

SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL
National Council of Canada

ROLE OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES

In exercising its leadership responsibilities, the National Council of Canada analyses current social and related problems as well as the need to update its structures.

The National Council explores how the Society can help cope with the identified social needs. When a problem area has been identified, the president will bring to the attention of the members and voting members the necessity to form various national committees whose focus is to deal with specific issues and concerns. These committees may be standing committees or ad hoc committees. These committees are empowered to develop programs and institute measures to deal with identified issues and concerns. The chairs of these committees report annually to the voting members through annual reports and AGA presentations.

Structure of standing and ad hoc committees:

The national president appoints the chairperson. In collaboration with the chair of the committee, the members of each national committee is chosen and appointed by the president. Each committee should be structured to appoint a vice-chairperson, recording secretary, etc. The committee chairperson determines all positions and tasks.

The committee will meet as frequently as required at a place and time designated by the chairperson with the approval of the national president. A budget for the functions of each committee is prepared by the chairperson and submitted to the finance committee annually.

The members appointed to the committees are from the members of the national board or from the general membership. Whenever possible the members should be from different parts of the country. Appointments may also include non members who are chosen for their expertise. These persons may not act chair the committee. When appropriate, a spiritual advisor should be included and appointed to the committee.

Tasks to be performed:

- To identify problems depending on the nature of the committee;
- To recommend measures to bring about changes;
- To keep the members by right informed and motivate them;
- To provide minutes of their meeting;
- To prepare an annual report;
- To submit budgets annually (if it is a standing committee)

Financing:

All expenses are to be submitted to the national office for payment:

- Travelling and accommodation expenses;
- Meeting expenses;
- Operating expenses – phone, stamps, stationary.

Term of office:

All standing and ad hoc committee members' term of office terminate with the outgoing president. The incoming president may reappoint them if they so wish for another six-year term.