

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
National Council of Canada

Number: ADM-003

SUBJECT: DISPUTE RESOLUTION AMONG MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY

DATE ADOPTED: JUNE 14, 2003

PURPOSE: The purpose of this policy is to clearly articulate the procedure for every Conference or Council to follow in the resolution of disputes between members.

POLICY: **Disputes between members of the Society should be resolved in a Vincentian spirit of charity, for the common good of the Society and the people it serves. At the outset, informal discussions between the members concerned and their Conference and/or Council Presidents should resolve the issue satisfactorily.**

If the dispute remains unresolved, the President (s) of the relevant Provincial/Regional Council (s) will ask the President of the National Council that it be resolved by the Mediation/Arbitration Committee (here- in-after referred to as "the Committee"). Upon a request by the President of the National Council, The Mediation/Arbitration Committee will investigate the dispute with sensitivity, fairness and confidentiality to protect the name of the Society and the good names of the members concerned according to the procedure described below. The Committee will make its recommendation (s) to the President of the National Council for his/her final decision.

PROCEDURE: Upon receipt of a request by the President of the National Council, the Committee shall obtain all relevant documentation to the dispute.

The President shall determine whether the matters in the dispute shall be resolved either by the full complement of the three(3) members committee, or by one of its Committee members.

In the event the members are unable to resolve the dispute through mediation, the matter shall then be resolved by means of arbitration.

The Committee will make its recommendations to the President of the National Council for his/her decision after consultation with executive. The decision of the President of the National Council is final and without appeal.

The Committee will establish its own procedures during the course of attempting to resolve the dispute.

ACCOUNTABILITY: The President of the local Conference/Council to the President of the next higher Council.

The chair of the Mediation/Arbitration Committee to the National President

LOCAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

To notify members involved in the issue(s) at hand.

To inform the President of the next higher Council.

To provide the documentation requested by the Mediation/Arbitration Committee.

REFERENCE:

The Rule (rev. 2007); National policy FIN 002

Definitions for the purpose of hearings and mediation see Operations Manual of the National Council.

ADM:- 003 ADMINISTRATION*

ORIG – May 2003