



VIDEA - Membership Policy

VIDEA - *“Community connections, global change”*

VIDEA is committed to ending global poverty and creating a more just and equitable world.

We live in a world where extreme poverty and a lack of access to education, health care, a clean environment, gender equality, human rights and economic opportunities are a reality for many. The challenges of poverty are exacerbated by the HIV-AIDS pandemic, which is having a profound effect on daily life and social and economic development.

We believe that a key part of addressing these challenges is to work with youth and community in Canada, to build lasting relationships with overseas partners and communities, and to advocate for global responsibility. Our approach involves innovative education in schools, engaging the public, overseas exchanges, and community-based international development projects.

VIDEA’s mission is to engage youth and communities in critical development issues, build links with overseas partners, and provide solidarity and support to assist overseas communities. VIDEA values the role of members – women and men in all their diversities – in supporting our mission and building a movement of active global citizens for change. Our aim is to deepen and broaden the engagement of a diverse membership in support of VIDEA’s governance, programs, campaigns, outreach, and fundraising activities. By contributing time, energy, knowledge, money, and becoming active citizens for change, members advance our mission.

Scope:

All of VIDEA’s members, including members of the Board of Directors, are included within the scope of this policy.

Policy Statement:

VIDEA recognizes that it is through the joint effort of the organization’s members, Board and staff that the governance needs of the organization are met. VIDEA engages and works with members to ensure effective governing of the organization.

VIDEA commits to ensure that its members receive the appropriate information in a timely manner in order to be able to effectively participate in its governance.



Membership procedures:

Membership is gained by identifying that you agree with VIDEA's mission and values through on-line or print sign-up mechanisms. VIDEA's values are agreed to be:

1. We believe that a human rights framework should be central to development
2. We believe that men and women must be equal partners in development
3. We believe that our southern partners are our equal partners in development
4. We believe that youth are critical agents of change
5. We believe that the pursuance of peace; gender equality and environmental stewardship are central constructs of development
6. We believe in every person's equal right to: food, clean water, shelter, healthcare a sustainable livelihood and education.
7. We believe that every person should enjoy all the human rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights instruments.

Membership can be withdrawn at any time by the VIDEA Board of Directors, should a member be deemed to be operating outside of VIDEA's values and mission.

In recognition that many of VIDEA's supporters may come from low-income backgrounds, and that many of VIDEA's participatory activities focus around fund raising, the membership fee for VIDEA is set at zero.

Members participate in the organization's governance by:

- Nominating, contesting, and voting for elected positions
- Providing feedback to the Board of Directors on policies and priorities at the AGM and through approving
 - Bylaws
 - Special Resolutions
 - Appointment of auditors

Accountability:



The Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of VIDEA's governance including its Membership Policy. It holds the Executive Director accountable for proper implementation and compliance with this policy.

Definitions:

A VIDEA **member** is any supporter, 13 years of age or older, who supports the vision and mission, and properly registers as a member. Members are encouraged to contribute to VIDEA's work by voting on governance matters including elections for the Board, becoming actively involved in VIDEA's social media presence, remaining informed of VIDEA's programmes through the VIDEA newsletter, volunteering, and donating as they are able.

Approved: