



MNOC - Advocacy and Community Education Policy

POLICY

Metis Nation of Canada (MNOC) considers advocating on behalf of Metis people within the community, regardless of geographic location, for their rights and recognition as a fundamental element of its core values. MNOC will work with various organizations to build community support and understanding in order to promote and preserve the Metis identity and culture. MNOC will use various strategies to advocate and educate the community on issues faced by Metis People regarding identity.

MEMBER RIGHTS

Members are entitled to have their rights, needs and concerns heard and understood. MNOC Personnel will provide advocacy and community education, enabling the needs of the Member group to be heard by a wide and varied range of people.

RESPONSIBILITY

MNOC is committed to providing advocacy and community education. MNOC Personnel will use their experience and skills to respond to advocacy requests of members. MNOC acknowledges that the role of representing the Member group can take many different forms at many different levels within the organization.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

MNOC Personnel participating in any external activity related to MNOC are representing the organization. Personnel are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful, ethical and legal. Personnel will not disclose information that has been specified as confidential or reproduce documents that are owned by the organization without prior approval.

Personnel are expected to conduct themselves in line with the MNOC Code of Ethics and Conduct Policy.

PRINCIPLES

All requests for public speaking, media release or other forms of organizational representation will be considered based on the following criteria:

- Consistency with MNOC mission and objectives.
- The creation of a high community profile on issues surrounding Metis identity issues.
- Timed to ensure responsiveness to issues as they emerge within the community.
- Directly related to the causes and consequences of Metis discrimination and the resources available to address these consequences.
- Ensures that the information provided reaches the widest possible audience and achieves the greatest possible benefit.
- Accurately targets those who most require the information.
- Ensures the confidentiality and privacy of Members.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Community education by MNOC Personnel may take a variety of forms and may include:

- providing information to groups of Members
- delivering information sessions to other services, schools or government.
- participating in information booths at community events.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

MNOC believes that public speaking is an essential strategy in increasing community awareness of the issues and needs of Metis people. Public speaking is understood to include speaking engagements with schools, community groups, community forums, workshops and conferences. MNOC will not charge fees for public speaking but will accept donations.



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MEDIA LIAISON

MNOC recognizes the impact of the media in informing changes in community attitudes necessary to reduce barriers to Members. Media is understood to refer to printed and online articles in newspapers, journals and newsletters; radio interviews and announcements; television interviews, telephone interviews, reports and documentaries. MNOC will not disclose personal information about any of its Members.

Member Informed consent

In situations where requests are made to MNOC by the media for interviews, publication of written work, photographs or filming of MNOC Members, the following guidelines apply;

- Written consent of the Member or parent/guardian/ caregiver of Members under 18 years of age. The consent form must specify the date and nature of the interview and detail any special conditions.
- The **consent form** must be signed by the interviewer prior to the interview in acknowledgement that the special conditions will be adhered to. Copies of the signed consent form will be retained by the Member or parent/guardian/caregiver, the media interviewer and a copy retained in MNOC files.
- It is important that MNOC Personnel discuss any possible consequences that may flow from media exposure with the Member prior to them giving their consent.

RECORDING AND REPORTING

MNOC will retain records of community education engagements; this will be completed by the presenting Personnel member and will include any letters of request for public speaking or media liaison.

STANDARD PRESENTATION

A standard presentation will be used when undertaking presentations to external bodies.

DECLINING REQUESTS

MNOC reserves the right to decline or postpone speaking requests or media comment in situations where the request is not consistent with the principles of this policy, the organization's ideals or vision, or due to workload demands of Personnel.

EVALUATION AND REVIEW

The organization will review this policy as issues are raised, changes to standards of practice or legislation, and as part of a formal evaluation and review process.