

CONSTITUTION OF THE THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY OPEN LEARNING FACULTY ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1 – Name

The name of the association is the Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Faculty Association (known as TRUOLFA) and referred to from now on in this document as the “Association.”

ARTICLE 2–Purposes of the Association Name

1. To promote the provision of the highest possible standard of open and flexible distance education.
2. To regulate relations between employees and employers, including, but not limited to, the right to bargain collectively on behalf of the employees within the jurisdiction of the Association.
3. To bring about improvements in the wages and working conditions of the membership without discrimination on the basis of appointment, assignment or job security.
4. To promote democracy at all times within the Association by maintaining the principles of freedom of expression for all members, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, political belief, national origin, physical disability, colour or race.
5. To establish and maintain membership in the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators.
6. To promote the health and safety of its members.
7. To advance the professional development and interests of its members.

ARTICLE 3–Jurisdiction

The Association shall include but not be limited to, jurisdiction over employees engaged in the provision of educational services in the employment of Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Division any wherein Canada.

ARTICLE 4–Amendment

The Constitution may be amended by special resolution requiring a two-thirds vote of members at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting duly called for that purpose. Proxy, mail and email ballots are allowed. Members not present may have their vote exercised by written proxy delivered or mailed or emailed to the Meeting Secretary (or his/her representative) prior to the Meeting.

BYLAWS OF THE THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY OPEN LEARNING FACULTY ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 1 – Interpretation

1. “Association” means the Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Faculty Association (TRUOLA).
2. “Bylaws” mean the rules established by TRUOLFA to govern its professional and business affairs.
3. “Chair” means the presiding officer of any meeting held in accordance with these bylaws.
4. “Employee” means those persons employed by the Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Division to provide educational services to student and, for the purposes of membership in the Association, includes any person previously employed as Open Learning Faculty by TRUOL who might reasonably anticipate renewal of such employment within one year of termination or layoff.
5. “Executive” means the Officers and Directors of the Association.
6. “FPSE” means the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators.
7. “Member” means a member of the Association described in Article 2 of these bylaws.
8. “Officers” means the President, Vice President, Meeting Secretary, Membership Secretary, Treasurer, Professional Development Treasurer, and Past President.
9. “Special resolution” means a motion that requires a two-thirds majority of Members’ votes cast.
10. “Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Division” also referred to as “TRUOL” means the Employer of the members of the Association.

11. "TRU" means Thompson Rivers University.
12. In the Constitution and Bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires, words importing the singular number of the male gender shall include the plural number of the female gender as the case may be, and vice-versa. The word "person shall include individuals and legal entities such as firms, corporations, associations and societies.

ARTICLE 2 – Membership

1. Membership is open to all employees within the jurisdiction of the Association. Membership ceases when the employee resigns or retires.
2. No person shall be eligible for membership who is employed in a managerial capacity or those performing support staff services at TRU or TRUOL.
3. Each person signing an application for membership agrees to comply with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Association.
4. When a member who has not resigned nor retired from TRUOL ceases to be employed by the Thompson Rivers University Open Learning Division but can demonstrate reasonable expectation of renewed employment within one year, s/he retains full membership rights without paying per capita assessment for a period of up to that one year or until s/he is retired within that year.
5. A member may be expelled or suspended by a special resolution requiring two – thirds vote at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. The person who is the subject of the proposed resolution for expulsion or suspension shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the General Meeting before the special resolution is put to a vote.

ARTICLE 3 – The Executive

1. The Executive of the Association shall consist of the Officers and up to four Directors-at-large elected at the Annual General Meeting. The terms shall expire annually at the Annual General Meeting.
2. The Executive of the Association shall have all powers herein provided during their tenure and shall be empowered to act between Annual General Meetings on all matters legislative, judicial and administrative. They shall not have the power to alter the Constitution, and Bylaws.

