 2:

The Vice-president shall be the Chairperson of the Welfare Committee.

Section 3:

Shall report their activities to the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.

Section 4:

Shall assist newly arrived indigenes of Edo state; and other immigrant who seek the Association's assistance in order to facilitate their settlement in Quebec.

Section 5:

Shall also carry out social events, ceremony and activities.

ARTICLE 31: TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Section 1:

Shall comprise of the outgoing and the newly elected Executive Committee members to carry out the transitional procedure within two weeks after the date of election.

Section 2:

Report of the procedure must be sign by the outgoing President, Vice-President, and General Secretary.

Section 3:

Report of the procedure must be counter-signed by the newly elected President, Vice-President, and General Secretary.

Section 4:

The report of the procedure shall be presented to the General Assembly during the annual general meeting when the new Executive Committee takes the oath of office and be sworn-in.

ARTICLE 32: TRANSITION PERIOD

The outgoing Executive Committee shall continue to carry out the affairs of the Association until the date the newly elected Executive Committee takes the oath of office/sworn-in.

ARTICLE 33: SOCIAL COMMITTEE

Section 1:

Shall be a standing Committee comprising of the Social Secretary, the Public Relations Officer, the Financial Secretary and any other two person nominated by the General House.

Section 2:

The Social Secretary shall be the Chairperson of the Social Committee.

Section 3:

Shall report their activities to the Executive Committee and then to the General House.

Section 4:

Shall plan and organize annual social and cultural activities.

Section 5:

Such activities shall reflect the cultural reality of Edo state in particular, and Nigeria in general.

Section 6:

The social committee shall organize the Association's participation in all of the cultural activities, programs and events of Lasalle Borough, City of Montreal, Province of Quebec, and Canada in general.

ARTICLE 34: FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 1:

Shall be a standing Committee.

Section 2:

The Financial Secretary shall be the Chairperson of the Committee; Treasurer and any other two persons from the association's membership shall be appointed by the general assembly as members.

Section 3:

The Committee shall present to the Executive Committee its activities and programs plan for the Association calendar year.

Section 4:

Shall seek Ways and Means for the Association's Economy Growth.

ARTICLE 35: SANCTIONS

As recommended by the disciplinary committee, the general Assembly reserve the right to impeach any member of the Executive Committee; suspend or expel any member from the Association for a specific length of time or indefinitely if the actions and conducts of such member constitute an embarrassment to the Association, or if such member refused to conform with the code of conducts of the association as in Article 23.

ARTICLE 36: ATTENDANCE

Section 1:

It is compulsory for all members to be present at Annual General Meeting.

Section 2:

All members must be present at every monthly general Meeting.

Section 3:

It is compulsory for all members to be present and participates in all of the Association's activities, events and programs.

Section 4:

If member marital status is single, such member shall endeavor to attend meetings at least eighty percent during the Association's calendar year.

Section 5:

If member marital status is married, whether common-law or otherwise, both couple shall endeavor to attend meetings at least eighty percent during the Association's calendar year between them.

Section 6:

However it is compulsory for married couple members to at least attend two meetings together during the Association calendar year.

ARTICLE 37: ABSENTEE

Section 1:

A member will incur fifty Canadian dollars (\$50.00) to be calculated for every meeting a member is absent after his or her attendance records during the association calendar year becomes less than eighty percent required under active member section 5 of Article 12.

Section 2:

Any member who is absent from the meeting for six consecutive meetings shall lose his or her membership of the Association.

Section 3:

If such individual want to continue to be a member of the Association, he or she shall re-register as a new prospective member and must also fulfils Article 11: section 1- 3.

Section 4:

Such member loses his or her benefits from the Association, and must therefore undergo six months new member probationary period before he or she is entitled to any of the Association's benefits.

ARTICLE 38: LATENESS

A member incurs a late fee of five Canadian (\$5.00) if such member arrives to General meeting and all meetings; activities and events after opening prayer and event and activities has already commence.

ARTICLE 39: PROCEDURE FOR REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1:

If a vote of no confidence is passed on the Executive Committee by two-third (2/3) majority of registered members present at the General meeting, the Executive Committee stands dissolved. A Caretaker Committee will take its place, which shall be appointed by the General House.

Section 2:

If a vote of no confidence is passed on any member of the Executive Committee by two-third (2/3) majority of registered members present at any general meeting, that Executive Officer stands impeached.

ARTICLE 40: CARETAKER COMMITTEE

Section 1:

If Executive Committee stands dissolved, in its place, a Caretaker Committee shall take over the day-to-day activities of the Association; this Committee shall be appointed by the General Assembly.

Section 2:

The Caretaker Committee shall comprise of five appointed members, and they shall perform the functions as in Article 20.

Section 3:

They shall take the oath of office administered by the Patron of the Association or a Clergy so chosen.

Section 4:

The Caretaker Committee shall conduct fresh elections to the Executive Committee within twelve to eighteen months from the date the Executive Committee was dissolved, and it shall not be later than eighteen months.

ARTICLE 41: ELECTION PROCEDURE

Section 1:

The Executive Committee shall call for a general election in the month of November every election year; or within a reasonable time frame if for any reason(s) what so ever the election could not hold as specify.

Section 2:

The Executive Committee shall be elected in the month of November every election year.

Section 3:

The general assembly shall appoint three persons Electoral Committee; this Committee shall be responsible for conducting the general election.

Section 4:

The Electoral Committee shall stands dissolved after the election.

Section 5:

To win the election, candidate shall have the simple majority of fifty plus one (50+1).

Section 6:

Any member who has been impeached in the Executive Committee shall not stand for election into any position in the Executive Committee for a period of five terms equivalent to ten Association calendar years.

Section 7:

Any elected official that abandoned his or her position and responsibilities shall not stand for election into any position in the Executive Committee for a period of three terms equivalent to six Association calendar years.

ARTICLE 42: OATH OF OFFICE AND SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

Section 1:

Oath of office shall be taken by every newly elected Executive Committee members to become legitimate official of the Association; otherwise their election is only ceremonial and do not have the legitimate authority to perform the Executive functions of the Association.

Section 2:

The oath of office and swearing-in shall be administered by an official or person(s) so chosen by the newly elected Executive Committee to perform this ceremony.

Section 3:

The oath of office and swearing-in event shall be well publicized to attract the general public, Borough/Government officials and dignitaries.

Section 4:

The newly elected Executive Committee members taking oath of office and swearing-in ceremony shall be one of the main events during the Association's Annual General Meeting convene in the month of March following the election year.

ARTICLE 43: TERMS OF OFFICE

Section 1:

Each elected member shall hold office for two Association calendar years at a time.

Section 2:

There shall be no limitation to the number of times a qualified member shall run or hold any Executive Committee position.

ARTICLE 44: BY- ELECTION

There shall be a by-election in case of vacancy in the Executive Committee; such election shall be organized by Electoral Committee set up for the purpose. The Executive Committee shall appoint an acting person before a by-election is conducted; this person is subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 45: AUDITOR

Once every two Association years; and at any given point, the General Assembly can, and if necessary request the services of a professional Accountant/Auditor to investigate and re-structure the Association's Accounting records.

ARTICLE 46: VOTING RIGHTS

Section 1:

Voting on elections shall be by secret ballot system.

Section 2:

All active members as stipulated in Article 12, and in good standing who fulfill Article 10: Section 1 and Article 11 shall have the right to vote and be voted for, and to this there is no exception.

Section 3:

At no time shall precedent be invoked during, and or for the sake of conducting general election, or any election into the Executive Committee of the Association.

ARTICLE 47: DEPORTATION

The Association shall assist any member that faces deportation from the country (Canada) with a sum of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), provided that such member is in good standing.

ARTICLE 48: DEATH OF ANY MEMBER

Section 1:

Upon the death of any member, the Association shall levy the sum of six thousand Canadian dollars (\$6,000.00) in equal ratio among members, to be donated to the family of the departed member as long as that member fulfilled Article 12, and Article 36: section 1 - 2 during his or her life time.

Section 2:

The Association shall play a major role during the funeral.

ARTICLE 49: ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS

Section 1:

A member is entitled to one of these benefits as in Article 10 Section 2 -9 after six months of his or her membership in the Association.

Section 2:

A member is entitled to one of these benefits as in Article 10 Section 2 - 9, only if he or she has met all financial obligations to the Association.

Section 3:

The Executive Committee shall investigate and determine the eligibility of such benefit especially if such member is less than six months of registration and if this member is in good standing.

ARTICLE 50: LIABILITY AND LIFE INSURANCE

Section 1:

The Association shall obtain and maintain a liability Insurance Policy.

Section 2:

The Association shall take and maintain a group life Insurance Policy for registered members of the Association.

ARTICLE 51: INVITATION TO SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Section 1:

Member who is planning a social event or any social activities and want the Association to grace the occasion must contact the Association through the office of one of the following Executives: General Secretary, Social Secretary or the PRO by phone call followed by email.

Section 2:

Invitation by non members to their Social event shall not be an item of discussion in the Association's monthly General meeting.

Section 3:

The Executive Committee shall designate four members to any social event of members in good standing as long as such member followed due process of inviting the Association to his or her event. The President at his or her discretion will attend any of such occasions; however the President being the leader of the Community must be present at every marriages and naming ceremony.

Section 4:

The designated officials shall be the Social Secretary, PRO, Women Leader and one non-executive Committee member.

Section 5:

Invitations and sharing of invitations by any individual to any social event is not permitted during and when the General House deliberation is in progress.

Section 6:

Since the Association is a Community organization, members and non members are allowed to share invitation to friends and well wisher at the end of the meeting; after closing prayer is observed.

ARTICLE 52: SIGNATORIES TO THE ASSOCIATION'S ACCOUNT

Section 1:

The signatories to the Association's Bank Account shall be the following:

Section 1(a) General Secretary,

Section 1(b) Treasurer,

Section 1(c) Social Secretary.

ARTICLE 53: THE ASSOCIATION'S FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Section 1:

All financial transactions are legitimate only with the approval of the President, and the General Assembly.

Section 2:

Executive Committee members requesting expenditure for his or her portfolio shall forward a written and sign memo to the Financial Secretary explaining the reason(s) for such expenditure.

Section 3:

The Financial Secretary shall minute on a file record and journal entries and forward all financial requests to the President for approval.

Section 4:

Only the President has the right to advise and authorize the Treasurer for disbursement of funds.

Section 5:

The President shall have the right to approve and spend only two hundred dollars (\$200.00) from the Association purse without the approval of the General Assembly. The purpose for such expenditure must be presented by the President during the monthly general meeting that follows the month of such expenditure.

Section 6:

Any and all expenditures amounting to over two hundred dollars (\$200.00) shall be deliberated upon and approved by the general assembly of the association.

ARTICLE 54: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Section 1:

The Board of Trustee shall constitute the foundation and the ultimate flag bearer of the Association, and provide continuity in the life and operation of the Association.

Section 2:

It shall be the custodian of the Association's Assets.

Section 3:

It shall uphold and protect the Constitution and act in the best interests of the Association's membership.

Section 4:

The Board of Trustee shall be the body of last resort in matters of conflict within and among the members of the Executive Committee or any other interest group within the Edo Community and other Communities in the Province of Quebec.

Section 5:

It shall fulfill certain obligations of the Association, such as signing of deeds, specific legal matters requiring the participation and signatures of such a body.

Section 6:

The sitting President, and General Secretary shall be automatic members of the Board of Trustee.

Section 7:

The general assembly shall decide and determine the number of person(s) to be appointed into the Board of Trustee excluding section 7 of article 54.

Section 8:

Every other nominated member(s) or person(s) shall require the approval and confirmation of the association's general assembly prior to becoming a member of the Board of Trustee

Section 9:

The Board of Trustees shall present its reports of activities, and make recommendations on ways and means to improve and make the Association better and relevant to its membership.

Section 10:

Each Board of Trustees members shall serve for a period of eight years at a time after which the general assembly will nominate, and make final approval of any member(s) to be appointed or re-appointed into the Board of Trustees.

Section 11:

The Board of Trustees shall elect or select its chairperson and Secretary.

Section 12:

With the exception of the sitting President, and the General Secretary whose tenure is only two years; there is no limitation to the number of time a member shall be appointed into the Association's Board of Trustees.

Section 13:

The general assembly reserve the right to pass a vote of no confidence on any member(s) of the Board of Trustees who has breaches the code of conduct of the association and other misconduct charges brought against him or her. Consequently such member shall be removed from the Association's Board of Trustees and replaced by another person within six months from the date of removal.

ARTICLE 55: EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND

Section 1:

Emergency relief fund shall be deliberated upon by the Executive Committee to ascertain if, and which situation is considered as an emergency; and must communicate such situation to members immediately.

Section 2:

Resolute on what is requiring to aid in such situation.

Section 3:

If it is a call for financial aid, members shall be levied equal ratio to meet up such obligation.

ARTICLE 56: DISSOLUTION

The dissolution of the Association shall be decided in a General meeting by not less than two-third of registered members in good standing.

ARTICLE 57: DISSOLUTION AND DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

The Association shall or may be dissolved either because of lack of credible membership or due to proscription by the law of the land or any natural circumstances that prevent the Association from operating for a period of one year or more.

ARTICLE 58: DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

Upon dissolution of the Association, every Assets of the Association shall be handed over to the Board of Trustee that shall dispose it off and the proceeds given to charity organization in Canada and Edo State.

ARTICLE 59: MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1:

All members must be given and have one copy of the Association's Constitution.

Section 2:

All members must be issued with a membership identification number.

Section 3:

All members shall be issued with an identification card with his or her membership number.