

Polish Community Council of Australia Inc. Rada Naczelna Polonii Australijskiej

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7th March 2025

To the Member Organisations of the Polish Community Council of Australia

Ladies and Gentlemen

In accordance with Article VII of the Constitution of the Polish Community Council of Australia (PCCA) as well as the notification sent to Member Organisations on the 22nd January 2025, the Executive Committee of PCCA wishes to inform you:

<u>The 57th Congress of Delegates will occur on 30 May – 1 June 2025</u> in Polish Club Ashfield, 73 Norton Street Ashfield NSW 2131

Pre-Congress procedures – Member Organisations of PCCA

Member Organisations and their Delegates are respectfully requested to **become familiar with and entirely honour** the following pre-congress procedures:

1. In accordance with Article IV § 11 and Article XIII § 49 of the PCCA Constitution, the Executive Committee of PCCA hereby reiterates the necessity to reconcile **membership dues no later** than 8 weeks prior to the Congress, that being by 4th April, 2025.

The payment of fees to the amount of \$120 (including GST) for every 50 members of an organisation (one (1) Mandate) is to be deposited directly into the account of: "Polish Community Council of Australia" BSB: 082-864 Account Number: 264817786. Please record the name of the organisation making the payment in the relevant comment box at the time of making the deposit.

The Executive Committee of PCCA hereby informs that only timely deposits into the account of the Polish Community Council of Australia (as outlined above) will authorise Delegates' entitlement to a Mandate (please refer to Point 2 below), and that any other payment methods (e.g. cash, cheques sent by post) will not constitute a reason for being issued with a Mandate.

2. The Executive Committee of PCCA hereby reminds Member Organisations of their obligation to provide the current number count of its financial members. Organisations are required to submit these details by 4th April, 2025 using a Statutory Declaration Form (Part XIII, § 49 (a)). Submissions made after this date will not be considered. In the event that a member of PCCA is a Federation or an umbrella organisation of a similar nature, the above details, in the form of a Statutory Declaration, ought to be provided for every separate member organisation of that Federation (or umbrella organisation of a similar nature).

- 3. Proposals, motions for resolutions and proposals for additional items on the agenda of the Congress should be forwarded to the email address of the Secretariat of the PCCA: secretary@polishcouncil.org.au no later than 4th April 2025, Constitution: Part VII §20(c).
- 4. Details and declarations received by the due date will be forwarded to the Verification Committee for verification (Part XIII, § 49). The Verification Committee will not issue mandates to organisations which did not reconcile their membership dues before the articulated date that being by 4th April 2025 and which do not submit a *Statutory Declaration Form* identifying the number of its financial members.

So as to avoid any misunderstandings and to streamline the task of the Verification Committee, the Executive Committee of PCCA appeals to Member Organisations for absolute compliance with the requirements of the Constitution: Part V § 10 Obligations (c) and Part XIII § 49. The Executive Committee of PCCA also hereby reminds Member Organisations of the sanctions that may be applied in the event of not complying with the cited clauses of the PCCA Constitution (Part V § 13 (b) (iii) and § 14).

- 5. Nominations for the President and Vice-President positions, in accordance with Part VII § 20 (d) of the PCCA Constitution, should be forwarded to the email address of the Secretariat of the PCCA: secretary@polishcouncil.org.au no later than 2nd May 2025.
- 6. The Executive Committee of PCCA also hereby reminds that, in accordance with Part XIII § 49 of the PCCA Constitution, the condition of allocating Mandates after the due date for submission of membership Statutory Declaration and depositing membership fees may also submitted by organisations until 2nd May 2025:
 - (a) a list of delegates elected by the member organisations (1 delegate 1 mandate),
 - (b) any formal, valid proxy appointments, and
 - (c) a list of delegates attending the Congress.
- 7. **Reports and materials for distribution amongst Delegates** must be forwarded electronically to the Secretariat of the PCCA in PDF format no later than 2nd May 2025. These include:
 - (a) <u>Compulsory Congress Reports</u>, i.e. reports from the President, Treasurer, Audit Committee and Arbitration Commission.
 - (b) Materials that Member Organisations of PCCA wish to share with other PCCA Member Organisations.

Pre-Congress procedures – Secretariat of the PCCA

- 8. The Secretariat of the Executive Committee of PCCA will forward the following documents to member organisations by 9th May 2025:
 - (a) a summary list of the number of members for each organization, obtained from the member organizations on a Statutory Declaration form;
 - (b) the number of mandates awarded to each organization by the Verification Commission and information to whom was awarded the so-called "special mandate" under the PCCA's Constitution, Part VII, § 17 (d);
 - (c) a list of registered Delegates for each member organization;
 - (d) Agenda of the 57th PCCA Delegates' Congress (Statutes: Part VII § 20 (c)).
- The Secretariat of the Executive Committee of PCCA will email registered Delegates with electronic PDF copies of reports from the Executive Committee of PCCA, Treasurer, Auditor, Audit Committee, Arbitration Commission, PCCA Perpetual Fund and any other materials by 26th May 2025.
- 10. The forwarded reports will not be read out during the Congress. Delegates ought to become familiar with the forwarded materials prior to the Congress.

Congress Procedure

- 11. Congress proceedings will commence at 9am on Saturday, 31st May 2025.
 - (a) Part 1: Annual General Meeting and Reporting
 - (b) Part 2: Thematic workshops. More information about this will be sent in subsequent correspondence.
- 12. The 57th Congress concludes with Holy Mass at St. Vincent's Church, 7 Bland Street, Ashfield, midday on Sunday, 1st June 2025.

Kind regards

Małgorzata Wray

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Secretary