

Proposed Changes to BCLTA Bylaws

April 7/11

Introduction

Earlier this year, we began the task to revise our BCLTA Policy Manual. As part of this process, we have reviewed the existing Constitution and Bylaws and believe that the Bylaws and the BCLTA would benefit from six changes. These proposed changes will require approval at our April AGM.

1-- Section 19(c):

Annual membership fees are to be adjusted annually by an amount equal to the Canadian Consumer Price Index. However, there is no clear identification of what time period will be used. Since we have used the calendar year so far and since that's sufficiently in advance of our AGM, we suggest the inclusion of the following in 19(c)ii.

The maximum revenue shall be increased annually according to the Canadian Consumer Price Index *measured on a calendar year. (Italicized phrase added.)*

2—There is no notification period for Annual General Meetings. Thus, we suggest the addition to Section 8 of:

Members will be notified of the date, time and place of the AGM at least 30 days prior to the meeting.

3—Section 55(a) states that the Financial Review Committee will include the Executive Director. Since we don't have one, we suggest adding one director to this committee and changing the wording of this section to: ".....which shall be comprised of the secretary-treasurer, *2 members of the Board* and the Executive Director of the Association.

4—Although who can sign cheques and other documents is identified in section 7.9 of our Policy Manual, this is not a legally binding document. Thus, we recommend that we copy this item into our Bylaws to Part 13 from our Policy Manual.

Additionally, Part 8, Borrowing Power, is in the wrong place logically. Item 23 should be moved into Part 13. This will change the numbers of all items after 22. To be added from Policy Manual: *The signing officers will be the Executive Director or Administrative Assistant, and one of the three of the President, Treasurer and one designate Board member.*

5—In the BC Libraries Act, a library board member is automatically removed from a board if he/she misses 3 consecutive board meetings, unless rescinded by the Chair. Reasons for this may be health, travel or other extenuating circumstances. We suggest adding a section 29(c) to deal with this.

A member of the Board will cease to be a member after missing 3 consecutive board meetings. This removal can be rescinded by the President based on circumstances.

6—It is our view that the BCLTA should have a larger board of 11 directors. This should be done for a number of reasons. Without an Executive Director, board members are required to do more work. More directors means spreading the workload. With only 8 members, there is too much committee work for each member. It should also be easier to recruit board directors since they will know that they are 1 of 11 sharing the same workload as previously 8. We should also adopt a minimum board size of 7 directors.

If this change were adopted, it likely would take a few years to get to the maximum of 11 directors.

This requires an additional sentence to section 25. *There shall be a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 11 elected members.*

This requires a change to section 28, first sentence, from 6 Directors to *5 to 9 Directors.*

Also section 45 should reflect this change by removing the number 6.