

CAN-004 MOTION FOR SI GA 2015

Subject Working Group: Peace

Title of motion

Code of Ethics and Behaviour

National secretary and national member group proposing motion
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Julie Dotsch, National Secretary, Servas Canada (recommended by Conflict Resolution Committee (CRC) Members Julie Dotsch (convener), Marneo Serenelli, Clare Mateke)

Summary of the motion

That Servas International develops a Code of Ethics and Behaviour that will be binding on all Servas members including officers. The SI CRC agrees to work with the Servas International Peace Secretary and other interested parties to develop a draft to be voted on by the General Assembly or through a Distant Vote.
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Background information and reasons for proposing the motion.

Servas's main goal is to bring peace through person to person contact. Yet, Servas members may act in ways that don't promote peace. When having a disagreement, the person may send out mass emails filled with accusation and tales of wrong doing. Members may gossip about other members, revealing things that were confidential. By reflecting on our shared values, we may learn to be more peaceful with each other. With this shared understanding, an oath can be created to ask members to abide by this code. If a person breaks this code with poor behaviour, it is easier to identify the misbehaviour and talk with the person about making changes. It is also easier for the SI CRC to identify and resolve issues.

Likely benefits for Servas International and national groups if the motion is passed.
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By reflecting on our shared values, we may learn to be more peaceful with each other. If a person breaks this code with poor behaviour, it is easier to identify the misbehaviour and talk with the person about making changes. It is also easier for the SI CRC to identify and resolve issues. There is less likelihood of misbehaviour or poor communication.

Resource implications if the motion is passed in terms of time, human resources and specialist expertise.
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CRC and interested parties would need to work on the Code. This would need to be voted on by the General Assembly.
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What are the budget implications, if any, of the motion for Servas International and for national groups in the short and longer term?

None

Who should be responsible for the actions arising from the motion in terms of planning, development and management, for example which officer within SI Exco or SI Committee.
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SI CRC to work with the Servas International Peace Secretary and other interested parties.

Would there be implications for the Servas International statutes if the motion is passed?

No

What is the likely impact if the motion is not passed?

It will remain difficult to identify the misbehaviour and talk with the person about making changes. It will also be more difficult for the SI CRC to identify and resolve issues. There is more likelihood of miscommunication and misbehaviour.