

Advisory Council Charter

Founding Governance Document • Version 1.0

Purpose

The Advisory Council exists to provide strategic guidance, professional expertise, industry insight, and independent perspectives to support the mission and long-term development of the National Bushcraft & Wilderness Self-Reliance Council of Canada (NBWSR). The Advisory Council is a non-governing body and serves solely in an advisory capacity.

The Council assists NBWSR in advancing wilderness self-reliance education, bushcraft standards and best practices, certification development, instructor development, public preparedness initiatives, Search and Rescue collaboration, Indigenous engagement and knowledge sharing, conservation and stewardship initiatives, research and policy development, and national and international partnerships.

Mission alignment

The Advisory Council supports the mission of NBWSR: to advance wilderness self-reliance, bushcraft education, preparedness, outdoor leadership, and responsible stewardship through education, certification, research, and community development across Canada.

Role of the Advisory Council

The Advisory Council may: provide strategic recommendations; review standards and certification pathways; assist with curriculum development; participate in working groups; offer subject-matter expertise; assist with industry outreach; facilitate introductions and partnerships; support grant and funding initiatives; and contribute to research and public education.

The Advisory Council shall not: govern the organization; vote on corporate matters; act as Directors; bind NBWSR legally; direct staff, instructors, contractors, or volunteers; or approve budgets or expenditures. All authority remains with the Board of Directors and Executive Leadership.

Appointment & term

Advisory Council members are appointed by NBWSR leadership based on professional qualifications, experience, contributions to the outdoor community, geographic and Indigenous representation, diversity of perspectives, and alignment with organizational

values.

The standard appointment is one (1) year, renewable indefinitely by mutual agreement.

Members may resign at any time. NBWSR may remove members at its discretion if necessary to protect the interests, mission, or reputation of the organization.

Expectations & meetings

Members are encouraged to attend meetings when available, review materials, participate in discussions, share expertise, and act as ambassadors for wilderness self-reliance education.

Expected commitment is approximately 2-10 hours per quarter. The Council may meet quarterly, semi-annually, annually, or as required - virtually, in person, or through written consultation. There is no minimum attendance requirement.

Compensation, confidentiality & conflicts

Advisory Council positions are voluntary; members are not employees, contractors, officers, or Directors, and no compensation is implied or guaranteed. Members agree to maintain confidentiality of sensitive information and to disclose any actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest. Disclosure does not automatically prevent participation.

Use of name, image & biography

Upon written consent, NBWSR may publicly identify Advisory Council members through website profiles, publications, educational materials, annual reports, grant applications, media releases, and partnership presentations. Members retain ownership of their personal image, biography, professional credentials, and intellectual property.