

UVic Pride

Caucus Policy

Adopted at AGM October 21 2015

PREAMBLE:

The UVic Pride Collective recognizes the many intersections and social locations of queer, trans, two-spirit, and intersex identities that causes experiences of privilege and oppression in many different ways. Furthermore, the Collective recognizes that queer/trans/two-spirit/intersex spaces and organizing practices can be oppressive, and are often unwelcoming of intersecting identities. Therefore, the Collective is dedicated to working towards eradicating all forms of oppression from Collective spaces and activities. Caucuses are one initiative among many that can both assist in creating safer spaces and community-building opportunities for members of marginalized groups. The particular work done by a caucus is at the discretion of that caucus. In order to function as both safer spaces and tools for collective action towards social justice, each caucus' reason for assembling must be within the purposes of the Collective's Anti-Oppression and Anti-Racism Policy.

PURPOSE

1. Caucuses are intended to create safer spaces for individuals whose experiences of systemic oppression, as a member of a marginalized group within the Collective, affects their interaction with the Collective's space or activities. The area of marginalization may or may not impact how an individual interprets their trans, queer, two-spirit, or intersex identities.

STRUCTURE

1. Caucuses may be formed at any time and must be ratified at a collective meeting.
2. Any individual or group wishing to form a caucus should submit the name and purpose of the caucus and contact info to a coordinator to be added to the next meeting agenda and sent out over the listserv.
3. The contact person shall be responsible for setting the time and place for the first caucus meeting, in conjunction with interested caucus members; future meetings shall be determined by the caucus.
4. Current caucuses and contact info shall be made available on the Pride website.
5. Caucuses shall meet as often as the caucus determines.
6. Space for meetings shall be left to the caucus' discretion and must fit within the the Collective's Safer Spaces policy. Accessibility requirements should be made a priority and bus tickets will be made available to the caucus and its facilitator(s) by the Collective.

7. The Safer Spaces Policy and safer spaces complaints procedures shall apply.

FACILITATION

1. Any Collective member is able to facilitate a caucus, with the consent of that caucus.
2. Caucus facilitators must take or have taken Anti-Oppression and Safer Space training which will be made available by the Collective.
3. Caucus facilitators shall be selected within the caucus and need not be the individual who initiated the caucus.
4. The facilitator is responsible for communicating meeting times and locations with caucus members.

MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership to any caucus shall be open only to individuals who identify as a member of the group the caucus is representing.
2. Membership shall be closed to allies unless their participation is invited by the caucus, through their own decision-making processes.

DECISION-MAKING

1. Decision making procedures shall be determined by each caucus, within their meetings.
2. Caucuses may independently take actions within the Collective that pertain to their membership; ex: posters, workshops, etc, which address their own marginalization and oppression, as long as they fit within the Collective's Anti-Oppression & Anti-Racism and Safer Spaces Policies.
3. Caucuses must bring proposals for any initiatives that require collective funding to the Collective.
4. Caucuses do not have decision-making powers on behalf of the Collective but may bring suggested actions to the collective to be voted upon. Caucuses do not have the ability to use Uvic Pride's name without the consent of the Collective.