



Operating Policy – Interfaith Council

1. Purpose

- 1.1. To bring together representatives from student faith-based associations at McMaster University;
- 1.2. To work to address issues of common concern that affect the greater McMaster community;
- 1.3. To build connections between students of different spiritual affiliations, furthering the goal of a more unified campus community;
- 1.4. To facilitate and encourage religious dialogue within the McMaster community.

2. Membership

- 2.1. The Interfaith Council shall include one (1) president or representative from the following groups, who shall be voting members:
 - 2.1.1. Catholic Students Association;
 - 2.1.2. Cooperative of Indigenous Studies Students and Alumni;
 - 2.1.3. Hillel (Jewish Students Association);
 - 2.1.4. Hindu Students Association;
 - 2.1.5. Muslim Students Association;
 - 2.1.6. Orthodox Christian Students Association;
 - 2.1.7. Power to Change;
 - 2.1.8. Sikh Students Association.
- 2.2. The Council shall include the following non-voting members:
 - 2.2.1. The Diversity Services Director (Chair);
 - 2.2.2. The Chair of Religious Clubs from the Clubs Executive Council;
 - 2.2.3. The Ecumenical Chaplin;
 - 2.2.4. The Diversity Services Assistant Director;
 - 2.2.5. One (1) SRA member:
 - 2.2.5.1. The SRA member shall be elected to the Council no later than April 30;

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- 2.2.6. Any religious or spiritual MSU club deemed appropriate by the Council membership.
- 2.3. Any MSU Club willing to join the council should write a letter of interest to the chair and be ratified by the council membership as a non-voting member.

3. Operations

- 3.1. The Council shall meet no less than:
 - 3.1.1. One (1) time between May 1 and August 31;
 - 3.1.2. Two (2) times between September 1 and November 30, including once in September;
 - 3.1.3. Two (2) times between January 1 and March 31.
- 3.2. The term of the Council shall be from May 1 to March 31;
- 3.3. The Chairperson shall:
 - 3.3.1. Call and Chair the meetings of the Interfaith Council;
 - 3.3.2. Be responsible for booking meeting rooms, assign action items, distribution of previous meeting minutes and the meeting agendas, and provide any other administrative support to the council as deemed necessary;
 - 3.3.3. Serve as the central contact person for the committee;
 - 3.3.4. Work with the voting members to develop a transition report for the next years committee.
- 3.4. Quorum shall be two thirds majority, and votes shall pass solely by unanimous consent of the voting members present.

4. Activities

- 4.1. The Council shall:
 - 4.1.1. Promote the RISO Policy and the accommodations therein;
 - 4.1.2. Offer recommendations to the McMaster Students Union and University on relevant issues and policies;
 - 4.1.3. Host events such as social gatherings, educational forums, and panels;
 - 4.1.4. Other tasks as deemed relevant by the Council.
- 4.2. The Council shall host at least one town hall meeting on religious and spiritual issues per academic year;
- 4.3. The council Chair or a council representative shall report on the activities of the Interfaith Council to the Student Representative Assembly at the fourth (4th) meeting of the Fall and Winter semesters.

