

THE CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS
OF
THE INDIAN KNANAYA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
OF
GREATER NEW YORK, INC.

As of Post November 16, 2024, Annual General Body Meeting
Updated by the 2023-2024 Executive Committee

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

The Indian Knanaya Catholic Community of Greater New York, Inc.

PREAMBLE:

Christianity started in India with St. Thomas, the Apostle. In A.D.345, Thomas of Cana, a leading navigator, merchant and intrepid world traveler of Cana in the Middle East lead a bold band of his people consisting of 72 families to Cranganore in the Kerala coast with a view to strengthening the church established by St. Thomas. This group of Christian pilgrims won the respect of the local king and became recipients of several honors and social distinctions. The descendants of this group maintained their separate identity and traditions, although they co-operated in all spiritual activities of the Indian Catholic hierarchy of which they formed an integral part.

The Knanaya Catholics were originally scattered among different Diocese in Kerala State. The desire to keep their unique identity and heritage, led to a strong move for a separate Diocese for the Knanaya Catholics. Through the intercession and personal appeal of His Excellency Bishop Mathew Makil, His Holiness Pope Pius X, on August 29, 1911, by a special Decree “In Universi Christiani” instituted a new Vicariate Apostolic of Kottayam for the suddhists (southists) and appointed Bishop Mathew Makil as the Vicar Apostolic by transfer from his former Vicariate of Changanacherry. On December 21, 1923 the Vicariate Apostolic of Kottayam was elevated to an Eparchy by Pope Pius XI. The diocese of Kottayam is a bi-ritual diocese consisting of Syro-Malabar and Syro-Malankara rites. Bishop Mathew Makil was succeeded by Mar Alexander Chulaparambil (July 16, 1914 - January 8,1951), Mar Thomas Tharayil (January 8, 1951 – May 5, 1974), Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry (May 5, 1974 – January 14, 2006). *During Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry’s tenure, on May 9, 2005, Eparchy of Kottayam was elevated to a Metropolitan See. On June 3, 2005, the feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry was ordained and enthroned as the first Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam. Upon Mar Kunnacherry’s retirement on January 14, 2006, Mar Mathew Moolakatt became the Metropolitan Archbishop of Kottayam. Mar Joseph Pandarasseril is the Auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Kottayam.*

With the softening of immigration rules and the great need for hospital personnel in North America, thousands of Knanaya Catholics migrated to this part of the world and settled in different parts of USA and Canada, of which a good majority settled in the tri-state area. His Excellency, Mar Kuriakose Kunnacherry, the Bishop of Kottayam formally inaugurated the Association on August 14, 1976. The Archbishop of Kottayam Diocese is the patron of the association. The association is a duly registered not-for-profit organization in the state of New York.

RULES AND REGULATIONS:

ARTICLE I - NAME:

The name of the Association shall be **THE INDIAN KNANAYA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREATER NEW YORK, INC.**

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES:

Section-1:

The main objectives of the Indian Knanaya Catholic Community of Greater New York, Inc. (IKCC) are:

- A. To provide a forum for the Indian Knanaya Catholics residing in the Greater New York area to preserve and foster their religious, moral, social, cultural, educational, literary and artistic heritage and to preserve the endogamous nature of the Knanaya Community.
- B. To establish a forum for youth to maintain and invigorate cultural heritage handed down by their forefathers.
- C. To provide encouragement, support and incentive for the continued practices of the Knanaya Catholic family life in India characterized by traditional liturgical services and family prayer.
- D. To provide lay leadership so vital to the spiritual and temporal growth of the community.
- E. To raise, solicit and receive funds, charities and donations to carry out worthy humanitarian causes
- F. To organize debates, lectures, exhibitions, research works, outdoor entertainment, public meetings, conventions, classes and refresher courses.
- G. To award scholarships, medals, stipends, educational aids and loans to deserving candidates.
- H. To maintain contacts with other Knanaya communities all over the world.
- I. To do all such acts and things as may be consistent with or incidental and conducive to the attainment of any or all of the above objectives.

Section-2:

The IKCC shall be a non-profit and non-political organization.

Section-3:

The headquarters of the IKCC shall be 270-370 Willow Grove Road, Stony Point, New York 10980 (the address is changed to 400 Willow Grove Road, Stony Point, New York 10980 by the 911 system) or such other location decided by the General Body.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

An IKCC Member shall be a Registered Member, General Body member or a Building Body Member as provided in sections 1, 2 and 3 of this article.

Section-1:

Registered Membership:

All Knanaya Catholics born of or born to both Knanaya Parents practicing endogamy AND residing in the Greater New York area (the States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut) AND are 18 years or older are eligible to be registered members of the IKCC. Registered Members of IKCC who marries individuals who are not born of or born to both Knanaya parents will not be registered members of IKCC. For the purpose of this constitution, Knanaya Catholics are defined as, Catholics who are Born of or Born to Knanaya father and Knanaya mother AND if married, their spouse also must be Born of or Born to Knanaya father and Knanaya mother. "Born of" or "Born to" refers to Biological birth. Discipline of marrying within the community (practicing endogamy) is the constitutive principle of Knanaya Community and IKCC membership is strictly aligned with the constitutive principle of the Knanaya Community.

All born Knanaya Catholics not practicing endogamy are not eligible for registered membership.

An eligible Knanaya Catholic, to become a registered member, shall submit an application to the IKCC secretary using the prescribed form along with a one-time life membership fee of \$10.00. Following the review and approval of the registration form by the IKCC executive board, the member and if married the spouse will become registered members of IKCC. Children of the registered members under 18 years of age are eligible to attend and participate in all IKCC programs without voting rights. The registration form approved by the IKCC general body is included in the bylaws as exhibit 1.

A registered member may attend and participate in all the religious, social and cultural functions organized by IKCC and its affiliated organizations.

Section – 2:

General Body Membership:

General Body of the IKCC shall consist of members who meet all the following criteria:

- a. Shall be a registered member of IKCC as specified in section - 1 of this article.
- b. Shall be a member of a family or a Knanaya Catholic individual, who paid annual subscription fee of \$100 as provided in section 4(d) of this article, for the current year and at least for the preceding year, by August 31st of the calendar year. Newly registered members need to pay the annual subscription fee, for the current year.
- c. For the calendar year 2023 only, registered IKCC member/family who have not paid the subscription fee requirements specified in subsection (b) above, may pay the \$100 fee for one year by January 31, 2023, to become active general body member.

General Body Members have the right to participate and vote during the General Body Meetings of IKCC.

Section – 3:

Building Body Membership:

Building body of IKCC shall consist of members who meet all the following criteria:

- a. Shall be a General Body Member as specified in section - 2 of this article.
- b. Shall be a member of a family or a Knanaya Catholic individual, who paid, minimum \$2000 building fund dues, to Rockland Center and/or BQLI center by August 31st of the calendar year.

Building body members have the right to participate and vote in both IKCC General Body meetings and Building Body meetings.

Section – 4:

- (a) For the purpose of sections - 2, 3 and 4(d) of this article, a family means husband, wife, unmarried children and dependent parents who live in the same household.
- (b) An IKCC member shall not concurrently have membership in another Knanaya Association in North America. Any IKCC member who has subsequently established membership in another Knanaya Association in North America shall lose their membership in IKCC.
- (c) Every member of the IKCC shall work with the elected officers and the Executive Committee, for the betterment and prosperity of our community.
- (d) Effective January 1, 2019 each Knanaya Catholic family or a Knanaya Catholic individual, residing within the territorial jurisdiction of IKCC shall pay an annual subscription fee of \$100 to IKCC during Christmas Caroling or as a separate

contribution, due by August 31st of each calendar year. Christmas caroling contribution during the immediate previous year shall be credited towards the subscription fee for the current year.

(e) IKCC Executive Committee shall establish a list of registered members, General Body members and Building Body members as of August 31st of every calendar year. The list shall be used to determine the voting right of the members and shall be valid until August 31st of the following year. The list shall be updated as of May 1st of the following calendar year by adding members who meet the membership eligibility under this article but were not previously in the list.

(f) Registered membership fee, annual subscription fee and contributions to building funds as provided in this article are not refundable. Building fund contributions and annual subscription fees paid by an individual member shall be considered as paid by the family, in the event the individual marries a Knanaya spouse.

ARTICLE IV – ADMINISTRATION:

Section -1: General Body:

The General Body consists of General Body members as defined in Article III, Section - 2, and it shall be the final authority on all matters of IKCC except those related to the Rockland center and the BQLI Center. The General Body shall have no authority over the Building Body, and IKCC Executive Committee reports to the General Body.

Section-2: Officers:

(a) Composition:

The elected officers of the IKCC shall be the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer. The Board of Directors of IKCC consists of the elected officers.

(b) Duties:

- i. **President:** The President shall be the Executive Officer of the IKCC. He/She shall direct the Secretary to call the meetings of the IKCC and shall preside over the meetings and other functions of the IKCC. He/She have the right of casting the deciding vote, in case of equal number of votes at any meeting.
- ii. **Vice-President:** The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence.
- iii. **Secretary:** The Secretary is the recording and corresponding officer of the IKCC. He/She shall maintain an up-to-date list of membership, and by-laws and other documents of the IKCC. He/She shall keep the minutes of all meetings and present a report of activities of the past period during semi-annual and annual General Body Meetings.

- iv. Joint Secretary: The Joint Secretary shall assist the secretary in the performance of his/her duties. He/She shall also perform the duties of the Secretary in his/her absence.
- v. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall collect contributions and issue receipts for the same, where necessary. He/She shall disburse funds on behalf of the IKCC when authorized by the President and/or the Secretary. Cash in excess of an amount to be specified by the Executive Committee, shall be deposited in a bank selected by the Treasurer and approved by the Executive Committee. The bank account shall be jointly operated by the Treasurer, the President and Secretary. The Financial status of the IKCC shall be available for inspection by the Executive Committee at all General Body Meetings, Executive Committee Meetings, and when requested by the Executive Committee or the Auditor(s) with at least one week's notice. Treasurer shall have the Financial Statements of the IKCC, as of October 31st and December 31st of the calendar year, audited by the IKCC auditors. The Treasurer shall present the financial statements of the IKCC at the semi-annual General Body Meeting and audited Financial Statements at the annual General Body Meeting of the IKCC.

(c) Term of Office:

- i. The term of the Executive Committee members and two auditors shall be for two Calendar Years. The executive Committee shall function as a care taker, in the event a new executive committee is not elected before the end of the term.
- ii. No individual shall be elected to the same office for more than two consecutive terms and with a cap of three terms.
- iii. A proper handing and taking over of the accounts and duly completed documents of IKCC shall be done between the outgoing and the incoming officers/committees within three weeks after the expiration of their term. The outgoing treasurer shall get the financial statements audited and signed by the IKCC auditors, before handing over the funds and books to the incoming treasurer.

Section – 3: Spiritual Directors:

The Knanaya Catholic Priest(s) who serve in the Knanaya Catholic missions in the states of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut shall be the spiritual director(s) of the IKCC. This priest(s) is to work as an enabler, promoter of this Laity organization and shall have no vote. In order to get advice and guidance, Executive Committee may appoint Knanaya Catholic priest(s) working or residing in North America, as additional spiritual advisor(s) for the duration of their term.

ARTICLE V - COMMITTEES:

Section-1: Executive Committee:

- a) The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the IKCC. It shall make decisions and act on behalf of the IKCC on all matters except matters related to Rockland Center and BQLI Center. However, any important projects on other

than the regular periodical functions of the IKCC shall be implemented only with the approval of the General Body. Regional Coordinator shall be responsible for encouraging participation among members from their respective areas on all activities of the community. They shall assist in coordinating activities in their respective regions.

- b) The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers and the Regional Coordinators. The immediate past IKCC president, current women's forum president, and current KCYL president shall also serve in the Executive Committee as ex-officio members with voting rights. The spiritual director(s) shall be invited to the Executive Committee meetings without voting rights. The regional coordinators shall be elected, by the General Body Members residing in the respective regions, to represent the members of each region: Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island - 2 (two members), New Jersey and Staten Island - 2(two members), Rockland and Upstate West of Hudson River - 2 (two members), Bronx, Connecticut, Manhattan, Westchester and upstate East of Hudson River - 2 (two members). The term of the Executive Committee shall be same as that of the officers.
- c) In the event that the office of the President becomes vacant, the Vice-President shall become President and shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the President including ex-officio title. If the office of the President and Vice President becomes vacant, the line of succession to the office of the President shall follow the order; Secretary, Treasurer, Joint secretary. If the Secretary position becomes vacant, Joint Secretary shall become Secretary and shall assume all duties and responsibilities of the Secretary. If the office of the Vice-President, Joint Secretary or Treasurer becomes vacant, Executive Committee shall fill those vacancies from EC or from General Body and shall be ratified by the General body during the upcoming general body meeting. Vacancies in other positions shall be filled by the Executive Committee.
- d) If the Executive Committee is unable to function, due to resignation of majority of the members, the election commission shall take over the functions of the Executive Committee in a caretaker capacity. The chairperson of the election commission shall function as the IKCC President and assign duties to the other members of the commission as needed. The election commission shall take appropriate actions for the administration of the association until the end of the current term and such actions shall be ratified by the general body within 30 days from the day of the takeover.
- e) The Executive Committee shall be the authority to take disciplinary actions:
 - (i). IKCC members who violate the by-laws of the IKCC constitution, General Body decisions and resolutions, who take initiatives to harm the interest and reputation of the Knanaya Catholic community, IKCC and its affiliated organizations by way of violations that include but not limited to press statements,

mass mailing and any other actions shall be subject to disciplinary actions or other restrictions. Before taking disciplinary actions on any members of IKCC, a written explanation should be requested. If the explanation is not satisfactory to the majority of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee can take disciplinary actions. Such actions should be presented to the next General Body meeting. The General body may approve the action or take any other action it deems appropriate.

(ii). Restrictions shall be placed on IKCC officials, IKCC Executive Committee Members, KCCNA members, and Election Commissioners, who violate or fail to implement the by-laws of the IKCC constitution, IKCC General Body decisions and resolutions or who take initiatives to harm the interests and reputation of the Knanaya Catholic community, IKCC and its affiliated organizations, by way of violations that include but not limited to press statements, mass mailing and any other actions recommended by the IKCC General Body. The IKCC officials, IKCC Executive Committee Members, KCCNA members, and Election Commissioners who engage in the above listed activities shall be requested by the Executive Committee to provide an explanation to the Executive Committee. If the majority of the Executive Committee finds such explanation unacceptable then the official(s) shall be suspended from his/her position, by the IKCC Executive Committee and shall be referred to the IKCC General Body to be barred from holding any official position with IKCC, KCCNA, and Election commission for a specified period of time. General body may accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee or take any other action it deems appropriate.

(iii). If the Executive Committee fails to settle a dispute over any issue not provided in subsections (i) and (ii) above, the issue may be referred to the General Body. The decisions of the General Body shall be final with regard to those disputes and any matter not contemplated in the constitution.

(iv). If the General Body fails to make a decision as provided in subsections (i), (ii), and (iii) above, it may refer the dispute to a committee of the available past seven IKCC presidents. These seven past presidents shall be General Body members of the association. The decision of the committee shall be final with regard to those disputes.

- f) IKCC members shall organize any formal activity, event, organization or group concerning the community members with the approval of the IKCC Executive Committee and the General Body.
- g) All IKCC office bearers including election commissioners must respect and follow the resolutions and decisions of IKCC.
- h) Executive Committee members of IKCC who misses three consecutive Executive Committee Meetings and KCCNA National Council members who misses two

consecutive National Council Meetings without valid reasons may be referred to the IKCC General Body for replacement.

- i) KCCNA National Council members of IKCC who misses two consecutive National Council meetings shall reimburse the penalty paid by IKCC to KCCNA.
- j) IKCC Executive committee members, KCCNA national council members and building board members must maintain their eligibility to continue to serve the position by paying annual subscription fee during their term. Any failure to comply with this requirement will result in the member being ineligible to continue his or her position for the rest of the term and that position may be replaced.
- k) Resources, expert person(s) may be invited to attend the Executive Committee Meetings.
- l) IKCC Executive Committee should have the following restrictions on Assets purchases:

The IKCC Executive Committee is authorized to spend annually \$5,000 (Five Thousand), for purchase of assets. For purchase of Assets over \$5,000, there should be prior approval of the General Body.

Section-1 (A): Auditors:

Two General Body members of the IKCC (who are not part of the Executive Committee) shall be appointed as auditors by the election commission for the term of the Executive Committee. Auditors shall have the responsibility to audit and certify the financial statements prepared by the Executive Committee and Building Board as of October 31st and December 31st of the calendar year. The Executive Committee and Building Board shall furnish to the auditors any financial records and related meeting minutes upon request.

Section-2: Standing / Ad Hoc Committee(s):

The Executive Committee may set up a standing and or Ad Hoc committees. These committees shall automatically be dissolved when the terms of the Executive Committee expires. The General Body may, however, extend the term of the office of any such committee(s), if necessary.

Section-3: Regional Working Committees:

Each Region shall have a Regional Working Committee that shall be coordinated by the Regional Coordinator. Regional Working Committee shall include one Women's Forum Representative of the region, one KCYL Representative of the region, and Manager or Principal from the regional kids club. (Regions are: Brooklyn-Queens-Long Island, New

Jersey-Staten Island, Rockland & Upstate West of Hudson River, and Bronx-Connecticut-Manhattan-Westchester & Upstate East of Hudson River).

Section-4: National Council Members:

By virtue of their positions, the IKCC officers, (President, Vice President, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer shall become ex-officio members of the National Council of the Knanaya Catholic Congress of North America (KCCNA). For the proper operations of IKCC and to avoid any dual roles or conflict of interests, the IKCC officers are ineligible to contest for any elected position in KCCNA or Diaspora Knanaya Catholic Congress (DKCC). For the remaining representations, KCCNA Constitution stipulates that one member for every 100 registered IKCC members shall be elected or nominated to KCCNA National Council to represent IKCC for a period concurrent with the term of the KCCNA National Council. KCCNA National Council members from IKCC shall not exceed the maximum permitted under KCCNA constitution. KCCNA has allotted 12 National Council members for IKCC. Out of the 12 National Council members, at least one member must be a woman and at least one member must be a youth. Any married or unmarried female member of the General Body who is at least twenty-three years of age (23) and meet all the requirements to be a National Council member would be eligible to contest for election or nominated as a woman candidate for KCCNA National Council. Any married or unmarried General Body member who is between the ages of twenty-three (23) and thirty-five (35) and meet all the requirements to be a National Council member would be eligible to contest for election or nominated as a youth candidate for KCCNA National Council. For the purpose of this provision, one shall be considered 35 years old until the day before his/her 36th birthday. If there is a woman and/or youth member as one of the elected officers of IKCC, they shall fulfill the requirement mandated in KCCNA constitution in regard to woman and/or youth representation. If there are no woman and/or youth member elected as an officer of IKCC, then the women and/or youth shall be elected from the remaining national council allotment. In such instance, if at least one (1) woman and/or one (1) youth is not in the top seven (7) in terms of number of votes received, then one (1) seat each will be given to the woman and/or youth receiving the highest number of votes among the woman and/or youth who filed nomination and contested for the remaining national council allotment. The remaining national council seats will be given to candidates who received higher number of votes. If an elected individual can be considered for the same representation of woman and youth, the Election Commissioners shall have the full discretion to decide on the appropriate allocation. In the event there is no woman and/or youth candidate, such position shall be filled by nomination by the Election commission in consultation with the President-elect.

Vacancies in KCCNA National Council member position(s) during the term of the National Council shall be filled by IKCC Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI - MEETINGS:

Section-1: General Body Meetings:

There shall be a semi-annual meeting of the General Body during the second quarter of the calendar year and an annual meeting of the General Body during the last quarter of the calendar year. At least a 30 day notice shall be given for these meetings. Executive Committee may convene meeting(s) of the General Body at any time during the year, if necessary, with at least a 15 day notice. Upon a written request to call a general body meeting, signed by at least 150 General Body members, stating the issues to be discussed at the meeting, a general body meeting shall be convened by the Executive Committee within 30 days from the date of the request, by giving at least 15 days advance notice.

Section-2: Quorum for the General Body Meeting:

The necessary quorum for the General Body Meeting shall be 300 General Body members. No quorum shall be necessary, if a General Body meeting re-convenes after it is adjourned for lack of quorum. If there is still a lack of quorum, then any decision taken on a re-convened issue shall require a minimum of 75% majority of the General Body members present during voting of the subject matter.

Section-3: Executive Committee Meetings:

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once during each quarter or with written requests to the Secretary from majority of the Executive Committee members. A 7 day notice, at least, shall be given for such meeting. An Emergency Executive Committee meeting can also be convened with less than 7 days notice. Majority of members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII - ELECTIONS:

Section-1

The elections for positions in IKCC Executive Committee, KCCNA National Council and Building Board shall be conducted on the day of the annual general body meeting by an Election Commission consisting of the immediate past five presidents of the IKCC, of whom, the senior most ex-president shall be the chairperson of the Commission. In the event that one or more of those members is unable to serve on the commission, the vacant position(s) shall be filled by the past president(s) who were president(s) prior to the chairperson being president, and the chairperson of the Election Commission shall not change for the relevant annual term as a result of the filling of such vacancy. Members of the Election Commission shall be General Body members of the association.

Nominations for election shall be made by submitting the nomination form, proposed by one General Body member and seconded by another General Body member for positions in the IKCC Executive Committee and KCCNA National Council, and proposed by one Building Body member and seconded by another Building Body member for positions in the Building Board, to the chair-person of the Election Commission. The nomination forms

shall be submitted in a sealed envelope with prescribed nomination fees, if any and must reach the chair-person at least fifteen days prior to the election date. The Election Commission shall open these envelopes only in their first meeting, which shall be within two days after filing deadline and be responsible for verifying the accuracy of the nomination forms filed for positions in IKCC Executive Committee, KCCNA National Council and Building Board. The Election Commission shall verify and disqualify the nominations that they conclude to be inaccurate. The Election Commission shall also verify and disqualify the nominations of any nominees who violated either Article III, Article V Section - I or any by-laws of the IKCC and on whom the Executive Committee has taken actions.

In the event that the Election Commission concludes that any nominee has violated any by-laws of the IKCC, their conclusion shall be referred to the Executive Committee for appropriate decision. The Executive Committee shall make a decision within 10 business days. The election to that position shall be postponed until a decision has been made by the Executive Committee.

The decision of the Executive Committee shall be informed to the nominee in writing immediately. If the issue remains unresolved, the nominee may appeal the decision in writing within five (5) business days to the President, who will in turn present it to the General Body. The General Body will then have the final authority to ratify or vacate the decision of the Executive Committee. Until the General Body makes the decision, the election to the position for which that particular nominee filed nomination, shall be postponed and the remainder of the election shall proceed as scheduled and the elected officials shall take oath.

In the event that there are more than one nomination for a position, the election shall be held by secret ballot. If a nomination form for any position is not received by the chair-person within the stipulated time limit, nominations may be made by the Election Commission. The nomination for any position in the IKCC Executive Committee shall be made only in consultation with the incoming IKCC President.

The Executive Committee shall publish a list of General Body members and Building Body members entitled to vote, in the lobby of Rockland Center and BQLI Center on or before October 1st of each calendar year, and this list shall be made available to the Election Commission immediately. The list shall also be published in IKCC website.

Section-2: Qualification:

- a) Eligibility to file nominations as a KCCNA National Council member, IKCC President, Vice-President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer and Regional Coordinator shall be limited to the IKCC General Body members who have paid IKCC building fund due of \$2000/-. Eligibility to file nominations for the positions in Building Board shall be limited to the IKCC Building Body members.
- b) An IKCC General Body member shall not give nomination forms, at the same time, for more than one position either in the IKCC Executive Committee or in the KCCNA National Council.

- c) Eligibility to file nominations as IKCC President and IKCC Secretary shall be limited to IKCC General Body members who have served as a IKCC Executive Committee member in the past.
- d) A non-refundable nomination fee of \$100.00 will be imposed on all those who submit their nomination for any officer position (ie. President, Vice President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, Treasurer) and KCCNA National Council member positions.
- e) A nominee for election to a position in IKCC Executive Committee and KCCNA National Council shall have completed at least one year as a General Body member as of the nomination due date. A nominee for election to a position to the officers of the Building Board (Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer) shall have completed at least one year as a Building Body member as of the nomination due date.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS:

Section-1

- a) Any amendment(s) to this constitution affecting the basic concept and objectives of the IKCC including the Registered membership criteria (All Knanaya Catholics born to both Knanaya parents and practicing endogamy) as stated in Article III, shall not be allowed.
- b) The Executive Committee may propose amendments to this constitution, to the General Body, except Article III section 3, Article VII section -2 a), Article VIII subsections (d), (e) and (f), and Article IX, as and when it is deemed to be necessary. Subsection a) provision above must be complied.
- c) The proposed amendment(s) shall be sent to the General Body members; at least thirty (30) days prior to the General Body meeting. The IKCC general body shall deliberate and decide on the proposal. At least a 2/3 (two thirds) majority of the General Body members present during voting of the subject matter shall be required to approve any amendment. In the case of a re-convened General Body, a minimum of 75% majority of the General Body members present during voting of the subject matter shall be required to approve the amendment.
- d) A General Body member can propose amendments to this constitution, except article III section 3, Article VII section -2 a), Article VIII sub sections (d), (e), (f) and Article IX, with the signatures of at least 150 General Body members, to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall present the proposals in the next general body meeting within 30 days from the date of the request, by

giving at least 15 days advance notice. The IKCC general body shall deliberate and decide on the proposal.

- e) The Building Board may propose amendments to Article III section 3, Article VII section -2 a), Article VIII sub sections (d), (e), (f) and Article IX of this constitution, to the Building Body, as and when it is deemed to be necessary.
- f) The proposed amendment(s) shall be sent to the Building Body members, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Building Body meeting. The building body shall deliberate and decide on the proposal. At least a 2/3 (two thirds) majority of the Building Body members present during voting of the subject matter shall be required to approve any amendment. In the case of a re-convened Building Body, a minimum of 75% majority of the Building Body members present during voting of the subject matter shall be required to approve the amendment.
- g) A Building Body member can propose amendments to the Article III section 3, Article VII section -2 a), Article VIII sub sections (d), (e), (f) and Article IX of this constitution, with the signatures of at least 150 building body members, to the Building Board. The Building Board shall present the proposals in the next building body meeting within 30 days from the date of the request, by giving at least 15 days advance notice. The building body shall deliberate and decide on the proposal.
- h) If any of the amendment proposals to IKCC general body may constitute any conflict with the eligibility requirement to be a building body or board member directly or by virtue of their position in IKCC executive, it shall be first presented in building body meeting for deliberation and decide before the IKCC general body can deliberate the matter. The building body may accept, reject, or modify its structure as it deems necessary at that point including but not limited to the formation of a new composition of the board. Amendments to this provision (h) of Article VIII shall not be allowed.

ARTICLE IX - THE IKCC CENTERS:

Section-1: Ownership:

The property located at 270-370 Willow Grove Road, Stony Point, New York 10980 (the address is changed to 400 Willow Grove Road, Stony Point, New York 10980 by the 911 system), in the Town of Haverstraw, Rockland County, New York, purchased from the State of New York on March 26, 2001, by Indian Knanaya Catholic Community of Greater New York, Inc. and the property located at 275 Locust Street, West Hempstead are solely owned by the Indian Knanaya Catholic Community of Greater New York, Inc. The name of the Center at Stony Point shall be Knanaya Community Center (Rockland Center) and the name of the center at West Hempstead shall be BQLI Knanaya Community Center (BQLI Center). The ownership of the Knanaya Community Centers and the surrounding property (in whole or in part), and any future real estate asset acquisitions cannot be changed, transferred or modified without the written approval

from 80% of the living Building Body members of IKCC who contributed a minimum of \$2000 to the corresponding building fund. The written consent must be provided in a form approved by the building body at the meeting where the matter for ownership change, transfer or modification is discussed. The completed consent forms must be verified and ratified in a building body meeting before any further action can be taken in this matter.

Section-2: Building Body and Building Board:

- (a) **The Building Body** consists of Building Body members as defined in Article III, Section-3, and it shall be the final authority on all matters related to the Rockland Center and the BQLI Center including, but not limited to, the restructuring or dissolution of the Building Body itself in accordance with the Article IX, section 1 provision (The ownership of the Knanaya Community Centers and the surrounding property (in whole or in part), and any future real estate asset acquisitions cannot be changed, transferred or modified without the written approval from 80% of the living Building Body members of IKCC who contributed a minimum of \$2000 to the corresponding building fund). The Building Board reports to the Building Body.
- (b) **Building Board**, formed as a committee of the Building Body, is given responsibility for the efficient day to day operations of the Center. The responsibilities of the Building Board shall include:
 - i. Explore various space usage possibilities to make the center self sufficient
 - ii. Maintenance and Management of the community centers
 - iii. Maintaining records of the day to day activities
 - iv. Proposing long term plans to the Building Body for discussion and decision.
- © Restrictions shall be placed on Building Board Members, who violate or fail to implement the by-laws of the IKCC constitution, IKCC Building Body decisions and resolutions or who take initiatives to harm the interests and reputation of the Knanaya Catholic community, IKCC and its affiliated organizations, by way of violations that include but not limited to press statements, mass mailing and any other actions recommended by the IKCC Building Body. The Building Board Members who engage in the above listed activities shall be requested by the Building Board to provide an explanation. If the majority of the Building Board finds such explanation unacceptable, then the Board member(s) shall be suspended from the Building Board for a specified period of time and referred to the Building Body for ratification. Building Body may accept the recommendation of the Building Board or take any other action it deems appropriate.

Section-3: Composition of the Building Board:

The Building Board shall be composed of seventeen (17) Building Body members consisting of six (6) ex-officio and eleven (11) regionally elected members. The six (6) ex-officio members shall be the current President, Secretary and Treasurer of IKCC, Women's Forum President and the immediate past Rockland and BQLI chairpersons of the

Building Board. The eleven (11) regionally elected members shall consist of the following: three (3) members from Rockland and upstate West of Hudson River region, two (2) members from Bronx, Connecticut, Manhattan, Westchester and upstate East of Hudson River region, two (2) members from New Jersey and Staten Island region and four (4) members from Brooklyn, Queens, and Long Island region.

Section-4: Officers of the Building Board:

(a) Election of Officers: The elected officers of the Building Board shall be Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer for the Rockland Center and Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer for BQLI Center. The officers shall be elected by the Building Board members during the first meeting of the Board, to be held not later than March 1st of the calendar year. The six ex-officio members shall not be allowed to take any of the elected officers position in building board during their term. The first meeting of the Building Board shall be convened by the IKCC Secretary. The Election Commission of the IKCC shall conduct the election of the Officers.

(b) Duties:

(i) Chairperson: The Chairperson for the Rockland Center shall preside over meetings of the Building Board for matters related to Rockland Center and Chairperson for BQLI Center shall preside over meetings of the Building Board for matters related to BQLI Center. Each Chairperson shall be responsible for directing the meetings and bear the ultimate responsibility of all the proposals and decisions of the Building Board. The Chairperson shall be responsible for all the records and inventory pertaining to their term. The Chairperson shall set goals for the Building Board and Board members and periodically evaluate progress. Proposals with majority opinions of the Building Board shall be presented to the Building Body for discussion and approval.

(ii) Secretary: The Secretary shall prepare the agenda for each Building Board meeting in consultation with the Chairperson and Treasurer of the Building Board. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all the records and inventory pertaining to their term. The Secretary shall maintain the minutes and attendance records of each Building Board meeting and present a report at the Semi Annual and Annual Building Body meetings. The report shall address the goals set by the Building Board and the progress towards the goals. Secretary for the purpose of this sub section means, Secretary for Rockland Center for matters related to the Rockland Center and Secretary for BQLI Center for matters related to the BQLI Center.

(iii) Treasurer: The Treasurer shall maintain all the records for financial transactions pertaining to the center. The treasurer shall be responsible for preparing a budget and proposing it to the Building Board for approval. The Treasurer shall be authorized to incur as non-recurring expenses on behalf of the Building Board for an amount not in excess of \$10,000 (ten thousand) per calendar year. Expenses incurred in excess of the stipulated yearly amounts shall be approved by the Building Board before spending and ratified by the Building Body in the next meeting. The chairperson, secretary and treasurer shall be

jointly responsible for maintaining a bank account on behalf of the Building Board for each center. The chairman, secretary and treasurer shall be authorized to sign the checks and each check shall have at least two signatories. Treasurer shall have the Financial Statements of the Rockland and BQLI centers, as of October 31st and December 31st of the calendar year, audited by the IKCC auditors. The Treasurer shall present the financial statements of the Rockland and BQLI centers at the semi-annual Building Body Meeting and audited Financial Statements at the annual Building Body Meeting. Treasurer for the purpose of this sub section means, Treasurer of Rockland Center for matters related to the Rockland Center and Treasurer of BQLI Center for matters related to the BQLI center.

Section-5: Meetings:

Building Body:

There shall be a semi-annual meeting of the building body during the second quarter of the calendar year and annual meeting of the Building Body during the last quarter of the calendar year. The semi-annual and annual Building Body meetings, to the extent possible, be held on the same day IKCC semi-annual and annual General Body meetings are held. At least 30 days advance notice shall be given to the Building Body members for these meetings. Building Body meetings shall be convened by the IKCC secretary and presided over by IKCC president. IKCC Secretary shall convene Building Body meetings at any time during the year at the written request of the Building Board or at the written request of at least 150 Building Body members. Upon receipt of the written request, building body meeting shall be convened by the IKCC Secretary within 30 days from the date of the request, by giving at least 15 days advance notice.

The necessary quorum for the Building Body Meeting shall be 300 Building Body members. No quorum shall be necessary, if a Building Body meeting re-convenes after it is adjourned for lack of quorum. If there is still a lack of quorum, then any decision taken on a re-convened issue shall require a minimum of 75% majority of the Building Body members present during voting of the subject matter.

Building Board:

The Building Board shall have at least quarterly meetings. The quorum for the meeting shall be the majority of the Building Board members. In consultation with the Chairperson of the Building Board, the Secretary shall schedule Building Board meetings and notify the Building Board members at least two weeks (14 days) prior to such meetings. An emergency Building Board meeting can also be convened with less than two weeks' notice.

Section-6: Election of Regional Members:

The regional members shall be elected by the Building Body members residing in the respective regions. The elected members shall be elected on a calendar year basis with elections conducted during the annual IKCC General Body meeting/Building Body meeting to be held during the last quarter. In case there is no nomination for any position in the IKCC Building Board, the election commissioner shall nominate members, including

members who completed two years of service as provided in section 7 of this article, to that position in consultation with the sitting chairperson of the Building Board.

Section-7: Term of the Officers and Regional members:

The Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer of the Building Board shall be elected for two years. Five elected regional members who completed two years of service shall be rotated out of the Building Board each year. If there are more than five members who completed two years of service, the members to be rotated out shall be based on:

- a. Voluntarily by members.
- b. Random selection (lot) by the Building Board.

Section-8: Authorization & Restrictions:

- a. The Chairman and Secretary of the Building Board shall have joint authority to sign lease agreements for a period no longer than one year. For leases more than one year period at a time, prior approval from the Building Body has to be obtained.
- b. No person shall be allowed to become a member of the Building Board for more than two consecutive terms.
- c. All Fund-raising activities and events shall require the approval of the Building Board and shall be jointly conducted by the Building Board members and IKCC Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X - THE AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS:

Section-1

Women's Forum, Knanaya Catholic Youth League (KCYL), Yuvajanavedi and Golden Club are recognized as affiliated organizations of IKCC, provided:

1. These organizations submit a copy of their constitution and any amendments to the constitution to the IKCC Executive Committee for approval. The IKCC secretary shall keep approved copies on file.
2. Any article or section in the constitution shall not conflict with the constitution of the IKCC.

Section-2

Regional Knanaya Kids Clubs are also recognized as an affiliated organization of the IKCC in order to educate and foster the Knanaya heritage.

Regional Knanaya Arts Club are also recognized as an affiliated organization of the IKCC in order to educate and foster the Knanaya Cultural/art forms.

AMENDMENTS RATIFICATIONS DATES.

1. The amendment 1 was ratified by the General Body in January, 1987.
2. The amendment 2 was ratified by the General Body in November, 1989.
3. The amendment 3 was ratified by the General Body in June, 1993.
4. The amendment 4 was ratified by the General Body in January, 1992.
5. The amendments 5 through 7 were ratified by the General Body in November, 1993.
6. The amendment 8 was ratified by the General Body in November, 1995.
7. The amendments 9 through 17 were ratified by the General Body in November, 2003.
8. The amendments 18 through 28 were ratified by the General Body in November, 2004.
9. The amendment 29 was ratified by the General Body in November 18, 2006.
10. The amendment 30 was ratified by the General Body in September 30, 2007.
11. Amendments of Article IV – Officers, Article V – Committees, Article VI-Meetings, Article VII – Elections, Article VIII- Amendments, were ratified by the General Body on November 17, 2012
12. Amendments of Article IX – IKCC Center, Sections 3 and 7 were ratified by the General Body on June 29, 2013.
13. Correction in Article II – Objectives and additions to preamble were ratified by the General Body on November 23, 2013.
14. Amendments of Article III – Membership, Article IV – Officers - Sections 1 and 2, Article VI - Meetings were ratified by the General Body on November 23, 2013.
15. Amendment of Article IV-Officers, section 3 a) was ratified by the General Body held on November 14, 2015, effective January 1, 2017.
16. Amendments of Article II – Objectives: Section 3; Article V – Committees, Section 1 b); Article IX – The IKCC Center, Section 1: Ownership, Section 3: Composition of the Board, Section 5: Meetings; were ratified by the General Body held on June 4, 2016.
17. Amendment of Article V – COMMITTEES Section -1 Executive Committee: b) was ratified by the General Body held on November 12, 2016
- 18 Amendment of Article V – COMMITTEES Section-4: National Council Members: was ratified by Semi-Annual general body meeting held on June 24th, 2017

IMPORTANT AMENDMENTS IN BRIEF

1. Requirement of 50 signatures for an amendment proposal
2. Subscription fee life: \$100 & \$10 for anyone above 18 years old.
3. Term of the Executive Committee: from one year to two years.
4. Formation Regional Working Committee members.
5. Representation to KCCNA: from 1:50 families to 1:100 members.
6. Priest who is sent from Kottayam to meet the spiritual needs of the community to be the spiritual director and a member of the Board of Directors.
7. The Ex-Officio shall have the voting power.
8. Requirement of 150 signatures for an amendment proposal, elimination of registered members, elimination of subscription fees and the requirement of 300 associate members for quorum.
9. Name of Center would be Knanaya Community center Article IX Section 1.

10. In the event there is no nomination for IKCC Executive Committee, Article VII.
11. In the event there is no nomination for Building Board, Article IV, section 6.
12. Auditor's responsibility, Article V section 1(A).
13. Conditions on Executive Committee for Asset purchase, Article V section 1 (g)
14. Review of constitution every five years, Article VIII, Section 1 (c).
15. Criteria for losing membership in IKCC, Article III section 1.
16. Participation for born Knanaya Catholics who marries non Knanaya, Article III section 1.
17. IKCC officials must respect and follow IKCC decisions and resolutions, Article V section 1 (e).
18. Restrictions on IKCC officials who violate the IKCC constitution, by-laws, General Body decisions and resolutions, Article V Section (d)(ii)
19. Applicable restrictions on IKCC officials who violate the IKCC constitution, by-laws, General Body decisions and resolutions, Article V Section (d)(iii)
20. Restrictions on IKCC members who violate the IKCC constitution, by-laws, General Body decisions and resolutions, Article III Section 1(a)
21. Applicable restrictions on IKCC officials who violate the IKCC constitution, by-laws, General Body decisions and resolutions, Article V Section (d)(iv)
22. IKCC Executive Committee may appoint additional spiritual advisors for their term, addition to Article IV Section 1
23. Eligibility to file nomination as a Building Board member, IKCC President, Secretary and Treasurer and KCCNA member, Article VII (1)
24. IKCC members cannot concurrently have membership in other Knanaya Catholic Associations in North America, Article III Section 1(c)
25. IKCC Election Commission's responsibility to verify the accuracy of the nomination filings for IKCC, KCCNA and Building Board, addition to Article VII
26. Executive members of IKCC, KCCNA members and Building Board members who miss meetings, Article V (1)(f)
27. Restriction to change, transfer or modify ownership of the Knanaya Community Center and the surrounding property (in whole or in part), Article IX Section 1
28. Inclusion of IKCC Center as venue for the election for the Building Board Members, addition to Article IX Section 6.
29. Inclusion of Vice President and Joint Secretary to the qualification and specifying \$2,000 to Article VII, Section 1.
30. All eligible Knanaya Catholics, 18 years and older, are required to be registered members of IKCC by filing the registration form and paying a one-time life membership fee of \$10.00 per each member for the life of the membership to become a member of IKCC, Article III, Section 1.
31. Composition of the Building Board and term of office of the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of Building Board amended in 2013.
32. Definition of membership and officers amended in 2013.
33. Term of office of the Executive Committee extended to two years, effective January 1, 2017, in 2015
34. Composition of the Building Board, meetings of the Building Board, address of the IKCC center for the purpose of 911 amended in June, 2016,
35. Composition of Executive Committee amended in November 2016.

36. Article V- Committees Section -4 : National council Members- Amended in June 2017- By virtue of their positions, IKCC President, Vice President, Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer shall become automatically the members of the National Council of the Knanaya Catholic Congress of North America (KCCNA)

Constitution amendments done on general body meeting September 15, 2018

37. Article IX Section1: Ownership of the Knanaya Center can be changed by only members who contributed a minimum of \$2000 to the building fund.
38. Article III (New Amendment) introduction of annual subscription fee of \$100
39. Article III (New Amendment) ; Definition of voting member
40. Article III Section-2: Changed member to voting member
41. Article VI Section 1: Changed member to voting member
42. Article VI Section 2: Changed member to voting member
43. Article VII Section 1: Changed member to voting member
44. Article VII Section 2 Eligibility to be file nomination revised
45. Article VII Section 2 : Changed member to voting member
46. Article VII Section 2 : Changed member to voting member
47. Article VII Section 2 : Eligibility for election as an officer revised
48. Article VIII Section 1: Changed member to voting member
49. Article IX Section 6 : Changed member to voting member
50. Article V Section 4 : The whole description revised to have clarity on youth and women member
51. Article V Section 1 : Regions and number of regional coordinators per region defined

Constitution amendments done on general body meeting October 16, 2022

52. Article III – Established IKCC memberships as Registered membership, General Body membership and Building Body membership
53. Article IV – Added section I General Body and adjusted numbering of paragraphs
54. Article V – Regions redefined. Added provisions for executive committee to continue in care taker capacity when situations arise, Added paragraphs (i) & (j) in section I and modified assets purchase limits in section I paragraph (l).
55. Article VI – minor edits
56. Article VII – minor changes in various paragraphs
57. Article VIII – Amendments section revised significantly. Additional restrictions added regarding amendments to constitution to manage potential conflicting actions by IKCC general body and building body
58. Article IX – Changes in all sections. The ownership change criteria modified to 80% to all real estate assets. Established a single 17 member building board. Regions redefined. Established non-recurring expense spending limit annually up to \$10,000 without prior building board approval
59. Article X – Yuvajanavedi & Golden Club added to IKCC affiliated organization list

IMPORTANT RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTIONS BY THE GENERAL BODY ON AUGUST 24, 2002:

1. New York Regional KCCNA Vice President shall present a report and brief the members about activities of KCCNA during the IKCC General Body Meetings.
2. KCCNA National Council Members from IKCC should have periodic meetings with the IKCC Executive Committee to update the Executive Committee of any developments at the National Level.
3. The IKCC President and Secretary shall be invitees for all the meetings and functions of the IKCC Affiliate organizations. The Regional Coordinator shall also be included for IKCC Regional Affiliate Organization meetings and functions.
4. Recommend to the Spiritual Directors to invite the IKCC President, Secretary and the respective Regional Coordinators to ministry meetings.
5. IKCC Executive Committee shall constitute a web site for IKCC. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to nominate a committee of experts related to web site creation, administration and management. Administration, Operation and Security of the website shall be the responsibility of the President and Secretary of IKCC.
6. IKCC Executive Committee shall create a computerized database of all members of IKCC. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to nominate a committee of experts related to database creation, administration and management. The proposed information/fields on the database shall be broad based. Proposed fields? Full Name, Family Name, Year of birth, Parish in Kerala, Local and Kerala Address, Phone Numbers, Profession (where employed or student of) Year of Immigration to US, Citizenship, blood group (for donations etc), Spouse and children's name, additional fields may be recommended. Same type of information for both spouses and children. IKCC President and Secretary shall have authority over the database management, administration and security.
7. Recommendation to regional kids club principals, vice principals and managers to review and implement uniform syllabus for all regions.

RESOLUTIONS BY THE GENERAL BODY ON NOVEMBER 22, 2003:

Resolutions for Building Board:

1. To form or define a General Body / Social body that would decide on all matters concerning the IKCC Center by end of 2004.
2. Chicago Syro Malabar Diocese will have to have a lease agreement for using the center from January 1, 2004.

RESOLUTIONS BY THE GENERAL BODY ON NOVEMBER 18, 2006:

1. Eligibility to file Nomination as a Building Board member, KCCNA member, IKCC PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, JOINT SECRETARY AND TREASURER is limited to the IKCC members who have paid IKCC building fund due of \$2000.00. (Article VII, Section 1: - Qualification)
2. All IKCC members 18 YEARS and older are required to be registered members by filling out the registration form and a membership fee of \$10.00 per each family member for the life of the membership.

3. Nomination fee for IKCC Executives, President, Vice President, Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Treasurer \$100.00 each which is non-refundable.
4. To Reserve parking space for donors who have contributed \$ 7,500.00 or more to the Building Board for a period of 10 years. [This resolution is no longer in effect and is replaced by the resolutions passed during the semi-annual General Body meeting in 2010. Refer to resolutions passed section by the General Body meeting dated June 12, 2010.]
5. To announce a cutoff date of Dec. 31, 2006 for eligibility to on the Donor tree - independent families who have contributed the building fund dues of \$2000.00 or more would be eligible.
6. A special promotion for all IKCC members who have paid their minimum dues of \$2,000: They have the option to purchase 2 certificates prior to April30, 2007 by paying an additional amount of \$1,500. These certificates are valid for a period of ten (10) years towards utilizing the main hall and one of the side halls.
7. To recognize any other monetary contributions by community members towards the purchase/improvement of capital assets to be recorded as contribution towards their building fund balance.
8. To make center available for two masses per month for the Rockland mission at 250.00 per mass with a signed one year lease with the option of IKCC held activities to have priorities over mission activities. The renewal of the lease is subject to approval of the General Body. (Priority must be given to public rental for \$1400.00 instead of the community mass if rental becomes available prior to 30 days of scheduling the mass.
9. To get into a written agreement with the North Rockland Soccer Club to have additional parking.

RESOLUTIONS BY THE GENERAL BODY ON JUNE 12, 2010:

Resolution 1:

One parking permit will be issued per family to those community members who have made minimum contribution of two thousand dollars. Parking will be on a first come first serve basis since we do not have enough space for everyone. (This permit will be applicable for major IKCC functions i.e., Inauguration, Easter Celebration, Knanaya night, X'mas and not limited to the above at the discretion of IKCC EC. The permitted persons will park in our parking lot and others will be provided parking in the soccer field/school ground).

Resolution 2A:

IKCC members who donate a minimum of \$7500 towards the building fund will be honored with a designated parking space at the center. This is valid for the life time of the donor and the spouse. It is not transferable. This resolution supersedes the November 18, 2006 resolution regarding this matter.

Resolution 2B:

IKCC members who contributed \$7500 towards the building fund with a combination of donations and loans will be honored with a designated parking space at the center. This is valid for five years or until the loan is paid back, whichever comes first. However after five years, the member has the option to donate the loan amount to building fund in which case, the parking privilege will continue for the life of the donor and the spouse.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE GENERAL BODY IN 2012

IKCC General Body held on June 3, 2012 passed the following resolution:

Mode of communication of IKCC shall be by email or phone or US Mail. Any member who wishes to receive communication by US Mail only, shall inform the secretary in writing. This resolution is effective from 09/30/2012.

IKCC General Body held on August 25, 2012 passed the following resolutions:

Number 1

- Consistent with the centuries old tradition of the Knanayites and the practices followed in Kottayam Archdiocese, membership in North American Knanaya Missions and Knanaya Associations must be exclusively for Knanaya Catholics born to both Knanaya parents and if married, their spouses must also be born to both Knanaya parents. We will not accept any definition which is inconsistent with the above criteria.
- IKCC is in full support of the resolutions passed and initiatives taken by Knanaya Catholic Congress (KCC) in Kottayam, during the emergency pastoral committee meeting held on March 29, 2012 and during the meeting on April 01, 2012, to protect and promote the heritage and core values of the Knanaya Catholic Community so that our customs and traditions practiced in the Archdiocese of Kottayam could be followed globally.
- IKCC demand KCCNA to lead North American Knanayites and join the initiatives taken by Knanaya Catholic Congress to preserve and promote the centuries old heritage, traditions, culture and practices followed by the Knanaya Catholics, no matter where they reside.

Number 2

Charge a non-refundable nomination fee of \$100.00 from KCCNA National Council member candidates.

IKCC Annual General Body held on November 23, 2013 passed the following resolution:

An advisory committee is set up for Youth Affairs. The committee shall serve as a link between Executive Committee and youth and young adults. The committee may also advise KCYL regarding organizing and coordinating various activities. Committee shall have five members consisting of:

- KCCNA youth National Council member.

- KCYL Parent director.
- Three IKCC members including young adults nominated by the Executive Committee. The three nominated members shall retire by rotation.

IKCC Semi Annual General Body Meeting held on June 21st 2014 passed the following resolution

1. To every newly elected IKCC Executive Committee to invite KCYL, Women’s Forum, and Building Board presidents, to their first committee meeting to the selection of the event dates. This way everyone can pick the day without any confusion or over lapping.

IKCC Annual General Body Meeting held on June, 20th 2015 passed the following resolution

1. At least 50% of the net operating balance of IKCC will be contributed towards the purchase of the regional building. *[This resolution is no longer in effect and is replaced by the resolutions passed during the General Body meeting on October 16, 2022. Refer to resolutions passed section by the General Body meeting dated October 16, 2022].*

IKCC Semi-Annual General Body Meeting held on June 4th 2016 passed the following resolution

1. Use of center for Rockland Knanaya Mission :The General body decided that no rent will be collected from the Rockland Knanaya mission for conducting mass at the center .IKCC will support the mission as a community event
2. Renovate the Stage appearance: The general body decided to do the work and approved \$6000 towards the cost.

IKCC Emergency General Body Held on May 15th 2017 Passed the Following resolutions

1. Approval to proceed with the purchase of the Building identified by the BQLI Building Board
2. Approve IKCC Executive Committee to ratify the contract with the seller for applying for a mortgage loan for the purchase of the new facility
3. Approve the revised operating structure of the BQLI Building Board office bearers

The new structure will have

- I. The BQLI Building Board chairman
- II. The BQLI Building Board co- chair
- III. BQLI Secretary
- IV. BQLI Treasurer

In additional all the existing Building Board members will be attached to this .Through this model the experience of the existing Building Board can be leveraged and there will be tri-state representation

4. Approve to convert the BQLI current account to a checking account which can be operated by the BQLI Building Board committee.

IKCC Semi Annual General Body Meeting Held on June 24th 2017 Passed the Following resolutions

1. Contribution of \$2000 by all IKCC family members towards purchase of the second building in Brooklyn / queens/Long Island under IKCC

IKCC Emergency Body Meeting Held on September 9th 2017 passed the Following resolutions

1. Notarized promissory note will be issued by IKCC of Greater New York to the lender for the loan amount in excess of \$2000 for the new building in BQLI. The promissory note will be signed by IKCC president and BQLI Building Board chairman.
2. Repayment of the loan amount in excess of \$2000 will only take place after 5 years from the date of the promissory note, from the income generated from the BQLI building on first come first serve with a simple interest rate of 3 % of the loan amount on a yearly basis from the date of cashing the check. The loan provided will be only attached to the new building and will be non-recourse. The interest will be given only for the increments of \$1000. In the event the building becomes self-sufficient financially, the loan amount could be paid off early

IKCC Annual General Body Meeting Held on November 24th 2017 Passed the Following resolutions

1. IKCC to officially offer Knanaya Catholic Congress of North America to have their headquarters here in the proposed Long Island Community Center. The KCCNA is registered here in NY several years ago hence it would be best and appropriate to have the headquarters in the Long Island Center for which a space will be allotted as an office for KCCNA

IKCC Semi-Annual General Body Meeting Held on June 17th 2018 Passed the Following resolutions

1. The procedure to issue payments to members who has given loan and could not produce the promissory note was decided
The following process should be followed
 - I. The procedure for loan repayment decided by General body is only applicable to 72 members where IKCC has records of loan received.
 - II. Member should submit a notarized affidavit stating the reason why the promissory note cannot be produced.
 - III. IKCC will issue a check for an amount as per IKCC records after signing the indemnity agreement between the lender and IKCC

IKCC General Body Meeting Held on September 15th 2018 Passed the Following resolutions

BQLI Building Update & Proposals

- a. Promissory notes for BQLI Building shall include a lien on the BQLI building.

- b. Ownership of the BQLI building can be changed only by written consent of the 90% of the voting members who are alive and contributed a minimum of \$2000 to the BQLI building

IKCC General Body Meeting Held on October 16th, 2022, Passed the Following resolutions

Resolution 1:

- a) Allocation of IKCC funds to Rockland and BQLI building boards - "30% of IKCC Christmas Caroling/subscription fee income each year be set aside to financially support BQLI and Rockland buildings at the ratio of 70% and 30% respectively. Payments to each building board must be made by September 30th of each year "
- b) Legal fund – Minimum 10% of IKCC Christmas Caroling/subscription fee income each year be set aside for replenishing IKCC legal fund.

Resolution 2:

The IKCC Executive and building board shall continue to consult each other regarding the availability and usage of the buildings for the scheduled IKCC events and affiliated organization's activities as it currently follows to accommodate each other's needs.

IKCC General Body Meeting Held on November 16th, 2024, Passed the Following Constitution Amendment Proposal:

- ARTICLE X - THE AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

Section-2

Add: Regional Knanaya Arts Club are also recognized as an affiliated organization of the IKCC in order to educate and foster the Knanaya Cultural/art forms.