

NWT Council on Invasive Species, Pests, and Pathogens

Members Terms of Reference

Introduction

The NWT Council on Invasive Species, Pests, and Pathogens (NWT CISPP, hereafter called the Council) is a multi-stakeholder non-profit society whose members all have an interest in invasive species, pests, and/or pathogens and the role and/or impact these organisms may have on the NWT's environment, economy, and people. The following terms of reference define the privileges and responsibilities of members of the Council. The board of directors is responsible for reviewing and amending these terms of reference for ratification by the membership at the annual general meeting.

Membership

There are two categories of membership in the Council: Management membership and Partnership membership.

Management Members in the Council are from organizations that have authority for the management of biodiversity, land, and/or water in the Northwest Territories. These organizations include, but are not limited to, Department of Environment and Climate Change; Department of Industry, Tourism, and Investment; Department of Infrastructure; Department of Lands; Environment and Climate Change Canada; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board; Sahtú Renewable Resources Board; Wildlife Management Advisory Council (NWT); Wek'èezhì Renewable Resources Board; Tłı̨chǫ Government; Environmental Impact Screening Committee; Inuvialuit Water board; Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board; Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board; Gwich'in Land and Water Board; and Sahtu Land and Water Board.

Partnership Members in the Society is open to members of organizations, companies, academia, or the public-at-large that have an interest in invasive species, pests, and/or pathogens.

In accordance with the Bylaws:

- An individual is a Management Member in the Council upon completion of a membership application, declaring their affiliation with an organization that has

authority for the management of biodiversity, land, and/or water in the Northwest Territories.

- Applications for Management membership shall be reviewed by the board of directors. Review criteria shall include, but it not limited to, verification of the affiliation of applicant with an organization that has authority for the management of biodiversity, land, or water in the Northwest Territories.
- Management Members automatically withdraw upon their leaving the organization under which they originally applied.
- An individual is a Partnership Member of the Council upon completion of a membership application.
- Each member is entitled to one vote on any motion or resolution at all meetings of members.
- Any member may withdraw from membership in the Society by submitting a notice, in writing, to the Secretary.

Privileges

All members share in the power of numbers; they operate with a pool of knowledge and experience from many individuals rather than through trial and error. The opportunity to network with peers as well as government, industry, academia, and other groups provides value far in excess of the cost of membership.

All members are eligible to:

- participate in planning and decision making at the annual general meeting and all meetings of members.
- put forth new ideas for consideration by the membership and board of directors.
- vote at the annual general meeting and all meetings of members.
- serve as an elected member of the board of directors.
- participate in ad hoc committees to undertake Council initiatives.
- receive copies of meeting minutes and regular updates regarding Council activities.
- share information about invasive species issues with stakeholders.
- share information about their organization's goals, objectives, and initiatives with stakeholders.
- make use of Council resources and expertise.

Responsibilities

A member is responsible to:

- attend meetings of members, including the annual general meeting, and any other meetings where they may be eligible to attend.



- bring a positive attitude and arrive prepared and in a timely manner to all meetings of members.
- vote on certain issues.
- function within a collaborative approach to decision making.
- effectively communicate with board members and other members during and between meetings, including via email.
- treat all Council members, staff, and other affiliates with respect.
- adhere to and actively support the vision and objectives of the Council within their community and sphere of influence.
- work with board members and other members to implement Council projects and activities.

Conflict of Interest

All members must avoid situations in which the person has an interest sufficient to influence, or appear to influence, the objective exercise of that person's authority. In cases where the representative has an actual or potential conflict of interest with respect to a particular matter under consideration by the Council, the person shall disclose the situation to the Chairperson without delay and prior to any discussion of that matter. Conflicts of interest declared in meetings shall be recorded in the minutes for the meeting. The person with the real or potential conflict of interest shall not participate in the discussion unless asked to provide information, shall refrain from decision-making, and may be asked to leave the room during deliberations on the matter.