

Markham Model United Nations



Delegate Handbook

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Equity Statement

Created by Aryan Rajagopal for MarkMUN 2024.

At Markham Model United Nations, we understand that engaging with certain topics of discussion may be distressing for delegates. Everyone comes from different backgrounds and experiences, so our entire team is committed to ensuring an equitable and enjoyable conference experience for all participants. This committee discusses several topics with varying levels of real-world application, so we ask that delegates be mindful of how they act and address the content of this background guide. The material associated with this committee may be perceived as controversial, so it is important that delegates recognize possible differences in opinion and find solutions in a diplomatic and respectful manner.

At MarkMUN, we are people first and competitors second. We encourage all delegates to take part in committee research and discussions in an equitable manner. All stakeholders at MarkMUN conferences are expected to adhere to our [Code of Conduct](#), especially when engaging with possibly sensitive topics. Additionally, we ask that delegates recognize the varied levels of comfort their peers may have with the committee material and adapt accordingly.

In signing our conference Code of Conduct, delegates have already agreed to participate in an equitable and professional manner for the duration of the conference. Any violations of conference equity policy will be dealt with at the discretion of the Secretariat. If you wish to voice an equity concern regarding this background guide or any other committee materials, feel free to contact our Director-General, Luca, at dg.markmun@gmail.com. Here at Markham Model United Nations, we strive to provide a safe, productive and equitable environment for debate that all delegates, faculty, and staff can take part in!

Please note that **delegates will only be allowed to switch committees for equity reasons**. All delegates are **expected to participate in the committee they are assigned** to unless a Committee Change Request is submitted. If you wish to submit a Committee Change Request after reading this content warning, please do the following:

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1. Email our Director-General, Luca, at dg.markmun@gmail.com and provide an explanation as to why you wish to switch committees. Once our team has had a chance to review your request, you will be contacted and provided with a new committee position.
 2. If you are uncomfortable with the alternative position offered, our Secretariat will communicate with you regarding next steps. For logistical reasons, please ensure that you make any committee change requests **at least three days before the conference**.

Land Acknowledgement

We affirm that we are all treaty people and acknowledge that the York Region District School Board is located on the lands of two treaties. These treaties have been signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the First Nations of the Williams Treaties who are: the Mississaugas of Alderville, Curve Lake, Hiawatha, Scugog Island; and the Chippewas of Beausoleil, Rama, and Georgina Island who is our closest neighbour and partner in education. To honour this agreement, we will take up our responsibility to be respectful of their traditions, knowledge and inherent rights as sovereign nations. We will respect their relationship with these lands and recognize that our connection to this land is through the continued relationship with these First Nations, and we acknowledge our shared responsibility to respect and care for the land and waters for future generations.

Thanks to Attending Delegations

St. Augustine MUN

St. Brother Andre MUN

William Lyon Mackenzie MUN

Nile Vanguard MUN

Forest Hill MUN

Richmond Hill H.S. MUN

Restdale MUN

Monarch Park MUN

Unionville MUN

Norman Bethune MUN

Philopateer Christian College MUN

About Us

Markham Model United Nations (MarkMUN) is a high school Model United Nations conference taking place this fall in the city of Markham, Ontario. Initially formed as a cooperative event between Model UN executives from Pierre Elliott Trudeau HS and St. Augustine CHS, our organisation seeks to provide a conference with input from the entire Markham community and beyond. As a nonprofit organisation, we aim to produce a quality Model UN experience while giving back to the global community through charitable endeavours!



Markham Model United Nations seeks to unite the Model United Nations clubs at Markham secondary schools through a single conference experience. As is with most Model United Nations, this organisation will strive to embody a debate experience similar to that of the United Nations General Assembly. The organisation was also developed as a body for cooperation between Model United Nations in the Markham community, particularly those operating at educational institutions in the city. The organisation aims to fulfill both purposes while providing a fun and interactive platform for student achievement, critical thinking, problem-solving and teamwork.

Letter from Our Secretary-General

Greetings delegates, faculty advisors and honoured guests,

I am pleased to invite you to the first iteration of a project long in the making: MarkMUN 2024! On behalf of the Secretariat, Directorate and General Staff, we are thrilled to invite you to our conference's debut this Fall.

Conceptualised in July 2024, I sought to bring together a group of incredible people from the Model UN community in Markham, Ontario. This has been my city since I was born, and I could not be prouder to call it home. At face value, MarkMUN might seem like "just another conference" to the average onlooker. The truth is, this project means so much more than that. This conference has always been about bringing the local community together and celebrating what makes Markham so great while providing a premiere Model UN experience for delegates to partake in. MarkMUN 2024 will provide participants with committees and a community that they won't soon forget.

As a nonprofit organisation, MarkMUN aims to combine the best of Model UN while contributing to a greater cause. Although our conference elapses just a single day, we hope to make it one to remember for everyone involved. With high school staffers from across the city and over 150 delegates in attendance, I am confident that everyone will complete this conference with something to take away. The entire MarkMUN team can promise you that.

If you have questions about anything related to our conference, including deadlines and registration details, please refer to the Conference section of our website. For any other inquiries, feel free to contact me at sg.markmun@gmail.com. My one wish for this conference is to see it grow beyond my expectations. I am confident that the Secretariat team, which has worked tirelessly since this past summer, will continue to deliver a memorable conference experience for years to come. As for 2024, this is our city. And it's our time to deliver.

Good Luck and Godspeed,



Aryan Rajagopal | **Secretary-General**
MarkMUN 2024 | sg.markmun@gmail.com

Contacts

Secretariat

General Inquiries – markham.mun.official@gmail.com

Aryan Rajagopal – Secretary-General, sg.markmun@gmail.com

Luca Rampersad – Director-General, dg.markmun@gmail.com

Preston Lui – USG-Internal, internal.markmun@gmail.com

Mithurjan Prabakaran – USG-External, usgexternalmarkmun@gmail.com

Dylan Dinesh – USG-Academics, academics.markmun@gmail.com

Artus Siu – USG-Academics, academics.markmun@gmail.com

Kaitlyn Ko – USG-Marketing, marketing.markmun@gmail.com

Arjun Rajagopal – USG-Marketing, marketing.markmun@gmail.com

Committees

Artus Siu – Director, WHO - who.markmun@gmail.com

Milena Mofrad – Director, NASA Advisory Council 2030 - nasa.markmun@gmail.com

Rachel Tao – Director, British House of Commons - bhoc.markmun@gmail.com

Ryan Wong – Director, Intergalactic Crisis - intergalactic.markmun@gmail.com

Eric Tian – Director, Dawn of Mount Huaguo - wukong.markmun@gmail.com

Arujan Raveendran – Director, Crack the Enigma - enigma.markmun@gmail.com

Leila Hunter – Director, Ad Hoc - adhoc.markmun@gmail.com

Quick Links

Constitution

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Jbk5NM3lBXfB8J8DcHGm0gLaNFmIwbAA5B5D9g97FwI/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.jyuxgqmzrhvy>

Socials

Website

<https://www.markmun.ca/>

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/markham_mun/

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/markham-model-united-nations/?viewAsMember=true>

Forms

Equity Reporting Form

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfaN34h-Z5kMeNXygo9OAWSG4YeT_ucGchTENFhGWa1Uu1FmQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

Delegate Safety Waiver

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1PIvdbMC2uysralqU4D1_gORe7UIBipFVzd-0wwZ2KuM/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.rto3olqceue

Rules of Procedure

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uSt_LsrfW2oLF166PZJhknUGd77zUwhlZjCeQqusxA/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.9ins4x6sfjuv

Media Release Form¹

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/17boMTbfj4tN-G0Mub25W5vNqqAzLg2gV2vrwymwcuOl/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.kwxf7s932eju>

Policies

Code of Conduct

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1To4tnf4y-sP5zNT8XR2g6kFJ8fsrxt7FRNGOr1aLE8/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.rto3olqceue>

Payment Policy

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lF8vsJVgEjVPySQB-D4ySllOnLjDjPCrzVOa2tSebno/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.kwxf7s932eju>

¹ Not required, but delegates must indicate if they do not wish to have their photo taken on the day of the conference.

Conference Information

Date & Location

Date: Saturday, November 23rd, 2024

Location: 90 Bur Oak Ave, Markham, ON L6C 2E6 (Pierre Elliott Trudeau H.S.)

Itinerary²

Time	Event
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Registration
9:30 am - 10:15 am	Opening Ceremonies
10:15 am - 12:15 am	Committee Session 1
12:15 pm - 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15 pm - 3:15 pm	Committee Session 2
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Break
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Committee Session 3
5:30 pm - 5:45 pm	Break
5:45 pm - 6:45 pm	Committee Session 4
6:45 pm - 8:00 pm	Closing Ceremonies

Wi-Fi

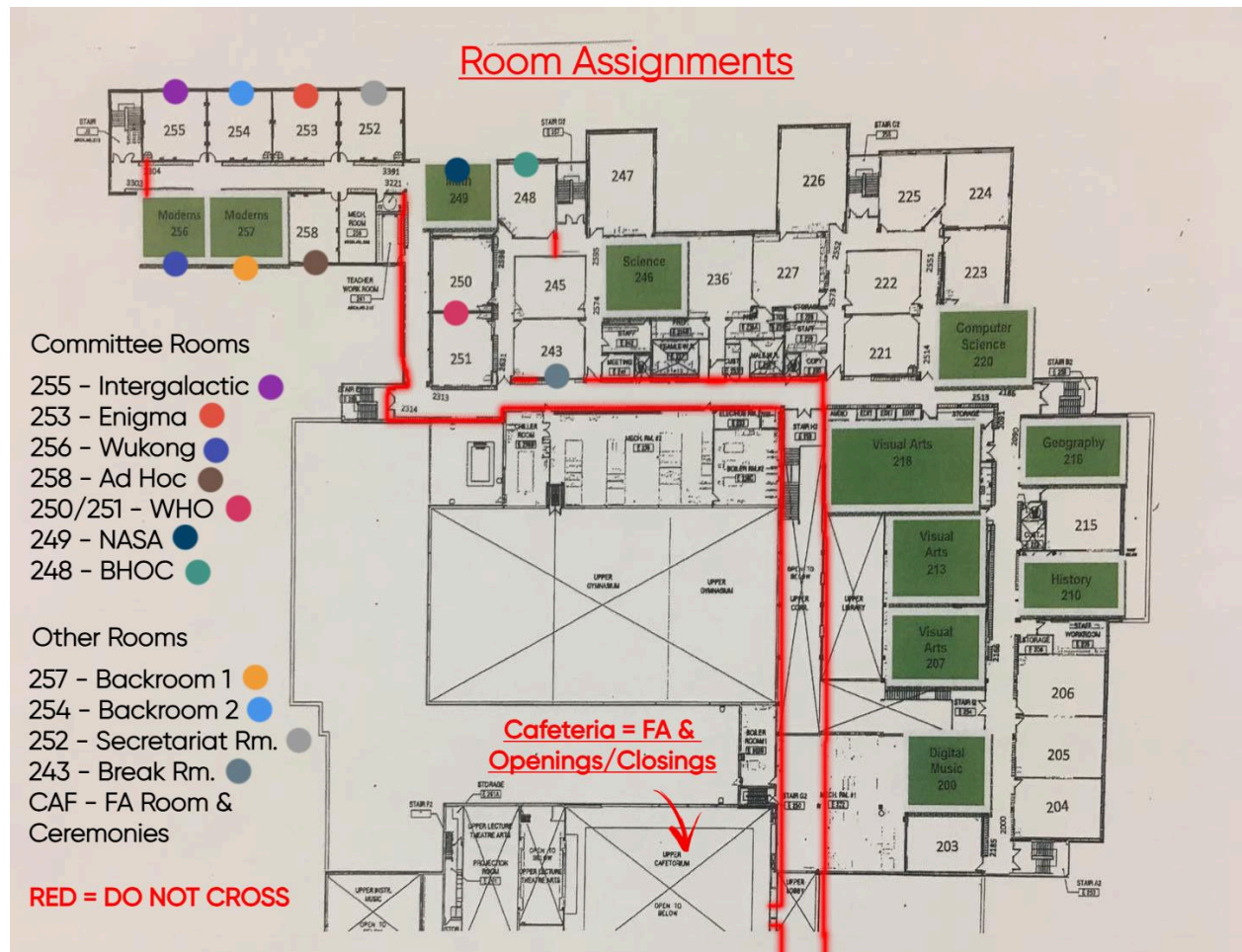
YRDSB-Guest

Username: *guest.316@yrdsb.ca*

Password: 9058842131

² Markham Model United Nations reserves the right to change the conference itinerary as required. Please refer to our website for the most updated version.

Map



Please note that delegates **cannot roam around the building** during the conference. They are required to either remain in their committee room or exit the building through the front entrance during breaks/lunch.

Regarding meals, we highly encourage delegates to either **bring food from home or visit the plaza** on the West side of the school where there are several options to grab lunch from. Considering the time allotted for lunch is one hour, please return to your committee room on time for the second session.

FAQs

Refunds

Refunds for the conference will only be offered for those who register during Early Bird and Regular registration. Those who need a refund will only receive 50% of the amount they paid, regardless of when they signed up. To request a refund, please contact the Secretariat through our conference email (markham.mun.official@gmail.com).

Position Papers

Not required! Delegates do not have to submit a position paper to participate in MarkMUN 2024, to take a bit off of your load and ours!

Technology Policy

MarkMUN is proud to be a tech-friendly conference, and we encourage delegates to bring personal devices for notes and working papers. Delegates will be provided with access to free Wi-Fi on the day of the conference to connect to. Delegates will NOT be provided with personal devices to borrow at the conference. For further details and inquiries, please contact the Secretariat through our conference email (markham.mun.official@gmail.com).

Our conference is strictly AI-free and has a zero-tolerance policy on the use of Artificial Intelligence and Chatbot tools. This includes writing position papers, resolution papers and notes to other delegates and/or the crisis backroom. Delegates who are found to be using AI will be subject to serious consequences at the discretion of the Secretariat, including possible expulsion from the conference.

Awards

At MarkMUN 2024, delegates will have a chance to compete for a variety of individual **awards** that highlight their abilities in speaking, negotiating, teamwork and creativity. Each committee will offer the following awards:

- One **Best Delegate** Award (3 points)
 - Awarded to the delegate who expresses the best overall quality of debate, leadership ability, cooperation and resolution-writing skills in committee
- One **Outstanding Delegate** Award (2 points)
 - Awarded to the delegate who expresses outstanding ability in their speaking and negotiation skills and contributes to resolutions formed in committee
- One/Two **Honourable Mention** Award(s) (1 point)
 - Awarded to the delegate who goes above and beyond expectations in debate and resolution-writing in committee

Dress Code

All delegates are expected to maintain Western Business Attire (WBA) for the duration of the conference. For further details and inquiries, please contact the Secretariat through our conference email (markham.mun.official@gmail.com).

Emergency Procedure

In the case of an emergency, please contact 911 **immediately**. If the emergency is not severe enough to warrant emergency services being contacted, **please use the following resources below:**

Hospitals

Markham-Stouffville Hospital
381 Church St, Markham, ON L3P 7P3
(905) 472-7373

Mental Health Resources

Mind your Mind: <https://mindyourmind.ca/help>

Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 Available 24/7

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Canadian Crisis Hotline: 1 (888) 353-2273

Youthspace.ca (Suicide Prevention, Education, and Support):

Youth Text (6 pm - 12 am PT): (778) 783-0177

Youth Chat (6 pm - 12 am PT): www.youthspace.ca

Slack Etiquette

Delegate Notes

Delegates are permitted to use **direct messaging** to communicate with other delegates, similar to how written notes are used to send messages between delegates at most conferences. The difference is that delegate notes will not be equity screened since direct messages between delegates cannot be checked by our Equity Officers. Thus, the onus to identify and report messages which may violate the MarkMUN Code of Conduct is on delegates.

We know this may seem frightening, which is why our Equity Officers are ready and available during the conference to assist you and hear out your concerns. Our EOs have a direct line of communication with our Secretary-General, the *de facto* Chief of Equity for the conference, who is ready and available at all times to address major equity violations. For further details, please refer to our Code of Conduct (see [Policies](#))

Group Chats

Delegates are permitted to create group chat rooms to congregate with each other and discuss possible blocs/resolution paper ideas. A mandatory requirement for all created group chats is the addition of the committee's Equity Officer and Director to monitor for any possible equity violations. This is a non-negotiable stipulation, and any delegates involved in any group chats that do not have staff added will be considered to have violated this Delegate Handbook and the conference Code of Conduct (see [Policies](#)).

Crisis Notes

Delegates in a crisis committee are permitted to use Slack to send crisis notes to the backroom team. This will take place by directly messaging the committee email and a crisis analyst will reply as promptly as possible. Recognizing that crisis committees can regularly experience backlog, we ask all of our crisis delegates to be patient with responses and only send one note at a time to ensure an equitable experience for all.

Messaging Staff

Delegates should not be communicating with their committee staffers via Slack unless one of the following situations applies:

1. They are in a crisis committee and wish to send **crisis notes**, in which case they should only be messaging the committee email.
2. They wish to report an **equity concern** privately to the Equity Officer that impacts their immediate safety and/or wellbeing
 - a. Any equity concerns that are not **life-threatening health/safety concerns** should first be reported via the anonymous Equity Reporting Form (see [Forms](#))

Charities & Sponsors

Charities

Markham Food Bank



Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/markhamfoodbank/>

Website

<https://markhamfoodbank.ca/>

Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation



Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/supportmsh/>

Website

<https://www.mshf.on.ca/>

Sponsors

Meat & Greet Butchers



Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/butchersmandg/>

Website

<https://www.meatandgreet.ca/>

Braces in Markham



Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/braces.in.markham/>

Website

<https://www.bracesinmarkham.com/>