

Minutes Nov 4th, 2014

Community Engagement Subcommittee

Attendees: Bijan Ahmadi, Mehdi Shams, Kavooos Soofi, Soudeh Ghasemi, Pegah

Intro Discussions

- Two new members joined our team: Soudeh Ghasemi and Pegah
- The team reviewed the clarifications provided by Behrouz Amouzgar in his phone conversation with Bijan Ahmadi last week:
 - Membership form: Behrouz suggested that we use the hard copy forms as there are technical problems with the online membership form and there is no online payment system for now. Behrouz sent Bijan the membership form. Behrouz will accept any membership form with the received membership due (\$10) attached to it.
 - Membership term: Behrouz Amouzgar confirmed that the membership term is yearly based on the constitution and that anyone joining right now can vote in any upcoming SGM and in the AGM next year.
 - Meeting room: Behrouz Amouzgar will try to book us meeting rooms in the North York Civic Center.
 - SGM: there is no update about the date for the SGM or the survey for the changes to the by-laws.

Decisions made in this meeting

- This group will take care of both planning and execution of the community engagement work needed in the months ahead.
- A community engagement campaign will be launched within the next 2 weeks focusing on raising awareness about the ICC in our community, engaging our community with the ICC and recruiting new members.
- A new social media page will be launched and used for this engagement campaign within the next 2 weeks.
- Community influencers will be contacted to assist us in encouraging our community to engage with the ICC.
- Community media will be contacted to assist us in engaging our community with the ICC.
- Short promo clips and flyers will be prepared for introducing the ICC, and promoting the engagement campaign.

Requests from the board:

- We request a formal clarification about the membership term. Based on Section 7 of the ICC by-laws the membership term is annual and all memberships regardless of the time of registration have to be renewed at the beginning of every calendar year. There is a misunderstanding about this rule among ICC members. Please clarify this matter for us in a written response.
- The number of ICC members is still very low. The last reported number was 300. In the previous years the ICC board waived the membership fee for increasing the number of members. We believe that we are still in the beginning stages of introducing the ICC to our community therefore we request the ICC board to waive the membership fee for anyone who is interested to join the organization within the next 6 months. This offer will allow Iranian-Canadians to join the ICC and try for themselves the benefits of being part of the organization without the membership due being a barrier for their registration. If these new members feel that the ICC offers them any

benefits, then we have a great chance for getting them to renew their membership in future years. We believe that the current by-laws allow the ICC board to make this decision however, if the board thinks that they do not have the authority over changing/waiving the membership due then we request this idea to be proposed in the upcoming Special General Meeting for a vote.