



Lanark County Community Action Network (LCCAN) TERMS OF REFERENCE

Mission Statement: LCCAN is a voluntary network with an interest in taking action on social justice issues. Through collective organizing and action it works to foster the empowerment of people living in poverty and their allies who wish to have their voices heard.

General Objectives: The genesis of LCCAN was the Social Justice Club at The Table Community Food Centre, as a means to take concrete action for social change in the community. LCCAN is directed by The Table's mission "to foster a healthier and more connected community" by advocating for policies that address social inequality.

LCCAN meetings take place twice a month on Thursdays from 10:00am to noon. Members meet to discuss current events, social justice issues, with a focus on Lanark County, as well as work to create positive change within the community. Generally Active LCCAN members direct the focus of issues being addressed. At times, small working groups can be formed to work on specific issues.

Membership Expectations:

As a community action network, under the auspices of The Table, the group adheres to the policies and practices of the Organization i.e., the Volunteer Policy, the Workplace Violence and Harassment Policy and the Political Activity Policy. The expectation is that members will attend the formal volunteer orientation associated with The Table. Active Members attend regularly to discuss issues relevant to Lanark County. Without any pressure and depending on interest, skills, capacities and availability members may:

- Participate in letter writing campaigns;
- Attend meetings with office holders to present key advocacy points and press for concrete actions with respect to community injustices;
- Undertake training and workshops to increase knowledge and skills related to taking action;
- Assist in the mobilization of community members at large, and
- Become knowledgeable about community issues to speak credibly if and when called upon.

Because LCCAN operates as a collective under the auspices of The Table, agreement must be reached by the membership including the Social Justice and Advocacy Coordinator before taking action in LCCAN's name. This includes actions such as letter writing, reaching out to office holders, organizing community actions or events etc.

Individuals are free to undertake actions, however without group agreement, membership in LCCAN should not be referenced.

Decision making for LCCAN is reached by consensus. Consensus does not mean complete agreement. It implies agreement that one can live with. If consensus cannot be reached by members it does not preclude individuals from acting on their own.