

Objectives / Guidelines of Canada Nagarathar Sangam

Canada Nagarathar Sangam (“CNS”) is a voluntary association of all the Nagarathars and their family.

The objectives of CNS are as follows:

1. To unite and promote the cultural identity of all the Nagarathars in Canada
2. To promote the traditional characteristics and values of the Nagarathars such as charity, spiritual life and righteousness among Nagarathars
3. To provide financial assistance to Nagarathars, specifically for education, old age homes, marriage, medical help and any other welfare needs.
4. To provide support to new Nagarathar immigrants to Canada
5. To hold social events that reflect and promote the cultural identity and values of the Nagarathars and at the same time not ignoring the culture of the society we live in

Members

Any Nagarathar and his or her spouse and their unmarried children over the age of 18 are eligible to join the association. (Nagarathar means as at least 1 person in the family is/was a Nagarathar).

Membership Fee

1. **Membership** fee per family is 30 dollars per annum.
2. **Youth membership** fee is 10 dollars per annum.
Youth in the age group of 18-30 (unmarried) would be enrolled as Youth Members
3. **Associate membership** fee is 25 dollars per annum.
Nagarathars who are not residents of Canada can be enrolled in CNS as members and become Associate members. They will not have any voting rights in CNS. They are not eligible to hold any position in the CNS Executive Committee.

Governance

CNS will be governed by an Executive Committee elected by members of CNS.

Executive Committee

- **Structure**
The structure of the Executive Committee is as follows:
 1. President
 2. Secretary
 3. Treasurer
 4. Educational Directors (two)
 5. Social Directors (Three)
 6. Editor
 7. Youth Co-ordinators (two)

- **Election**

1. Any member of CNS members qualifies for nomination to the Executive Committee, except that an outgoing President, Secretary and the Treasurer may not seek re-election for any of these top three positions for the immediate next term.
2. The elections will be held at the Pillayar Nonbu function every two years.
3. Executive Committee members will be chosen by a simple majority of the eligible CNS members present at the meeting to be held during the Pillayar Nonbu function.
4. All members who have paid their annual membership and their spouses are eligible to vote. Youth members who paid their membership are also eligible to vote. Associate members have No voting rights.
5. Any elected member can resign their position during their term by submitting the resignation in writing. Such position will remain vacant for the term and their work will be shared by other existing Executive Committee members on a voluntary basis.

- **Term of Office**

The term of office for the Executive Committee is two years from the date of election/until the next election.

- **Responsibilities**

The Executive Committee is responsible to take necessary action to meet the objectives of CNS and in particular the following:

- Schedule and arrange all the social and cultural events, including the Pillayar Nonbu
- Set the Annual Membership fee with the approval of the General Body.
- Arrange fund raising events as necessary
- Set guidelines for financial assistance for higher education of Nagarathar children in Tamil Nadu
- Receive, review and approve applications for educational assistance and arrange payments to the successful applicants.
- Approve / provide funds for the other Welfare measures for the Nagarathars in Tamilnadu.
- Deposit all monies received into the bank account
- Approve disbursements.
- Keep proper accounting records for all receipts and disbursements
- Prepare and present annual financial statements to the CNS members at the Annual General Meeting
- Maintain and keep the CNS website updated
- To publish / update the CNS Objectives / Guidelines in the CNS Web site.
- Review and approve materials to be posted to the CNS website
- All decisions taken at the meeting must be supported by at least five of the Committee members.
- To provide copy of this Guidelines / Objectives to the new members.

Bank Account

- The Treasurer and the President of CNS are jointly authorized to open and operate the bank account of the CNS, including signing of all the cheques issued on this account.
- To give this Objectives / Guidelines as Bylaw of CNS in case of need to the bank or any other organizations (E.g.: for opening a bank account, applying for / as non-profit organisation etc...)

Amendments

- Amendments to this policy document require a two third majority of all eligible members of the CNS. If two third majority is not present at the General Body meeting, vote shall be taken with members present in the meeting that time and decision will be taken with two third majority of all eligible members present in the meeting accordingly which shall be binding on everyone.
- All amendments will be proposed and decided at the Annual General Meeting of the CNS which shall be held before December of every year.
- The Executive Committee has the right to call for an Extra Ordinary General Body meeting in case of need.