

## What is National Newcomers Association of Canada & its Board

NNAC is a not-for-profit organization established to provide guidance and general support to Newcomer and Friendship clubs across Canada. Established in the 1970s by executive from the Toronto Newcomers Club, NNCC and subsequently the NNAC has been a steady source of information and club connection for over 50 years.

Currently the NNAC membership is open to any not-for-profit social engagement club that has as its foundation the goal of connecting people to other people and their communities.

Mission and Mandate of the National Newcomers Association:

- Provide advice, guidance and support to Newcomer clubs and their members, encouraging them in their efforts, goals, and initiatives.
- Reach out to Newcomer clubs in our communities and facilitate networking.
- Assist in the establishment of Newcomers Clubs and the evolution of existing Clubs.

The NNAC Board consists of up to 9 officer positions who are elected at the AGM for up to 4 consecutive years:

- **Past President** (unelected incumbent who previously chaired the NNAC Board as President)
- **President** – chairs the NNAC Board.
- **Registrar-Treasurer**: Manages NNAC finances and the membership roster and renewals.
- **Secretary**: records the minutes of business meetings and may record the notes at non-business meetings for distribution to clubs as needed.
- **Regional Directors**: Eastern region encompasses the Atlantic Provinces; Central region covers Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba; Western region covers Saskatchewan thru to BC. Regional directors maintain close ties with the clubs in their region and assist as required. They may also help with the founding of new clubs in these areas.
- **Communications**: Manages the NNAC Facebook page and compiles the Link on a quarterly basis.
- **Member at large**: a Director position without portfolio. This executive member may take on special projects and assist with NNAC Pin distribution.

Co-Directors may share a position. The Webmaster is a non-board member and not tied to term limits.

Currently, the NNAC has 3 primary vacancies: Secretary, Central Region Director, and Member at Large.

The NNAC Board meets every 8 weeks (with a little variation based on holidays). These meetings take place via Zoom and are usually 1 to 1.5 h long. Regional directors may set up a regional zoom meeting to connect clubs that are closer together. Face to face meetings may also be arranged.

The President hosts additional club focused non-business meetings on a quarterly basis via Zoom for up to 1.5 h. Workshop style zoom events are also arranged based on need and can cover any relevant topic as suggested by clubs. The other executive may host their own zoom meetings, but are not required to do so, and do not have to attend these meetings.

The NNAC takes place in October via Zoom. Directors are expected to provide a report and participate in the AGM is possible.

Benefits of being a member club of the NNAC include:

- Regular national outreach meetings via Zoom which provide clubs with face-to-face opportunities to discuss issues and concerns and share ideas and inspirational success stories.
- Regular contact with regional representatives via Zoom to discuss issues closer to home.
- Link Newsletter communication which promotes clubs and their activities.
- Workshops via Zoom related to club operations including marketing, strategic planning, tech support, policies and procedures or bylaws.
- The National AGM via Zoom which provides clubs across the country to participate in the business operations of NNAC.
- Opportunity to participate in the Cooperators Insurance program for non-profit organizations. Insurance coverage includes Director and Officers, General Liability, and Blanket Accident. General Liability and BA coverage is assessed based on membership numbers. Rates are subject to change.
- Presence on the NNAC website might provide advertising for our clubs. Prospective members may find local clubs via our website. Advertising by NNAC in other forums may indirectly benefit its clubs.