



TRIUMVIRATE

The North American model Legislature



2008 ROLES GUIDE

Update: February 26th, 2008

North American Forum on Integration
www.fina-nafi.org | info@fina-nafi.org

Welcome to the Triumvirate!

We congratulate you for having been selected to participate in the 2008 Triumvirate. The North American Forum on Integration (NAFI) wants this experience to be a very interesting and enlightening one for you. To enable you to be well prepared, we are sending you a Roles Guide that will give you greater detail on the roles that everyone will be assuming.

During the Triumvirate, you will be required to represent a legislator of a federal or federated North American state, a journalist or a representative of an interest group.

This year, the event will take place in English and French. That is to say, commission deliberations on Fostering Renewable Electricity Markets, Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative and NAFTA's Chapter 11 on investments will take place in English while the commission on Countering North American corporate outsourcing will take place in French.

Few opportunities are offered to students within North American universities to familiarize themselves with the North American political and economic dynamic. We wish the Triumvirate will help you get a better sense of the challenges faced by our three countries. We also hope that this initiative will help you develop long term friendships and contacts.

North Americanly yours,

The secretariat of the Triumvirate

Christine Fréchette, Executive Director of NAFI
Céline Roche-Crespo, Triumvirate Coordinator
Samir Kadiri , Project Manager, Triumvirate
Louis-Philippe Jannard, Project Manager, Triumvirate
Alejandra Pérez, Responsable for on line surveys





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1. FUNCTIONS

A) LEGISLATOR

During the simulation, as a member of a commission and a representative of a federal or federated State, you will discuss and propose resolutions on the topic that your commission is called upon to present. Through discussions and negotiations with your colleagues, you should contribute to the elaboration of a resolution specific to your commission that will then be voted on at the General Assembly.

First of all, legislators must read the document describing the topic they will work on during the Triumvirate, as well as some of the documents which appear in bibliography. This document is available Working Documents section of the Triumvirate Website.

In order to familiarize you with the issues proper to the State you represent and to prepare you on how to write a resolution at a commission, you are required to independently prepare a preliminary draft resolution relating to the topic proposed by the commission to which you are assigned. This preliminary draft will help you identify interesting ideas and potential courses of action for your commission and will enable you to specify the interests of the State that you represent. NAFI Secretariat will post all preliminary draft resolution on its Web Forum so every delegate may take a look at the suggestions made by others.

Your preliminary draft resolution, together with those of your colleagues, will enable the secretariat of the Triumvirate to prepare the official resolution for each of the commissions. These four official draft resolutions, which will be used as a starting point for discussions and negotiations during the simulation, will be sent to you by the end of April.

Please go through the document available in the 'Working Document' section describing your working topic. This is essential to your preparation process. Your preliminary draft can be inspired by suggestions contained in this document. You can choose one of the proposals mentioned, fine-tune it and create a unique preliminary draft. You may also propose a preliminary draft resolution not included on the enclosed list, but it should address an important issue that is related to the proposed topic and to the interests of the State you represent.

Your preliminary draft resolution should be written clearly and explore the issue addressed by your commission. You should also draw inspiration from the interests, customs and desires of the State you represent without necessarily having to repeat the same positions defended by actual legislators of the State you represent. The preliminary draft resolution that you submit to the general secretariat should reflect the interests of your State.

Note that your role is one of a legislator; that is, of a representative of the legislative branch and not a representative of the executive branch. Consider yourself as having been designated as a representative of the Congress of the State you represent and that, as such, you have to try to reflect the diversity of the political formations of the State. Thus, instead of expressing yourself with the words "the government of my State believes that..." you should say "the Congress of my State believes that..."

To establish the objectives and characteristics of your State, we strongly encourage you to read the documents we have referred to in the document describing the topic you will work on. You may find the documents presenting this year's four themes 1- Fostering Renewable Electricity Markets, 2- Countering North American corporate outsourcing, 3- Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, and 4- NAFTA's Chapter 11 on investments on our website at www.fina-nafi.org in the Triumvirate 2008 / Working Documents section.

We also recommend you visit the political Web sites of the State you represent, and to contact professors, official representatives and organizations of the State you represent in order to become familiar with their interests on the subject.

For logistical reasons, you will not have to take into account the power allotted to you by your appointed country's constitution. Therefore each legislator will be deemed to be authorized to speak on all topics being debated.

Please refer to the Legislator's Guide and Constitution for further details on the legislator's role and responsibilities.

How to Proceed

1- Read the document describing the topic you will work on during the Triumvirate, as well as some of the documents which appear in bibliography.

2- Read the legislator's guide.

3- You have to submit a preliminary draft resolution on the topic of the political commission to which you are assigned, to the secretariat of the Triumvirate on later than **April 4, 2008** at the following address: **croche@fina-nafi.org**. Your preliminary draft resolution should respect the form but not the content of the model that is found in the appendix. We encourage you to write your preliminary draft in the official language of your commission but this is not mandatory.

You should respect the following requirements on presentation:

- 800 to 1 000 words, with your name at the top of the page (see model in the Appendix);
- Font: Georgia, Size 11;
- Single spaced, justified text;

You will be penalized for any plagiarism. Any borrowed ideas or direct sources used should be acknowledged in the preliminary draft resolution. Good luck!

B) JOURNALIST

As a journalist, during the simulation, you will participate in producing the newspaper *TrilatHerald* that will be published daily from Monday, May 26 to Friday, May 30. Copies of the newspaper are distributed to all participants of the Triumvirate. Copies will be available on-line on the NAFI Web site and will be sent to all institutions which are Triumvirate partners.

The *TrilatHerald* journalists will be taking part in a new concept because a specialized North American media does not yet exist. Journalists could however draw inspiration from certain articles covering North American governmental meetings.

The *TrilatHerald* will consist up of various articles and interviews written by you during and before the simulation week. The newspaper should provide information on the debate taking place among legislators. Throughout the simulation, you will be assigned various positions in the newsroom such as a journalist, editorialist or photographer. One person will act as editor-in-chief throughout the simulation. During the weeks before the event, journalists will communicate via the internet with the Editor in chief of the *TrilatHerald*.

Each commission will be covered by at least one journalist. You can write your articles in English, French or Spanish. The newspaper will be trilingual in that it will contain articles in the three languages. Articles that were published in the newspaper last year are available at the NAFI Web site under Triumvirate 2007/Media.

Note that legislators and lobbyists of the Triumvirate will be invited to use the *TrilatHerald* to influence the orientation of debates taking place throughout the simulation.

Also, three press conferences will take place during the week in order to foster the dialogue between legislators, lobbyists and journalists.

In order to familiarize yourself with the work and the proposed topics during the simulation, you will write a newspaper article that introduces the issues relating to one of the proposed topics of the Triumvirate. Your article should include an interview with a personality in the process. This public figure can be a representative of an interest group (business, union, NGO), a public opinion leader (a journalist who is specialised on the subject, a think tank member, an academic or a researcher), or a political representative (parliamentarian, representative, senator, governor, member of government, etc.). You may also decide to interview one of the participants acting as a legislator or lobbyist at the Triumvirate.

In writing this initial article, you should respect the following requirements on journalistic writing:

- Precise and validated information;
- Accuracy of facts and clarity of ideas;
- Intellectual and methodological precision in writing.

You must also respect the following requirements on presentation:

- 800 to 1 000 words, with your name at the top of the page;
- An attractive title;
- Font: Georgia, Size 11;
- Single spaced, justified text;
- Use the language of your choice (French, Spanish, or English).

You will be penalized for any plagiarism. Any borrowed ideas or direct sources used should be acknowledged in the article.

You must submit your article to the general secretariat at "**croche@fina-nafi.org**" no later than **April 4, 2008**. Late submissions will be penalized.

Good luck!

TIMELINE FOR JOURNALISTS

| | March | April | May |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| TRIUMVIRATE Secretariat | Assignment of journalists | Transmission of the Participant's Handbook including the 4 resolutions that will be debated during the event | Transmission of first TrilatHerald edition |
| Participants | March 5 th : Deadline for registration and payment. | End of April: transmission of the article for the first edition of the 2008 TrilatHerald. | |

A SUCCESSFUL NEWSPAPER:

The journalist's role at the Triumvirate is a challenging and enriching experience. The following tips are guidelines the journalistic team should follow in order to deliver the best possible newspaper.

- ❖ Communicate as a team through Internet in the preceding weeks of the simulation. Get to know each other as well as your work habits and ideas. We also recommend that you introduce yourselves (the team of journalists) in the first TrilatHerald edition in order for delegates to recognize you.
- ❖ During the simulation, daily meetings are very important. Always attend the meetings;

- ❖ Allocate the graphic responsibilities to only one person at the very beginning of the simulation. That person should be assisted by the team and have a smaller writing work load;
- ❖ Agree on an early daily deadline for the articles and respect it;
- ❖ Your work does not end when you hand in your article. Putting together the TrilatHerald is a team effort.

Format and content of the TrilatHerald:

- ❖ Include many pictures;
- ❖ Look for scoops and try to further debates between legislators and lobbyists;
- ❖ Include interviews with legislators, lobbyists, NAFI staff, conference speakers etc...;
- ❖ Do not assist the political commissions in full, stay only two or three hours a day in the political commissions in order for you to have enough time for other tasks;
- ❖ Include instances outside of the daily work for example group activities, gatherings, funny events etc...;
- ❖ Be respectful and fair;
- ❖ Write short articles ranging from 500 to 800 words.

C) LOBBYIST

As a representative of an interest group, during the simulation you will ensure that the draft resolutions proposed at the General Assembly respect the mandate you were assigned by the secretariat of the Triumvirate. This mandate will be sent to you in April in a confidential mail to ensure that it is not revealed to other participants. Lobbyists will inspire themselves from the existing organization they will be representing during the simulation.

You will be required to pressure legislators in order to fulfill the mandate you were assigned and defend the interests of your organization in drawing up draft resolutions.

Furthermore, you must read the information document describing the topic you have to work on. This document is available in the Working Document section of the Triumvirate Web site. You may find the documents presenting this year's four themes 1- Fostering Renewable Electricity Markets, 2- Countering North American corporate outsourcing, 3- Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, and 4- NAFTA's Chapter 11 on investments on our website at www.fina-nafi.org in the Triumvirate 2008 / Working Documents section.

You must also review the different suggestions of draft resolution that will be posted on the Triumvirate Web Forum in April in order to learn about the suggestions made by the legislators that compose the commission you are assigned to.

During the simulation, lobbyists will have to ensure that the amendments to the draft resolutions respect the interests of their organization as well as the mandate they will have received from NAFI. Each lobbyist will have to:

1. Present a memoir within one political commission- you will make at least one presentation before members of the commission responsible for the topic related to the mandate of your organization in order to give them suggestions about items they could include in their draft resolution. You should prepare statistics; identify previous cases; foreign country examples or any other pertinent and persuasive elements. You are allowed to distribute information to the legislators and journalists;
2. Participate to at least one of the three press conferences organized during the week.
3. Comment (at least once) on the commissions' work during caucus session- you will have to submit a formal request to the Caucus Chairpersons in order to be allowed to speak in front of one or all the national caucus. For logistical reasons we suggest you request a time slot on Wednesday May 28th;
4. Publish, in the *TrilatHerald*, one open letter exposing his or her opinion concerning the draft resolution and the debates surrounding it. You may also have to attract the interest of one of the journalists of the *TrilatHerald* to ensure that you receive some media coverage;
5. On May 30, you have to submit a brief one-page report to the secretariat of the Triumvirate, showing the support you received among legislators, the modifications to the draft resolutions you managed to obtain, the obstacles you faced and a summary of your actions leading to the fulfillment of your mandate.

To be submitted by April 4, 2008:

In order to become familiar with your organisation's interests, you must write a position paper outlining at least 5 objectives of your organisation relating to the target commission and at least 5 points that you intend to present during the simulation to ensure that your objectives are taken into consideration. Also identify three arguments advanced by opponents to your organization and show your replies to these counter arguments.

To familiarize yourself with the interests of your organisation, we especially encourage you to contact official representatives of the organization you represent or a similar one.

You should respect the following requirements on presentation:

- 800 to 1 000 words, with your name at the top of the page;
- Style: Georgia, Font 11;
- Single spaced, justified text;
- Use the language of your choice (French, Spanish, or English)

Plagiarism is not permitted and will be punished. Any borrowed ideas or direct sources used should be acknowledged in the paper.

You must submit your paper to the general secretariat at "**croche@fina-nafi.org**" no later than **April 4, 2008**. You will be penalized for late submissions.

Good luck!

TIMETABLE FOR LOBBYISTS

| | March | April |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| TRIUMVIRATE Secretariat | Assignment of lobbyist roles – transmission of the name of the organisation lobbyists will represent and the political commission they will be assigned to. | Transmission of the Participant's Handbook including the 4 resolutions that will be debated during the event Transmission of lobbyist mandate - this mandate is only transmitted to the concerned person. |
| Participants | Mar. 5 th : Deadline for registration and payment. | April 4 - Deadline for lobbyists' position paper |

2. AWARDS

Your efforts during your preparation for the Triumvirate could be recognised at the Excellence Awards ceremony at the end of the simulation. Awards will be given for the best draft resolution, best newspaper article and best negotiator. At the request of 2005 delegates, we will also award the Triumvirate award to the person who best incarnates the values promoted by the simulation.

The quality of your interventions within the Triumvirate context as well as the relevance and quality of texts submitted, as well as respect of deadlines will be considered in determining the winners.

Good luck to everyone!



The North American Forum on Integration (NAFI)
3744, Jean-Brillant, bureau 581
Montréal (Québec) Canada H3T 1P1
Tel : 514-343-7874 | Fax : 514-343-7348
www.fina-nafi.org | info@fina-nafi.org

APPENDIX – MODEL OF PRELIMINARY DRAFT RESOLUTION

Draft bill
National Assembly of Quebec (Canada)
First session, thirty-seventh legislature

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACT

Tabled by Mr. Thomas J. Mulcair
Minister of the Environment

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The purpose of this draft bill is to set up a new management framework within the Administration to ensure that powers and responsibilities are exercised in the pursuit of sustainable development.

Under the proposed measures, “sustainable development” means an ongoing process to improve the living conditions of the present generation that does not compromise the ability of future generations to do so and that ensures a harmonious integration of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of development.

The draft bill also provides for the establishment of a Green Fund to finance the measures or activities that the Minister of the Environment may carry out within the scope of ministerial functions. The purpose of the fund is, in particular, to support the implementation of measures promoting sustainable development, especially in connection with its environmental aspects, and make it possible for the Minister to grant financial assistance, within the framework of the law, in particular to municipalities and non-profit organizations working in the environmental field.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ACT

THE PARLIAMENT OF QUÉBEC ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

TITLE I

GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CHAPTER I

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

1. The object of this Act is to establish a new management framework within the Administration to ensure that powers and responsibilities are exercised in the pursuit of sustainable development.

The measures introduced by this Act are intended, more specifically, to better integrate the pursuit of sustainable development into the policies, programs and actions of the Administration, at all levels and in all areas of intervention, to ensure that government actions in the area of development are coherent and to enhance the accountability of the Administration in development matters, in particular through the controls exercised by the Sustainable Development Commissioner under the Auditor General Act (R.S.Q., chapter V-5.01).

2. In this Act, unless otherwise indicated by the context, “Administration” means the Government, the Conseil exécutif, the Conseil du trésor, all government departments, and government agencies and enterprises within the meaning of sections 4 and 5 of the Auditor General Act.

CHAPTER II

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND MEASURES TO BE TAKEN BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENSURE SUSTAINABILITY OF DEVELOPMENT

DIVISION I

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES AND STRATEGY

3. The implementation of sustainable development within the Administration is based on the sustainable development strategy adopted by the Government and is carried out in a manner consistent with the principles established by the strategy and this division.

4. In order to better integrate the pursuit of sustainable development into its various areas of intervention, the Administration must take the following principles into consideration when framing its actions:

(1) “*social equity*”: development must be undertaken in a spirit of intra and inter-generational equity, taking the needs of everyone concerned into account;

(2) “*environmental protection*”: to achieve sustainable development, environmental protection must constitute an integral part of the development process;

(3) “*economic efficiency*”: the economy of Québec must be effective, geared toward innovation and economic prosperity that is conducive to social progress, and respectful of the environment;

5. The Government’s sustainable development strategy must state the selected approach, the main issues, the directions or areas of intervention, and the objectives to be pursued

by the Administration in the area of sustainable development. It must also state the sustainable development principles that must be taken into consideration by the Administration, in addition to those enumerated in section 5.

DIVISION II

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

6. In order to focus its priorities and plan its actions in a way that will foster sustainable development and conform with the strategy of the Government, every government department, agency and enterprise in the Administration must identify and make public the specific objectives it intends to pursue in order to contribute to the progressive implementation of the strategy, as well as the activities or interventions it plans on carrying out to that end.

TITLE II

DIVISION I

GREEN FUND

7. A Green Fund is established within the Ministère de l'Environnement.

The fund is dedicated to the financing of measures or activities that the Minister may carry out within the scope of ministerial functions.

The purpose of the fund is, in particular, to support the implementation of measures promoting sustainable development, especially in its environmental aspects, and make it possible for the Minister to grant financial assistance, within the framework of the law, in particular to municipalities and non-profit organizations working in the environmental field.

8. The Government fixes the date on which the fund begins to operate and determines its assets and liabilities and the nature of the costs that may be charged to it.

9. The fund is made up of

(1) the sums paid into the fund by the Minister of Finance under sections 15.5, 15.6 and 15.11;

(2) the gifts, legacies and other contributions paid into the fund to further the achievement of the objects of the fund;

(3) the sums paid into the fund by a minister and taken out of the appropriations granted for that purpose by Parliament;

(4) the revenue allocated to that purpose by the Government, and any contribution determined by the Government on a proposal of the Minister of Finance, including revenue from taxes or other economic instruments intended to promote sustainable development that are identified by the Government;

10. The Minister of the Environment is responsible for the administration of this Act.

11. This Act comes into force on *(insert the date of assent to this Act)*.