

Resolution Guidelines.

1 Resolution Submission Timing

Member organizations submitting a resolution for the fall NPF convention must send the resolution to the NPF secretary by August 1st. This date is important as there needs to be sufficient time to get all the resolutions organized in their categories and then printed for the delegates.

If a member organization is part of a larger group and wants to submit a resolution to the NPF convention, it does not need to wait until its larger group meets. It can send its resolution in to the NPF secretary directly so as to meet the August 1st deadline. The resolution submitted to the NPF should state what action the NPF is to take, via the federal government or other body.

Resolutions may be submitted at any time during the year. Resolutions received by August 1st will be dealt with at that year's convention. Resolutions received after August 1st will be considered to be late and will be dealt with by the executive. The executive may decide to A) return the resolution for submission to a subsequent convention or B) place the resolution on the current agenda. Emergency Resolution: an emergency resolution is a resolution concerning seniors on a national level that has not been raised but needs to be addressed.

2 Format of Resolutions

A resolution should have two parts, the Whereas section and the Resolution itself. The whereas section states the rationale, the reason for the resolution. The resolution states the action to be taken and it must be able to stand by itself apart from the rationale.

This example is in an acceptable format.

“WHEREAS members of the NPF are concerned about national health issues and

WHEREAS members realise the strength of a national voice in seeking government action,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NPF urge the Canadian, Provincial, and Territorial governments to create and implement a national Pharmacare program.”

The action in a resolution must be something that the NPF can do. The resolution cannot direct other bodies to perform an action as in: “Therefore be it resolved that the national government create and “

The action to be taken must be clear in the resolution without having to refer back to any part of the rationale to understand it. This example is vague: ”Therefore be it resolved that the NPF strongly support this proposal.” The proposal may have been described in the rationale, but the resolution by itself has to define the issue. Consider this clarification. “Therefore be it resolved

that the NPF strongly support the proposal to ban fracking in the Canadian oil industry by registering our concern with the federal government.”

When an organization is drafting a resolution to present at a NPF convention, it should check the NPF website to see if the proposed resolution is already in the policy book. If such a policy exists, the new resolution should not be necessary. A modified resolution that covers new ground or solicits a new action might be able to focus the intention more clearly.

3 Scope of Resolutions

Resolutions sent to the NPF should be national in scope, having an application across the whole country. While regional resolutions - those that are provincial or territorial in nature - are certainly valid, they do not necessarily fit into the scope of the NPF. For example, a resolution on reducing taxes on automobile gas in Ontario is limited to that one province. If it were modified to deal with federal gas taxes across the country then it could be suitable for the national scope of the NPF. Similarly, an appeal for increased housing for seniors in Nova Scotia could be accepted as a NPF resolution if it were expanded to deal with seniors' housing in all of Canada. A national resolution should not seek action for a regional concern. The national resolution would seek action of a related nature to a local concern but on a national level.

Resolutions that are accepted and passed at a convention of the NPF could be used to support a regional action. A member organization could cite the action of the national body in seeking action at a local or regional level.