

INTERNATIONAL ARCTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES ASSOCIATION (IASSA)

BYLAWS

Adopted by

IASSA Council, 27 October 1992
IASSA General Assembly, 29 October 1992
at ICASS I, Université Laval, Ste-Foy

PREAMBLE

The Arctic is defined as all Arctic and sub-Arctic (circumpolar) regions of the world. Arctic research is defined as all research relating to these regions. The social sciences encompass disciplines relating to human behavioural, psychological, cultural, anthropological, linguistic, historical, social, legal, economic, environmental and political subjects as well as health, education, the arts and humanities, and related subjects.

1. Objectives

The objectives of the IASSA are:

- * To promote and stimulate international cooperation and to increase the participation of the social scientists in national and international arctic research;
- * To promote communication and coordination with other related organization;
- * To promote the active collection, exchange, dissemination, and archiving of scientific information in the Arctic social sciences. This may include the compilation of registers Arctic social scientists and research projects and the organization of workshops, symposia, and congresses;
- * To increase public awareness of circumpolar issues and research result;
- * To promote mutual respect, communication, and collaboration between social scientists and the Peoples of the North' while recognizing these are not mutually exclusive groups;
- * To promote the development of research and educational partnerships with the Peoples of the North;
- * To facilitate culturally, developmentally, and linguistically appropriate education in the North, including training in social sciences;
- * To adopt a statement of ethical principles for the conduct of research in the arctic.

2. Membership.

There are three (3) categories of membership. Regular Membership is open to all involved in Arctic social sciences research and issues. Associations and institutions may adopt Affiliated Membership and will be individually included on IASSA mailing lists. Associate Membership is open to all

individuals concerned with Arctic social sciences. Only regular members who have paid the annual fee are entitled to voting privileges.

3. Administration.

The IASSA is directed by the Council and the General Assembly.

4. The Council.

- 4.1. The Council consists of eleven (11) members, all of whom will be Regular Members. Members will represent each of the following categories: (1) countries/regions: Canada, Russian Federation, USA, Greenland, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, (2) aboriginals nations, (3) members-at-last. The Council will submit a list of candidates to the General Assemble. Council Members will be elected by the General Assemble. All council members serve a three-year period. The former chair of the council will serve as an ex-officio member for the following period.
- 4.2. Members of the council are elected for the period between two meetings of the General Assembly, i.e. three years. The Council elects amongst its member a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and appoints a Secretary and a Treasurer who are ex officio members of the council.
- 4.3. The Council meets at least once during each calendar year. The Council is responsible for organizing the international Congress of Arctic Social Sciences on behalf of IASSA and General Assemble.
- 4.4. The Council serve as an executive group to facilitate the work of the IASSA between the meetings of the General Assemble, and to take appropriate actions in agreement with the policies and decisions of the General Assembly. The council is responsible for recommending a dues schedule. At the meetings of the General Assembly, the Council presents a report of actions taken and recommendations for further activities.
- 4.5. The Chair of the Council serve as a representative of the IASSA in dealing with other bodies. In the event of the Chair being unable to serve in the duties of the office, the Vice-chair shall serve in the capacity.
- 4.6. The Secretary and Treasurer are under the general direction of the Chair and the Council and are responsible for conducting the regular business of the IASSA and for keeping its general records, including minutes of meetings of the Council and the General Assembly and the financial reports and the budgets for approval by the General Assembly.
- 4.7. Decisions by the Council are by a simple majority of affirmative or negative votes of those present and taking part in the vote. In the event of tie vote, the Chair has deciding vote. Bylaws of the IASSA can only be amended with the approval of two-thirds majority of the regular membership. These voting procedure will be accomplished by writing ballots.

5. The General Assembly.

- 5.1. The General Assembly meets in connection with the International Congress of Arctic Social Sciences organized at three-year intervals by IASSA. The Assembly consist of All regular members of the IASSA attending the meeting. Each regular member of the Assemble has one vote. All decisions are by simple majority.

- 5.2. The General Assembly approves the council's reports of the activities and the Treasurer's financial statement and budget recommendations, and considers other matters.
- 5.3. The General Assembly elects among its members five (5) members of the Council and two (2) auditors for annual checking of the accounts.
6. Secretariat.

The location of the Secretariat of the IASSA is under consideration by the The Arctic Center of the University of Lapland in Rovaniemi (Finland). The Arctic Secretariat is The Department of Geography at McGill University in Montréal (Canada).