

AFRICAN COMMUNITIES OF MANITOBA INC

Code of Conduct

2006

Members of the African Communities of Manitoba, Inc. have the individual and collective responsibility as much as reasonably possible to:

1. Support and implement the principles and practices embodied in the African Community and in Canadian Society;
2. Make every effort to promote and maintain the highest possible values and standards;
3. Facilitate access to any or all sources of information which may be of assistance to members and friends of the African Community;
4. Protect the privacy and dignity of members, friends and others in Canada society.

Membership in the ACOMI commits affiliates, individual members and others to comply with the ACOMI Constitution, rules, decisions, and general principles and procedures. Lack of awareness or misunderstanding of an ethical standard is not in itself a defense to a charge of unethical conduct.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Their intent is to guide and inspire affiliates and members toward the very highest ethical ideals of the African Community. General Principles represent obligations but should not form the basis for imposing sanctions. Relying upon General Principles for either of these reasons bring harmony and respect within and outside of the community.

Principle A: Beneficence and Non malfesance

Members will strive to benefit those with whom they cooperate and share together the community goals and aspirations. When conflicts occur among members' obligations or concerns, they attempt to resolve these conflicts in a responsible fashion that avoids or minimizes harm. Members strive to be aware of the possible effect of their own physical and mental health on their ability to help those with whom they cooperate and share values.

Principle B: Fidelity and Responsibility

Members establish relationships of trust with those with whom they cooperate and share values. Communities are aware of their responsibilities to society and to the specific communities in which they live in. Members consult with, refer to, or cooperate with other members and institutions to the extent needed to serve the best interests of those with whom they work or unite. They are concerned about the ethical compliance of their sisters' associations and professional conduct. Members strive to contribute a portion of their professional time, specialty, and success for little or no compensation or personal advantage.

Principle C: Integrity

Members seek to promote accuracy, honesty, and truthfulness in the African community and the environment they live in. In doing so, members shall not steal, cheat, or engage in fraud, subterfuge, or intentional misrepresentation of fact. Members strive to keep their promises and to avoid unwise or unclear commitments.

Principle D: Justice

Members recognize that fairness and justice entitle all persons to access to and benefit from the contributions of the community and to equal quality in the processes, procedures, and services being conducted African communities. Members exercise reasonable judgment and take precautions to ensure that their potential biases, the boundaries of their competence, and the limitations of their expertise do not lead to or condone unjust activities.

Principle E: Respect for People's Rights and Dignity

Members respect the dignity and worth of all people, and the rights of individuals to privacy, confidentiality, and self-determination. Members are aware that special safeguards may be necessary to protect the rights and welfare of persons or communities whose vulnerabilities impair autonomous decision making. Members are aware of and respect cultural, individual, and role differences, including those based on age, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, culture, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, disability, language, and socioeconomic status and consider these factors when working with members of such groups. Members try to eliminate the effect on their activities of biases based on those factors, and they do not knowingly participate in or condone activities of others based upon such prejudices.

This code of conduct can be amended and approved from time to time by the ACOMI Steering Council and/or Assembly to reflect realities of the environment or current issues prevailing in our society.