

TITLE 11 - EDUCATION

CHAPTER 3 - YOUTH COUNCIL

Legislative History: The "Bylaws of the Tohono O'odham Youth Council" were approved pursuant to Resolution No. 06-053 on January 29, 2006.

Note: The "Bylaws of the Tohono O'odham Youth Council" were adopted by the Tohono O'odham Youth Council on September 9, 2005 and amended by the Youth Council on January 13, 2006, prior to being adopted by Resolution No. 06-053 as noted above.

BYLAWS OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION YOUTH COUNCIL

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be known as the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council, hereinafter: Youth Council.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

- Section 1. To enhance a stronger cultural awareness and to establish our cultural identity as Tohono O'odham Youth.
- Section 2. To serve as the official voice for the youth and to establish and provide youth input into all areas of concern and issues relating to youth. To advance communication among youth of the Tohono O'odham Nation.
- Section 3. To encourage self-sufficiency, personal development, cultural awareness, and self-esteem among the youth of the Tohono O'odham Nation.
- Section 4. To seek financial support through fundraisers, requesting contributions, and seeking financial grants for the operation and holding of Youth Council and youth-related activities.
- Section 5. To serve as a consultant to any organization regarding the youth of the Tohono O'odham Nation.
- Section 6. To work with Tohono O'odham Nation service programs in planning, organizing and in coordination of conferences and youth-related activities.
- Section 7. To promote social, mental, physical, and emotional well being among fellow Tohono O'odham youth.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Membership shall be open to any member enrolled with the Tohono O'odham Nation between the ages of 13-24 years.
- Section 2. Members of the Youth Council shall be from all eleven Districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation: Baboquivari, Chukut Kuk, Gu Achi, Gu Vo, Hickiwan, Pisinemo, San Lucy, San Xavier, Schuk Toak, Sells, and Sif Oidak.

- Section 3. The Youth Council shall consist of twenty-two (22) representatives, two (2) youth representing each of the eleven Districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation. Of these twenty-two representatives, each may have one assigned alternate.
- Section 4. Youth Council Representatives and Alternates may be elected by the youth of their District, and recognized by the District Council. In the event that there is no election before the Youth Council members' terms expire, the District Council may appoint Representatives and Alternates.

ARTICLE IV – DUTIES

- Section 1. All Representatives are responsible for attending all meetings called for by the Youth Council. In the event a Representative cannot attend a meeting, the Representative must notify his or her assigned alternate, who will attend on the absent Representative's behalf. Written notification for absence shall be given to the President and/or the Vice President by the absent Representative three (3) days prior to, but no later than three (3) working days after the missed meeting.
- Section 2. All District youth Representatives and Alternates shall make quarterly reports to their District Council and/or District Youth Council.
- Section 3. All District youth Representatives shall plan, organize, and coordinate activities for youth of their respective District, and the Nation.
- Section 4. All Youth Council Representatives and Alternates, who are hosting a Youth Council meeting in their District are responsible for all meeting arrangements.
- Section 5. All Youth Council members who attend events, as a Representative for the Youth Council, shall make a written report, as well as an oral report, at the next scheduled Youth Council meeting following the event.

ARTICLE V – LIBERTIES

- Section 1. Tenure:
- A) All elected or appointed Youth Council members shall serve a term of two (2) consecutive years, provided that a representative or alternate shall remain in office until his or her successor is elected or appointed.
 - B) All elected Youth Council Officers shall serve a term of two (2) consecutive years, provided that an Officer shall remain in office until his or her successor is elected.
- Section 2. Voting:
- A) All Youth Council Representatives shall have full voting privileges.

- B) Each District of the Nation shall be allowed a total of two (2) votes: these votes may be cast by the Representatives at any regular or special Youth Council meeting.
- C) In the event there is only one Representative present, the assigned alternate present at the meeting shall carry the vote of the absent Representative.

Section 3. Resignation:

- A) Resignation of Youth Council officers and members shall be in the form of a letter of resignation submitted to their District and to the Youth Council Secretary and/or President.
- B) Should any Youth Council Representative resign, the assigned alternate will fulfill the term of that Representative.
- C) A letter requesting immediate replacement shall be sent to the respective District when a vacancy is declared by the Youth Council.

Section 4. Removal:

- A) Representatives and Alternates may at any time be removed by the District they are representing.
- B) Youth Council Officers who engage in conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Youth Council, shall be notified by the Youth Council that their conduct is unacceptable and may be removed from office by a majority vote of the Youth Council.
- C) Any Youth Council Representative or Alternate who engages in conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Youth Council shall be notified by the Youth Council that their conduct is unacceptable and take the appropriate actions.
- D) The process of removal is as follows:
 - 1. Behavior is questioned by the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council.
 - 2. The Youth Council shall appoint a hearing board to hear the concern at a special meeting in which all involved parties are included, and make a recommendation to the Youth Council. Hearing board shall consist of the following:

- 1 Youth Council member
 - 1 Coordinator
 - 1 District Youth Coordinator
 - The Director of Education
3. Should the behavior continue, a letter shall be sent to the district recommending removal.

ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of the following elected officers:

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Public Relations Officer
Parliamentarian

Section 1. Duties and Responsibilities

A) President-

1. Shall be the official spokesperson and representative of the Youth Council.
2. Shall preside at all general Youth Council meetings, all officer meetings, and any special meetings that are called for by the Youth Council.
3. Shall attend all meetings and prepare an agenda for any upcoming meetings of the Youth Council.
4. Shall be required to attend and make annual reports to the Tohono O’odham Legislative Council, with support from the Youth Council.
5. Shall maintain discussion regarding items on the agenda.
6. May create sub-committees when necessary to accomplish Youth Council goals and objectives.
7. May call a special meeting when needed and or requested by the Youth Council.

8. May delegate Youth Council-related duties to Youth Council members, as appropriate.
9. Shall provide and encourage a positive and effective unified Youth Council.

B) Vice President-

1. Shall automatically perform the duties of the President of the Youth Council in the absence of the President or when the President is unable to fulfill his/her responsibilities.
2. Shall attend all meetings and help prepare an agenda for any upcoming meetings of the Youth Council.
3. Shall, together with the President, provide and encourage a positive and effective, unified Youth Council.
4. Shall preside over all sub-committees of the Youth Council, unless a majority of the sub-committee votes to elect a chairperson from among its members.

C) Secretary-

1. Shall preside over any Youth Council meetings where both the President and Vice-President are absent and may designate a recording secretary for these meetings.
2. Shall record the minutes of all proceedings of the Youth Council.
3. Shall have custody of all records, reports, and any other documents belonging to the Youth Council.
4. Shall submit and make available transcribed minutes of previous Youth Council meetings to all Youth Council members and have accessible for any youth or members of our Nation.
5. Shall keep a current record of the contact information of all Youth Council members.
6. Shall notify all members of regular and special meetings at least 10 days in advance.

D) Treasurer-

1. Shall preside over any Youth Council meetings where the President, Vice-President and Secretary are absent and may designate a recording secretary for these meetings.
2. Shall maintain a record of all funds belonging to, and raised by the Youth Council.
3. Shall be responsible for the accountability of all funds of the Youth Council.
4. Shall count all monies earned by the Youth Council accompanied by two (2) Youth Council members, or an Advisor.
5. Shall prepare a written financial statement, to include a log of the Youth Council's expenditures and submit a report to the Youth Council on a monthly basis.
6. Shall ensure that all monies obtained by the Youth Council abide by the Nation's financial policy.

E) Public Relations Officer-

1. Shall be responsible for submitting articles, approved by the Youth Council, to the local newsletters and any other publication allowing our insert.
2. Shall be in charge of production of posters, flyers, radio and cable communications.
3. Shall be responsible for collecting photos, clippings and any other history components, to serve as a collection of Youth Council activities and events.
4. Shall be responsible for notifying the Nation's youth and members of the public of all meetings regarding the Youth Council.

F) Parliamentarian-

1. Shall ensure that all Youth Council meetings follow the Youth Council Bylaws.

2. Shall ensure that all recommendations for amendments to the Youth Council Bylaws be presented to the Youth Council.
3. Shall be responsible for guiding the Youth Council through the Tohono O'odham Nation legislative system.

ARTICLE VII - NOMINATIONS

- Section 1. Any Representative of the Youth Council between 16-24 years of age may be nominated for the position of President.
- Section 2. Any Representative of the Youth Council may be nominated for the position of Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer and Parliamentarian.
- Section 3. Open nomination for officers of the Youth Council shall be from the floor, which includes self-nomination.
- Section 4. Nominees shall be required to present a 2 – 5 minute oral presentation on their accomplishments, goals and objectives, and their plans to serve as officers for the Youth Council.
- Section 5. A nominee has the right to decline his/her nomination prior to the election.

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. Elections shall be by all voting Youth Council members present at a regular or special meeting called for this purpose.
- Section 2. Elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. The responsibility of the secret ballot shall be tallied by the Youth Council Advisors.
- Section 3. Results of elections shall be posted at all eleven Districts of the Tohono O'odham Nation.

ARTICLE IX - VACANCIES

- Section 1. Vacancy, in the office of the President, by reason of resignation, removal, or any other cause, may at any time be filled for the unfinished portion of the term by the Vice-President.
- Section 2. Vacancies in any other office by reason of resignation, removal, or any other cause, will call for immediate election for that position.

ARTICLE X - MEETINGS

- Section 1. Meetings for the Youth Council shall be scheduled and approved by the Youth Council.
- Section 2. Regularly scheduled meetings of the Youth Council shall be held in each of the eleven Districts of our Nation on a rotating schedule, (unless otherwise directed by the President.)
- Section 3. If any Youth Council member misses three (3) consecutive meetings, a letter will be sent out to the respective District requesting appropriate action.
- Section 4. A quorum shall consist of twelve (12) Youth Council votes.
- Section 5. A grace period of 20 minutes to establish a quorum shall be observed for all Youth Council meetings. Meetings shall be limited to three (3) hours in duration unless a majority of the Youth Council votes to exceed this time limit.
- Section 6. A majority vote is required to proceed into Closed Session. Closed Session shall consist of only Youth Council members, and an Advisor/Coordinator and individuals providing testimonials or advice. Closed sessions shall only be held on sensitive issues (i.e., Personnel matters, Removal/Recall, Financial Issues, and Conduct.)

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting called for that purpose with a majority vote of the Youth Council, provided that 10 days' prior notice of this meeting must be given to Youth Council members and the public.
- Section 2. Any amendments and/or revisions to these Bylaws must be approved by the Tohono O'odham Nation Legislative Council before becoming effective.

THESE BYLAWS ARE HEREBY ESTABLISHED AND ADOPTED BY THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION YOUTH COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING THIS 13TH DAY OF JANUARY 2006. MOVED BY Maurisa Two Two, SECONDED BY Dwayne Lopez, WITH A VOTE OF 12 FOR, 1 AGAINST, AND 1 NOT VOTING.

President

Treasurer

Vice-President

Public Relations Officer

Secretary

Parliamentarian

RESOLUTION OF THE TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
(Approving the Bylaws of the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council)

RESOLUTION NO. 06-053

1 **WHEREAS, the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation was established, in part, "to promote**
2 **the rights, education and welfare of the present and future generations of our people"**
3 **(Constitution, Preamble); and**

4 **WHEREAS, the Constitution vests the Legislative Council with the power to "provide for, appoint,**
5 **or provide for the appointment of, and prescribe the duties and powers of**
6 **committees, boards, officers and agents" (Constitution, Article VI, Section 1(b); and**

7 **WHEREAS, Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council was established by Tohono O'odham**
8 **Legislative Council Resolution No. 95-216 for the purpose of serving as the official**
9 **voice of the Tohono O'odham Youth; and**

10 **WHEREAS, the Youth Council serve as youth leaders from their respective districts to bring about**
11 **positive changes in the existing conditions of the Tohono O'odham Nation; and**

12 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Nation Executive Office and Legislative Council support the**
13 **Youth Council in promoting communication, leadership development, and**
14 **organizational development to provide greater opportunities for youth leaders**
15 **throughout the Nation; and**

16 **WHEREAS, while the Legislative Council and Executive Branch, by Resolution No. 05-094 and**
17 **Resolution No. 05-639, established a financial foundation for administrative**
18 **functions of the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council, the adoption of Youth**
19 **Council Bylaws will allow the youth to further organize and to address youth issues**
20 **that will preserve and strengthen all tribal nations; and**

21 **WHEREAS, the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council Human Resource Development Committee**
22 **and Rules Committee have reviewed the Bylaws of the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth**
23 **Council.**

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council that it hereby**
25 **approves the Bylaws of the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council in the form**
26 **attached hereto.**

27 **The foregoing Resolution was passed by the Tohono O'odham Legislative Council on the 24th, Day**
28 **of JANUARY, 2006 at a meeting at which a quorum was present with a vote of 1,136.4 FOR; 450.45**
29 **AGAINST; 853.95 NOT VOTING; and [05] ABSENT, pursuant to the powers vested in the Council by**
30 **Section 1 (a)&(b) of Article VI of the Constitution of the Tohono O'Odham Nation, adopted by the**
31 **Tohono O'Odham Nation on January 18, 1986; and approved by the Acting Deputy Assistant**
32 **Secretary - Indian Affairs (Operations) on March 6, 1986, pursuant to Section 16 of the Act of June**
33 **18, 1934 (48 Stat. 984).**

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TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Evelyn B. Juan Manuel
Evelyn B. Juan Manuel, Legislative Chairwoman

27th day of January, 2006

ATTEST:

Lucille Lopez
Lucille Lopez, Acting Legislative Secretary

24th day of January, 2006.

Said Resolution was submitted for approval to the office of the Chairwoman of the Tohono O'Odham Nation on the 27th day of January, 2006 at 3:31 o'clock, P .M., pursuant to the provisions of Section 5 of Article VII of the Constitution and will become effective upon her approval or upon her failure to either approve or disapprove it within 48 hours of submittal.

TOHONO O'ODHAM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Evelyn B. Juan Manuel
Evelyn B. Juan Manuel, Legislative Chairwoman

APPROVED

on the 29 day of January, 2006

DISAPPROVED

at 3:15 o'clock, P.M.

Vivian Juan-Saunders
VIVIAN JUAN-SAUNDERS, CHAIRWOMAN
TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION

RESOLUTION NO. 06-053

(Approving the Bylaws of the Tohono O'odham Nation Youth Council)

Page 3 of 3

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Returned to the Legislative Secretary on the 30th day of

January, 2006, at 1:12 o'clock, P.M.

Lucille Lopez

Lucille Lopez, Acting Legislative Secretary