

Insurance Council of Manitoba

Council Members

General Insurance Council

Cindy Cassils, Waskada
Lyndon Friesen, Altona
Irwin Kumka, St. Andrews
Elenor Nowosad, Fisher Branch/Winnipeg
Lynn Rempel, Morris
Grant Rerie, Winnipeg
Keith Phillips, Winnipeg
Justin Schinkel, Steinbach
Peter Tessier, Winnipeg

Life Insurance Council

Andy Anderson, Niverville
Carol-Ann Borody-Siemens, East St. Paul
Sofie Bruce, Winnipeg (bil.)
Lisa Churchward, Winnipeg
Jean-Paul Craft, Steinbach (bil.)
Kayla Harold, Oakbank
Patricia Horncastle, Winnipeg
Craig Shanks, Brandon
Carole Urias, East Selkirk (bil.)

Mandate:

The Council acts in the public interest to protect Manitoba consumers of insurance products, and regulates all licensees including; agents, brokers, restricted insurance agents (incidental sellers of insurance) and adjusters to ensure standards are maintained for public protection.

Authority:

The Insurance Act

Responsibilities:

Council ensures adequate standards are established and maintained through its licensing and compliance functions.

All applicants must satisfy Council they are suitable for licensing by demonstrating they are competent, trustworthy, financially reliable and intend to carry on the business of insurance in good faith and in accordance with the usual practice. Council is responsible to ensure that education and experience requirements meet the minimum standards necessary to protect the public. Licence holders must update Council on material information, and are required to maintain liability insurance and meet continuing education requirements on an ongoing basis.

Council has the authority to discipline licensees or former licensees when there has been a breach of the Act, Regulations, Rules, or Code of Conduct. Council also has standing to pursue unlicensed activity that contravenes any section of the Act.

The Insurance Council of Manitoba is a delegated authority of the Superintendent of Insurance. This delegated authority includes the power to issue or refuse a licence, attach limitations or conditions to a licence, cancel or suspend a licence, assess fines and costs, and to carry out investigations.

Membership:

The ICM consists of two councils (Life, General) each with a six to nine member board appointed by the Minister. Each of the Life (LIC) and General (GIC) Councils must have at least half of its members licensed as an insurance adjuster under the Act.

Historically it has always been the practice to appoint one representative from a life insurance company to the LIC and one from a general (property and casualty) insurance company to the GIC.

Three representatives from each of the industry Councils are selected to serve on the Manitoba Council which acts as the administrative arm and oversees the operation of the Insurance Council of Manitoba.

The Manitoba Council and each insurance council shall, at the beginning of each year, select two persons from among its members to serve respectively as its chairperson and vice-chairperson for that year.

Length of Terms:

Three years, and may be re-appointed for a second term. (Max 10 Years)

Members continue to serve until they are re-appointed, the appointment is revoked or a successor is appointed.

Desirable Experience:

Board members:

- An understanding of insurance legislation, the insurance industry and the issues surrounding the distribution of insurance policies would be an asset
- Must be able to communicate verbally and have the ability to ask questions using open ended, non-judgmental language;
- Have active listening skills;
- Be able to read and interpret policies/legislation and how it applies to the case;
- Use plain language;
- Adhere to a high degree of confidentiality; and
- Have the ability to make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner.

General Insurance Council (50% of Members):

- Must be a licensed general insurance agent, and at least one whom is a licensed insurance adjuster.

Life Insurance Council (50% of Members):

- Must be a licensed life insurance agent.
- Must be a licensed general insurance agent, and at least one whom is a licensed insurance adjuster.

Time Commitment:

Time commitment is dependent on licensing compliance issues, consumer complaints and on an as needed basis. The Length of meetings will vary with the agenda but it is not uncommon for the meetings to last a full day. Every June, there is a bi-council meeting that lasts a half-day.

Meetings:

Location: ICM Office (466-167 Lombard Avenue)

Frequency: LIC: Six to ten times a year
GIC: Four to seven times a year

Remuneration:

Chair: \$450 per full day / \$300 per half day

Members: \$400 per full day / \$250 per half day

Members are reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses in accordance with the Insurance Council of Manitoba Expense Policy.