

## **Polar Educators International Council Application Deadline is May 10, 2016**

Are you looking for a way to get active in Polar Educators International and the PEI leadership? Apply to be a part of the PEI Council!

We encourage YOU to consider applying for the PEI Council-- help us shape our organization and the future of polar science education!

To find out more about what the PEI Council does check out the FAQ at the end of this letter. Please pass this along to interested and talented colleagues, apologies for cross-postings.

How do you apply for the PEI Council? It's easy! Please provide:

- Current personal & professional contact information,
- Brief bio (around 100 words)
- Present picture of yourself (no hat or sunglasses/balaclavas)
- Name and email address of two references
- Identify desired council role (i.e. representative of an organization, institution, area of research/interest, or serve as an individual "member-at-large")
- Expression of Interest Letter (around 500 words) explaining the following:
  - Why you are interested in PEI and sitting on the Council? This includes any ideas you have for projects or activities the organization could undertake, a desire to become more connected to the larger polar community, ways to improve PEI as it meets it's mission, general interest in the process of the organization, ideas to strengthen and grow the international community of polar educators. How do we fit into your goals over the next few years?
  - Any major periods of anticipated future extended absence, such as fieldwork, long vacations, or intense exam periods.
  - It is also quite helpful to know a little about your experiences (including previous PEI/polar education involvement and any other boards or councils) and why you are interested in the Polar Regions.

See the FAQ below for a more detailed description of the application procedure for the PEI Council. <http://www.polareducator.org/about/council/council-charter>

Applications to the PEI Council can be sent to the current PEI Executive Committee at [polareducators@gmail.com](mailto:polareducators@gmail.com).

**Please use "PEI Council Application" in your subject line.**

If you want to start right away with the new term starting June 1, please make sure to send in your application before midnight GMT May 10, 2016. Council applications received after midnight GMT May 10, 2016 will be reserved for contact after June for future Council terms or other PEI leadership roles such as working group chairs.

If you have any questions about what it means to be a member of the PEI Council, the application process or any other queries, please send an email [polareducators@gmail.com](mailto:polareducators@gmail.com)

Best wishes,

Gary Wesche  
PEI President

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FAQ:

### **1. What role will the Council play in PEI?**

The Council will be the group of members stepping forward to volunteer their time and talents in a leadership role. These council members will be elected annually by the membership and will be responsible for helping to run the organization and set our priorities. These are the folks who help to make the decisions about how PEI works, shape our goals and set objectives to fulfill the overall purpose of our organization. They will help to organize activities for polar educators around the world, shaping the future of PEI as we grow and build our international presence; together they serve as representatives of an international community, maintain our connections with other organizations, and search out new relationships to strengthen our organization; they also help to keep our members updated on new happenings in the polar research and/or education. These are active leaders, representing PEI in many ways, at conferences and meetings, and are recognized by senior leaders in their fields.

### **2. Who can be a member of the PEI Council?**

Any PEI member can become a council member if they are interested in being actively involved in the organization. There are both organizational and Individual members who follow the same procedure for approval to take a Council position. We encourage partner organizations to forward applicants for the Council.

### **3. What are the duties & responsibilities of a PEI Council Member?**

Visit <http://www.polareducator.org/about/council/council-charter>

### **4. What is the application & notification procedure for the PEI Council?**

Applications should be sent to [polareducators@gmail.com](mailto:polareducators@gmail.com) after which the Executive Committee will coordinate the voting. After voting, the Executive Committee will contact all applicants with the result of the selection. If the applicant is unsuccessful, the communication will suggest other involvement options. If the application is successful, the communication will contain up-to-date documents, communication and news forums, and all contact information necessary for the new Council member. The term of service on the Council begins on mid February or the date of notification, whichever is later. The new member will be added to the Council email list, introduced to membership using the information provided in the application.

### **5. What is the timeline for the 2015 PEI Council?**

10 April 2016 - solicitation letter sent out

10 May 2016 - applications due

20 May 2016 - applicants notified of results, new council members' terms of service begin

01 June 2016 - group webinars & mentoring of new council & election of Executive Committee

15 June 2015 - PEI Council and Executive Committee in place & operational