

**Constitution
of the
Nigerian Association of Manitoba
Incorporated**

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CONSTITUTION OF THE NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA INCORPORATED

Preamble

Nigerian Association of Manitoba Incorporated is a non-profit organization that is committed to addressing the integration, education, health, housing, social services, culture, and economic development needs of Nigerians in Manitoba, through programs, services and advocacy.

We, Nigerians residing in the Province of Manitoba, Canada, seeking to foster friendship and unity among us, represent the interests and culture of Nigeria in Manitoba, bring awareness to issues of concerns to us, and promote our greatness in the wider Canadian community, do hereby form ourselves into an Association and adopt the following Constitution:

Article I: Status and Place of Operation

1. This Association shall be known as “The Nigerian Association of Manitoba Incorporated” and shall hereinafter be referred to as “NAMI”.
2. NAMI is an independent, non-profit association and is not affiliated with any political party or religious denomination.
3. Its head office shall be in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.
4. The primary place of operation shall be Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.
5. In recognition of the vastness of Manitoba, when the need arises, NAMI chapters shall be formed in other locations in the Province of Manitoba.

Article II: Definitions

1. “Nigeria” refers to the Federal Republic of Nigeria and its states, as defined by the Constitution of Nigeria.
2. “Nigerian” refers to a citizen of Nigeria.
3. “Citizen of Nigeria”, for NAMI means:
 - a) a citizen of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
 - b) A person born of Nigerian parent(s) or
 - c) A spouse of a Nigerian or
 - d) A Naturalized citizen of the Federal Republic of Nigeria
4. “Executive” refers to the operational council of NAMI.
5. “Board of Trustees” refers to the governing council of NAMI
6. “States” means the states (any number) created and recognized by the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Article III: Purpose

1. The purpose of NAMI is to:
 - a) Assist Nigerian Immigrants and their families in Manitoba to fully integrate and participate meaningfully in the Canadian Society;
 - b) Seek and provide information and resources to strengthen the educational, cultural, social and economic capacities of Nigerians in Manitoba;
 - c) Identify with Nigerians and other people experiencing hardship or disasters; and
 - d) Celebrate the accomplishments of Nigerians in Manitoba.
2. The ideals of NAMI are expressed in the motto of the Federal Republic of Nigeria: "Unity and Faith, Peace and Progress".
3. NAMI's aims are:
 - a) To promote unity, friendliness and camaraderie among Nigerians in Manitoba and Canada.
 - b) To encourage goodwill and understanding among Nigerians, between Nigerians and other Africans and between Nigerians and Canadians by actively participating in educational, social and cultural programs.
 - c) To uphold the good name of Nigeria by being good and law-abiding residents of Manitoba and Canada.
 - d) To inform Nigerians of events in Nigeria that requires their action/support.
 - e) To promote an awareness and knowledge of the Nigerian culture among Nigerian children and youths.
4. NAMI shall work in cooperation with national and ethnic organizations in Manitoba and Canada whose aims, and interests are aligned with this Constitution.
5. NAMI shall strive to be actively involved with Nigerian associations in other provinces and the African Communities of Manitoba Incorporated (ACOMI).

Article IV: Membership

1. There shall be three categories of membership:
 - a) Regular/Full Membership,
 - b) Associate Membership
 - c) Honorary Membership
2. Regular/Full Membership:
 - a) Regular/Full Membership is open to all citizens of Nigeria as defined in this Constitution.
 - b) Regular/Full Membership shall be in two categories:
 - i. Student Membership.
 - ii. Adult Membership will be adults from 18 years of age and over
 - c) A Regular/Full Member shall be required to pay annual dues and any levy that may be imposed by the Association from time to time. Annual membership dues are as follows:
 - i. Family Membership - \$70;
 - ii. Single Adult Membership - \$40;