

**CONSTITUTION  
AND BYLAWS  
OF  
THE BRITISH COLUMBIA  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

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1. The name of the society is British Columbia Medical Association (Canadian Medical Association - B.C. Division), hereinafter referred to as the Association.
2. This society is a member funded society. It is funded primarily by its members to carry on activities for the benefit of its members. On its liquidation or dissolution, this society may distribute its money and other property to its members.
3. The purposes of the Society are:
  - (a) to advance the scientific, educational, professional and economic welfare of all members of the medical profession in British Columbia;
  - (b) to promote the highest quality of health care delivery for the people of British Columbia;
  - (c) to promote the integrity and honour of the medical profession;
  - (d) to serve and further the interests of the Canadian Medical Association in British Columbia;
  - (e) to act as agent or trustee or otherwise for members of the medical profession, or some of them, in connection with pension or retirement savings or disability plans, or other forms of insurance;
  - (f) to act for members of the medical profession, or some of them, as an agent in collective bargaining regarding conditions in which medical services are rendered, remuneration for medical services and similar or related matters;
  - (g) to charge and collect fees, to receive donations, and to expend moneys to defray expenses and to promote and further any of the purposes of the Association;
  - (h) to recognize outstanding contribution and service to the medical profession;
  - (i) to provide financial, advisory or other assistance to individuals or groups having a purpose or purposes similar or beneficial to those of the Association;
  - (j) to collect and preserve archival material and artefacts of the Association, affiliated sections, societies, members and former members of the Association;
  - (k) to perform such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the above purposes and to the welfare of the public and of the medical and allied professions whether within or outside British Columbia.

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**BYLAW 1.**  
**INTERPRETATION**

**1.1 In these Bylaws:**

“Board” means the board of directors of the Association;

“CEO” means the person appointed by the Board to act as the Chief Executive Officer of the Association;

“College” means the College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia as constituted under the Health Professions Act;

“CMA” means the Canadian Medical Association;

“Director” means a member of the Board, elected or appointed pursuant to these Bylaws;

“General Practitioner” means a member of the College who is not a Specialist;

“mailing address” means the address, including email address, from time to time specified by any member by notice in writing to the CEO as the address at which the member wishes to receive all notices, special resolutions, ballots and other correspondence from the Association, which may be different from the member’s registered address;

“Health Professions Act” means the Health Professions Act of the Province of British Columbia as from time to time enacted and all amendments to it and includes any regulations made in pursuance of it;

“Joint Committee” means a committee of the BCMA and another entity such as the Government of British Columbia or the University of British Columbia, who together have a common mandate;

“member” means a member of the Association, unless otherwise specified;

“registered address” when referring to any member means the member’s address as entered on the register maintained by the College under the Health Professions Act, and when referring to the Association means the address of the Association registered with the Registrar of Companies under the Societies Act;

“Rural Subsidiary Agreement or RSA” means any rural subsidiary agreement between the Association and the Government of British Columbia and the Medical Services Commission relating to direct or indirect compensation for medical services or otherwise relating to contracts for medical services provided in rural areas, as defined therein, as amended, restated or replaced from time to time.

“Societies Act” means the Societies Act of the Province of British Columbia as from time to time enacted and all amendments to it and includes any regulations made pursuant of it;

“special resolution” has the meaning set out in the Societies Act;

“special vote” with reference to a resolution or action of the members of a committee, or the Board means a resolution passed by not less than 2/3 of the votes of the members of the committee or the Board, as the case may be, present and voting at a meeting and of which not less than 14 days’ notice specifying the intention to propose the special vote has been given; and

“Specialist” means a member recognized as a specialist by the College.

- 1.2 Except where otherwise provided, the definitions in the Societies Act apply to these Bylaws.
- 1.3 The rules of construction contained in the Interpretation Act of the Province of British Columbia, as from time to time enacted and all amendments to it, shall apply to the interpretation of these Bylaws.
- 1.4 Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa.

**PART A**  
**STRUCTURE**

**BYLAW 2.**  
**MEMBERSHIP**

**2.1 Membership Generally**

The members of the Association are those individuals who are or become and continue to be members in accordance with these Bylaws. Every member of the College is eligible for membership in the Association and may become a member by making application in the approved form and sending it to the CEO at the registered office of the Association, together with the membership fee established, from time to time, in accordance with these Bylaws. Unless otherwise provided, every member shall pay the membership fee established from time to time in accordance with these Bylaws.

**2.2 Good Standing and Rights**

All members are in good standing except:

- (a) a member who becomes a Restricted Member under Bylaw 2.4; and
- (b) a member who has failed to pay his or her membership fee on or before the 31st day of March of the current year or, unless the Board determines otherwise, who has failed to pay any special assessment, levy or debt due and owing by him or her to the Association;

and such member is not in good standing so long as s/he is a Restricted Member, or the fee, special assessment, levy or debt remains unpaid. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, each member in good standing is entitled to one vote and is eligible to hold office; subject to Bylaw 2.4, a member not in good standing is not entitled to vote, hold office, or enjoy any other rights or benefits of membership.

**2.3 Categories of Membership**

The categories of membership in the Association are as follows:

- (a) **Ordinary Members** – Unless otherwise provided for in this Bylaw 2.3, every member is an Ordinary Member and shall pay the annual membership fee established from time to time by the Board. The Board may, from time to time, establish sub-categories of Ordinary Members based on specific criteria that the Board considers relevant and the Board may establish different membership fees for different sub-categories of Ordinary Members provided that the membership fees so established shall be equal to a percentage of the annual membership fee and shall not, in any case, exceed 100% of the annual membership fee. Unless the Board otherwise determines, every Ordinary Member is automatically a member of the CMA and shall pay the annual membership fee established from time to time by the CMA. On the request of any member, the Association will provide the Member with a list of all current membership categories, free of charge.

- (b) **Ordinary Members Who Are Exempt From Membership Fees** – In addition to the categories of Ordinary Members established under paragraph (a) of this Bylaw, there shall be the following categories of Ordinary Members, who shall be exempt from paying membership fees:
- (i) **Honorary Members** – Any person, whether or not a member of the medical profession or of the College, may be nominated as an Honorary Member by any member in good standing of the Association and shall be appointed as an Honorary Member only by unanimous vote of the Board or of the members in Business Session at the Annual General Meeting. No more than two Honorary Members may be appointed in any one year and at no time shall the number of living Honorary Members exceed ten.
  - (ii) **Senior Members** – The Board may designate any Ordinary Member who has been a member in good standing of the Association for the preceding ten consecutive years and who has attained the age of 65 years as a Senior Member.
  - (iii) **Life Members** – The Board may designate any member whom they consider worthy of the honour as a Life Member.
- (c) **Members With Limited Privileges** – Members in the following categories are subject to the limitations set out below:
- (i) **Medical Student Members** – Any medical student enrolled in a Canadian school of medicine may become a Medical Student Member by making application in the approved form and sending it to the CEO at the registered office of the Association, together with the medical student membership fee established from time to time by the Board. A Medical Student Member shall make application to become a Medical Student Member of the CMA. A Medical Student Member shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.
  - (ii) **Non-Resident Members** – Any member in good standing who does not have a registered address in the Province may become a Non-Resident Member by making application in the approved form and sending it to the CEO at the registered office of the Association, together with the non-resident membership fee established from time to time by the Board. Non-Resident Members shall not be entitled to vote or hold office.
  - (iii) **Restricted Members** – A member who becomes a Restricted Member under Bylaw 2.4 shall pay the membership fee that is otherwise applicable, but shall not be entitled to vote or to hold office, and may be subject to such special rights and obligations as the Board may, in each instance, determine.
- (d) **Professionally Inactive Members** – A member who fulfills the criteria determined by the Board from time to time may become a Professionally Inactive Member by making application in the approved form and sending it to the CEO at the registered office of the Association, together with the professionally inactive membership fee established from time to time by the Board. Professionally Inactive Members shall not be entitled to vote on any referendum under Bylaw 17.1(a)(i) or (iii).

## **2.4 Restricted Membership**

- (a) A member:
- (i) who voluntarily surrenders his or her licence with the College for a reason other than retirement;
  - (ii) who is suspended from practice by the College;
  - (iii) whose registration with the College is suspended; or



(iv) whose name is erased from the register maintained by the College;

may on application to and approval of the Board continue as a Restricted Member of the Association for insurance and pension purposes only until the earlier of:

(v) in the case of a member referred to in Bylaw 2.4(a)(i), becoming licensed by the College;

(vi) the final determination of any appeal of the matter resulting in such suspension or erasure referred to in paragraphs (ii), (iii) or (iv) of this Bylaw 2.4(a); or

(vii) the member otherwise ceasing to be a member of the Association in accordance with Bylaw 2.5.

(b) If a restricted Member referred to in Bylaw 2.4(a)(i) has not otherwise ceased to be a member of the Association under Bylaw 2.5 and becomes licensed by the College, that Restricted Member shall be restored to good standing in the category of membership in which s/he was prior to voluntarily surrendering his or her licence.

(c) If an appeal referred to in Bylaw 2.4(a)(vi):

(i) is successful and the Restricted Member who was subject of the appeal has not otherwise ceased to be a member of the Association under Bylaw 2.5, that Restricted Member shall immediately be restored to good standing in the category of membership in which s/he was prior to the suspension; or

(ii) is not successful and the Restricted Member who was subject of the appeal has not otherwise ceased to be a member of the Association under Bylaw 2.5, that Restricted Member shall be expelled pursuant to Bylaw 2.6.

## **2.5 Cessation of Membership**

A person shall cease to be a member of the Association:

(a) on submitting his or her written resignation to the CEO at the registered address of the Association;

(b) on ceasing to have a registered address in British Columbia, unless the member becomes a Non-resident Member pursuant to Bylaw 2.3(c);

(c) on his or her death;

(d) on being expelled pursuant to Bylaw 2.6;

(e) on having been a member not in good standing under Bylaw 2.2(b) for three (3) consecutive months; or

(f) upon being a Restricted Member for two (2) consecutive years, unless the Board otherwise specifically provides by ordinary resolution; and

and every member specifically waives any right or claim to damages in the event of his or her membership ceasing pursuant to paragraph (d), (e) or (f) of this Bylaw.

## **2.6 Expulsion**

(a) **Unsuccessful Appeal** – A Restricted Member the final determination of whose appeal of suspension or erasure under Bylaw 2.4 is unsuccessful shall automatically be expelled from the Association.

- (b) **By the Board** – A member may be expelled from the Association by the Board upon his or her registration with the College being suspended, or his or her name being erased from the register maintained by the College. Such a member shall receive at least 14 days' notice of the meeting of the Board at which expulsion of the member will be considered and shall be given the opportunity to make oral or written submissions to the meeting.

## 2.7 **Pledge**

Every member of the Association, as a condition of membership, agrees to accept, uphold and be governed by the Bylaws of the Association in force from time to time and the Code of Ethics.

## 2.8 **No Distribution of Income to Members**

The Society is not entitled to declare or pay any dividend or make any other distribution of any of its income, property or assets to any member (except on receipt of full and valuable consideration) and in the event of the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Society, none of the income, assets or property of the Society may be paid or distributed to any member and, after all debts of the Society have been paid or provision for their payment has been made, the income, property and assets remaining shall be paid or transferred to such non-profit organization(s) and/or registered charity(ie) (both as defined in the Income Tax Act (Canada)) as the members of the Society may determine by special resolution. This section was previously unalterable.

### **BYLAW 3.** **AFFILIATIONS**

## 3.1 **CMA**

- (a) **Affiliation** – The Association is the Division of the CMA representing the medical profession of the Province of British Columbia.
- (b) **Representation on CMA Board of Directors** – The Board shall nominate delegates (“CMA Delegates”) for election to the CMA board of directors according to the Bylaws of the CMA from time to time in effect. The CMA Delegates shall receive instructions from and report to the Board regarding all matters concerning the Association and the CMA.
- (c) **Representation on CMA General Council** – The Board shall elect Divisional Representatives to represent the Association on the CMA General Council, according to the Bylaws of the CMA from time to time in effect.
- (d) **Code of Ethics** – The Code of Ethics adopted from time to time by the CMA shall be the Code of Ethics of the Association.

## 3.2 **Affiliated and Associated Societies**

- (a) **Affiliated Medical Society** – An Affiliated Medical Society shall be a society validly incorporated and in good standing under the Societies Act representing legally qualified practitioners of medicine in a defined geographical area in British Columbia, or the equivalent in the Yukon Territory, that has made written application to the Board for affiliation and has been recognized, by the Board, as an Affiliated Medical Society.
- (b) **Associated Society** – An Associated Society shall be a medical or paramedical society validly incorporated and in good standing under the Societies Act that has made written application to the Board for association and has been recognized, by the Board, as an Associated Society.
- (c) **Requirement to File Information** – Every Affiliated Medical Society and every Associated Society shall file a current and accurate copy of its:

- (i) Constitution and Bylaws;
- (ii) membership list; and
- (iii) list of directors and officers or representatives;

with the CEO on an annual basis and within 30 days of a written request of the CEO, and any Affiliated Medical Society or Associated Society that fails to do so or fails to respond within 30 days to a written request of the CEO to do so may have its recognition as an Affiliated Medical Society or Associated Society, as the case may be, revoked by the Board.

- (d) **Information and Assistance** – An Affiliated Medical Society and an Associated Society may, through the CEO:
  - (i) forward information or inquiries to the Board or to any committee; and
  - (ii) request financial, advisory or other assistance from the Association or any committee regarding any matter coming within the purposes of the Association and the Affiliated Medical Society or the Associated Society, but any financial assistance may be given only if first approved by the Board.
- (e) **No Claim or Liability** – The Association shall not have any claim against the assets of or in any way be liable or responsible for the liabilities of any Affiliated Medical Society or any Associated Society and no Affiliated Medical Society or Associated Society shall have any claim against the assets of or in any way be liable or responsible for the liabilities of the Association.

#### **BYLAW 4. SECTIONS**

##### **4.1 Recognition**

- (a) A Section may be established to represent the interests of physicians who:
  - (i) belong to a particular branch of the practice of medicine; or
  - (ii) have a common economic interest; or
  - (iii) belong to any other group that may be recognized by the Board;
 by submitting an application to the Board and recognition of a new Section shall be by ordinary resolution of the Board on the recommendation of the Representative Assembly.
- (b) Written application for recognition by the Association as a Section shall be made by no fewer than twelve members and the application, with such information as required, shall be presented to the Board not less than two months before the scheduled meeting of the Representative Assembly at which the application will be considered.
- (c) All members of a Section must be members in good standing of the Association.

##### **4.2 Revocation of Recognition**

A Section's recognition shall be revoked by an ordinary resolution of the Board after consultation with the Representative Assembly.

##### **4.3 Duties**

The duties of a Section shall include:

- (a) submit its Constitution and Bylaws or rules and regulations governing its affairs, and any amendments thereto, to the CEO, for approval by the Board;
- (b) maintain a current and accurate copy of its Constitution and Bylaws or rules and regulations on file with the Association, and files its membership list and list of directors and officers or representatives with the Association on an annual basis and within 30 days of a written request by the CEO;
- (c) discuss matters relating to its interests and make recommendations to the Representative Assembly, the Board, Association committee(s), or other societies for consideration;
- (d) keep accurate and current records of the business of the Section;
- (e) deal with any matters referred to it by the Representative Assembly or the Board;
- (f) provide the Association with a current list of directors and officers;
- (g) on request, provide the Association with copies of minutes of its meetings; and
- (h) respond in writing within 30 days to any inquiry of the Board or the Representative Assembly;

#### **4.4 No Claim or Liability**

The Association shall not have any claim against the assets of or in any way be liable or responsible for the liabilities of any Section and no Section shall have any claim against the assets of or be in any way liable or responsible for the liabilities of the Association.

### **BYLAW 5. SOCIETY OF SPECIALIST PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS AND SOCIETY OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS**

#### **5.1 Specialists of BC**

The Society of Specialist Physicians and Surgeons of BC (“Specialists of BC”) shall be a society validly incorporated and in good standing under the Societies Act and recognized by the Board, pursuant to this Bylaw 5, as representing the members of the Association who are members of the speciality Sections of the Association.

#### **5.2 Society of General Practitioners**

The Society of General Practitioners of British Columbia (“Society of General Practitioners”) shall be a society validly incorporated and in good standing under the Societies Act and recognized, pursuant to this Bylaw 5, by the Board as representing the members of the Association who are members of the Section of General Practice of the Association.

#### **5.3 Recognition**

The Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners shall be recognized by the Board on making written application and otherwise complying with this Bylaw 5 and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, each shall file:

- (a) its respective initial Constitution and Bylaws and any amendments thereto with the CEO for the approval of the Board; and
- (b) on an annual basis and within 30 days of a written request of the CEO:

- (i) a current and accurate copy of its respective Constitution and Bylaws, membership list, list of directors and officers and list of representatives and alternate representatives on the Board and on any committee of the Association; and
- (ii) evidence of its valid incorporation and good standing under the Societies Act;

and shall respond in writing within thirty days to any inquiry of the Board, the Representative Assembly or any committee of the Association.

#### **5.4 Suspension of Rights and Revocation of Recognition**

The Board may on one month's written notice:

- (a) suspend the rights established by Bylaw 5.5 of the Specialists of BC or the Society of General Practitioners, as the case may be, if that Society fails to comply with Bylaw 5.3; and
- (b) revoke the recognition of the Specialists of BC, or the Society of General Practitioners, as the case may be, if:
  - (i) the membership of the Specialists of BC is less than 50% of the members of the Association who are members of the specialty Sections of the Association; or
  - (ii) the membership of the Society of General Practitioners is less than 50% of the members of the Association who are members of the Section of General Practice of the Association;

and the representatives on the Review Committee and the Negotiating Committee, as provided for in Bylaw 5.5, of the Society whose rights have been suspended or whose recognition has been revoked shall immediately cease to hold office and may be replaced by any member appointed by the Board.

#### **5.5 Right to Nominate and Appoint Representatives**

- (a) **To the Review Committee** – The Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners each shall have the right, as specified in Bylaw 11.10(g), to appoint voting members in good standing as representatives and alternate representatives to the Review Committee. The Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners shall each notify the CEO of its representatives and alternate representatives for the Review Committee, as required by the Board.
- (b) **To the Negotiating Committee** – The Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners each shall have the right, as specified in Bylaw 11.10(e), to nominate voting members in good standing as members of the Negotiating Committee and each shall notify the CEO of its nominees prior to the adjournment or conclusion of the Annual General Meeting each year.

#### **5.6 No Claim or Liability**

The Association shall not have any claim against the assets of or in any way be liable or responsible for the liabilities of the Specialists of BC or the Society of General Practitioners and the Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners shall have no claim against the assets of or in any way be liable or responsible for the liabilities of the Association.

**BYLAW 6.**  
**DISTRICTS**

**6.1 Districts**

- (a) The Province shall be divided into 10 Districts.
- (b) The District boundaries for Districts 1 to 10 shall be shown on the reference map of Districts adopted by the Board on the date this Bylaw becomes effective. The reference map of Districts may subsequently be amended as to boundaries or number of Districts or both by ordinary resolution of the Board.

**BYLAW 7.**  
**OFFICERS**

**7.1 Officers**

The Officers of the Association shall consist of:

- (a) the President;
- (b) the President-Elect; and
- (c) the Immediate Past President.

**7.2 Duties of Officers**

- (a) The President shall:
  - (i) be a Board Director;
  - (ii) be a voting member of any committee where he or she is appointed as a full member of the committee in accordance with the Bylaws;
  - (iii) be an ex officio non-voting member of all Association committees where he or she is not a full member of the committee;
  - (iv) enforce the due observance of the Constitution and Bylaws;
  - (v) represent or appoint an alternate to represent the Association in all its official contacts with other medical, scientific, sociological or other bodies;
  - (vi) be the official spokesperson of the Association; and
  - (vii) perform other such duties as usually pertain to the office of President.
- (b) The President-Elect shall:
  - (i) be a Board Director;
  - (ii) be a voting member of any Association committee where he or she is appointed as a full member of the committee in accordance with the Bylaws;
  - (iii) be an ex officio non-voting member of all Association committees where he or she is not a full member of the committee;
  - (iv) assist the President in the performance of the President's duties;
  - (v) in the absence of or at the request of the President, perform any or all of the duties and functions of the President; and

- (vi) if the office of President becomes vacant for any reason, serve as Acting President for the remainder of the President's term.
- (c) The Immediate Past-President shall:
  - (i) be a member of the Representative Assembly and other committees as specified in these Bylaws.

### **7.3 Officer Election and Term of Office**

The President-Elect shall be a member in good standing of the Association elected annually by the members in accordance with these Bylaws and election policies as approved by the Board from time to time. The President-Elect will serve as President upon completion of the term of office as President-Elect and will serve as Immediate Past President upon completion of the term of office as President. The term of office for an elected Officer is one year. Each office is relinquished or assumed at the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

### **7.4 Removal of Officers**

An Officer may be removed by special resolution of the voting members in good standing in accordance with Bylaw 12.4.

## **BYLAW 8. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **8.1 Management of Affairs of Association**

Subject to the Societies Act and the Constitution and Bylaws, the activities and internal affairs of the Association shall be managed by the Board of Directors which may delegate any of its powers and duties to a committee, a member, or the CEO for a designated purpose.

### **8.2 Composition of Board**

- (a) The Board shall be composed of the President, President-Elect and 7 Directors at Large.
- (b) At least three Directors at Large will be General Practitioners and at least three will be Specialists;
- (c) One Director at Large will be elected annually and if the incoming President is a Specialist, this Director shall be a General Practitioner and if the incoming President is a General Practitioner, this Director shall be a Specialist; and
- (d) No member may be a Director and a voting member of the Representative Assembly concurrently.

### **8.3 Election and Term**

- (a) Directors, other than Officers, shall be members in good standing of the Association elected by the Representative Assembly from amongst candidates nominated by and from the membership and, subject to bylaws 8.2(c) and 8.3(b), shall hold a term of two years.
- (b) Terms for Directors at Large shall be arranged in order to accommodate term limits and so that approximately no more than four Directors at Large end their terms in a given year.
- (c) Each Director at Large office is relinquished or assumed at the conclusion of an Annual General Meeting.

#### **8.4 Term Limits**

No member shall serve as a Director more than 6 years within a 10 year period.

#### **8.5 Extension of Term Limit for Officers**

Notwithstanding Bylaw 8.4, the term limit of a Director who is elected as President-Elect shall be extended or suspended until such person ceases to hold the office of Immediate Past President.

#### **8.6 Chair and Vice Chair of Board**

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Board shall be appointed annually by and from the Board, and shall be entitled to vote on all matters before the Board. The Chair shall not be entitled to an extra vote in the event of a tie.

#### **8.7 Remuneration**

Directors shall be remunerated for acting in their capacity as Director as determined by ordinary resolution of the Representative Assembly and may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses necessarily incurred while engaged in the business of the Association.

#### **8.8 Meetings**

The Board shall meet at the call of the Chair, at least four times per year and at such other times as the Chair deems advisable.

#### **8.9 Observers**

Any member who has notified the Chair in advance may attend the meeting as an observer. The Chair may, at any time, determine that all or a portion of a meeting shall be closed to observers.

#### **8.10 Liability of Directors and Other Officials**

Subject to the Societies Act, the members shall not hold Directors, Officers, Representative Assembly Delegates or the CEO or any other member acting on their behalf individually or collectively liable for decisions/actions taken in good faith on behalf of the Association.

#### **8.11 Responsibilities of the Board**

##### **(a) Deal with Funds**

The Board shall deal with the funds of the Association as follows:

- (i) funds for the purposes of the Association shall be raised and administered, except where otherwise specifically provided in this Bylaw 8, in such manner as may be determined by the Board, and the Board may, by special vote, establish special levies or assessments of the members for such purposes as the Board deems appropriate;
- (ii) the Board shall administer the funds of the Association in consultation with the Audit and Finance Committee and shall be limited to current revenue or to such anticipated revenue as appears to the Board and the Audit and Finance Committee to be justified;
- (iii) the Board from time to time may, and upon ordinary resolution of the members shall, designate for a specific purpose any portion of the funds of the Association, which shall be known as Reserve Funds. If Reserve Funds are designated by the members, none of such Reserve Funds may be spent for any other specified purpose unless approved by the members. If Reserve Funds are designated by the Board, none of such Reserve



Funds may be spent for any other specified purpose unless approved by the Board. Reserve Funds may be invested according to paragraph (b) of this Bylaw;

- (iv) the Board may utilize accumulated surplus funds, other than Reserve Funds, with the unanimous consent of the Audit and Finance Committee or with the consent of the members given by ordinary resolution.

(b) **Invest**

The Board may invest the funds of the Association, including Reserve Funds, only in securities in which an insurance company governed by the Insurance Companies Act (Canada) is permitted to invest; provided that the Board may invest no more than 50% of Reserve Funds in Canadian mutual funds.

(c) **Make Regulations**

The Board from time to time may make regulations not contrary to law or to the Constitution and Bylaws to regulate the conduct of the affairs of the Association in all particulars, and may repeal or amend the same.

(d) **Borrow**

Subject to the Societies Act and the prior approval of the members expressed by ordinary resolution, the Board may, from time to time:

- (i) borrow money in such manner and amount and on such security and from such sources and upon such terms and conditions as the Board thinks fit;
- (ii) issue bonds and other debt obligations either outright or as security for any liability or obligation of the Association;
- (iii) mortgage, charge, whether by way of floating or specific charge, or give any security on the whole or any part of the property and assets of the Association (both present and future); and
- (iv) issue debentures subject to the provisions of the Societies Act.

**BYLAW 9.**  
**SENIOR MANAGERS**

**9.1 Appointment of Chief Executive Officer**

The Board shall appoint a Chief Executive Officer of the Association to manage the activities and internal affairs of the Association.

**9.2 Chief Executive Officer**

Without the limiting the generality of Bylaw 9.1, the Chief Executive Officer shall:

- (a) be the chief administrative officer of the Association and as such supervise and manage the administration of Association affairs;
- (b) be responsible to the Board for the administration of Association policies;
- (c) arrange and manage all transactions and services to be rendered on behalf of the Association through its financial institutions as directed by the Board;
- (d) assume such duties as described in these Bylaws and those as may be assigned by the Board from time to time;

- (e) be responsible for the preparation and custody of all the correspondence, minutes, resolutions, books and records of the Association; and
- (f) regularly report to and advise the Board on all matters relevant to the affairs of the Association.

**BYLAW 10.**  
**REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**10.1 Mandate**

The Representative Assembly shall represent members' interests, provide a forum for members to discuss issues of importance to the profession and provide guidance to the Board.

**10.2 Responsibilities**

The Representative Assembly shall have the power and authority to act for and on behalf of members as it considers proper. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, the Representative Assembly shall:

- (a) elect Directors at Large of the Board from amongst candidates nominated by and from the membership;
- (b) monitor Board performance;
- (c) have the power to remove a Director at Large from the Board by special resolution;
- (d) elect the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Representative Assembly from amongst candidates nominated by and from the membership;
- (e) elect Members-at-Large of the Nominating Committee and the Governance Committee from amongst candidates nominated by and from the membership;
- (f) make recommendation on policy and other broad objectives to the Board, including negotiations;
- (g) review and approve sending Bylaw amendment proposals from members to referendum in accordance with Bylaw 16; and
- (h) consider recommendations from the Board.

**10.3 Composition**

Subject to Bylaw 10.4, the Representative Assembly shall be composed of:

- (a) Voting Delegates
  - (i) twenty District Delegates, with two from each District, one of whom shall be a Specialist and one of whom shall be a General Practitioner;
  - (ii) with the exception of the Section of General Practice, one Delegate from each Section on the List of Sections adopted by the Board on the date this Bylaw becomes effective. The List of Sections may subsequently be amended in accordance with Bylaw 4;
  - (iii) 33 Section of General Practice Delegates;
  - (iv) two Delegates who provide services to the First Nations Health Authority, one of whom shall be a Specialist and one of whom shall be a General Practitioner;

- (v) four Rural Delegates providing services in a rural community within the scope of the Rural Subsidiary Agreement, two of whom shall be Specialists and two of whom shall be General Practitioners;
  - (vi) one Specialist of BC Delegate;
  - (vii) one Society of General Practice Delegate;
  - (viii) one Medical Undergraduate Society Delegate;
  - (ix) one Resident Doctors of BC Delegate;
  - (x) one CMA Delegate; and
  - (xi) the Immediate Past President.
- (b) Non-Voting Delegates
- (i) the Speaker;
  - (ii) the Deputy Speaker;
  - (iii) the President and President-Elect; and
  - (iv) the Directors at Large.

and all Delegates of the Representative Assembly shall be members in good standing of the Association.

#### **10.4 Alteration of Representative Assembly Composition**

The number and allocation of seats at the RA can be altered by:

- (a) special resolution of the Representative Assembly ratified by the Board; or
- (b) in accordance with Bylaw 10.3(a)(ii); or
- (c) in accordance with a change in the number of Districts pursuant to Bylaw 6.1(b).

#### **10.5 Elections, Appointments and Terms**

- (a) District Delegates shall be nominated and elected by the members registered in the District and shall hold a term of three years.
- (b) Section Delegates shall be appointed by their respective Section and shall hold a term of three years.
- (c) Rural Delegates shall be nominated and elected by physicians practicing in communities within the scope of the Rural Subsidiary Agreement and shall hold a term of three years.
- (d) First Nations Delegates shall be nominated and elected by members practicing in the First Nations Health Authority and shall hold a term of three years.
- (e) The Society of Specialist Delegate shall be appointed by the Specialists of BC and shall hold a term of one year.
- (f) The Society of General Practice Delegate shall be appointed by the Society of General Practice and shall hold a term of one year.
- (g) The Medical Undergraduate Society Delegate shall be appointed by the Medical Undergraduate Society and shall hold a term of one year.

- (h) The Resident Doctors of BC Delegate shall be appointed by the Resident Doctors of BC and shall hold a term of one year.
- (i) The CMA Delegate shall be chosen by the BC CMA Divisional Delegates and shall hold a term of one year.

and each position is relinquished or assumed at the conclusion of an Annual General Meeting.

#### **10.6 Principles for Appointment of Section of General Practice Delegates**

The Section of General Practice Delegates shall be appointed in accordance with the following:

- (a) representation shall be maintained from all geographical areas of the Province;
- (b) physicians within their early years of practice shall be recognized; and
- (c) the diversity of practice focus and styles shall be recognized.

#### **10.7 Term Limits**

No member shall serve as a voting Delegate on the Representative Assembly more than 6 years within a 10 year period.

#### **10.8 Extension of Term Limit**

Notwithstanding Bylaw 10.7, the term limit of a voting Delegate of the Representative Assembly shall be extended or suspended for a period equal to the time served as a Medical Undergraduate Society Delegate, Resident Doctors of BC Delegate or Immediate Past President.

#### **10.9 Speaker and Deputy Speaker**

The Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Representative Assembly may serve two consecutive three year terms, and shall not be entitled to vote on matters before the Representative Assembly.

#### **10.10 Extension of Term Limit for Deputy Speaker**

Notwithstanding Bylaw 10.9, the term limit of a Deputy Speaker who is elected as Speaker shall be extended until such person ceases to hold the office of Speaker.

#### **10.11 Role of Speaker and Deputy Speaker**

The Speaker shall preside over all meetings of the Representative Assembly. The Deputy Speaker shall carry out the duties of the Speaker in the absence of or at the request of the Speaker.

#### **10.12 Remuneration**

Representative Assembly Delegates, including the Speaker and Deputy Speaker, shall be remunerated for acting in their capacity as a Representative Assembly Delegate as determined by ordinary resolution of the membership at the Annual General meeting and may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses necessarily incurred while engaged in the business of the Representative Assembly.

#### **10.13 Meetings**

The Representative Assembly shall meet at the call of the Speaker, at least three times per year and at such other times as the Board deems advisable.

#### **10.14 Observers**

Any Association member who has notified the Speaker in advance may attend the meeting as an observer. The Speaker may, at any time, determine that all or a portion of a meeting shall be closed to observers.

### **BYLAW 11.** **COMMITTEES**

#### **11.1 Creation and Delegation to Committees**

- (a) The Board may create such Standing and Ad Hoc committees, working groups or task forces as may from time to time be required. Any such committee will limit its activities to the purpose or purposes for which it is appointed and will have no powers except those specifically conferred by a Board Resolution.
- (b) The Board may delegate any, but not all, of its powers to committees which may be in whole or in part composed of Directors as it thinks fit.

#### **11.2 Ad Hoc Committees**

- (a) An Ad Hoc committee must be created for a specified time period only.
- (b) An Ad Hoc committee will automatically be dissolved upon the earlier of the following:
  - (i) the completion of the specified time period; or
  - (ii) the completion of the task for which it was created.

#### **11.3 Terms of Reference and Rules**

In the event the Board decides to create a committee, it must establish Terms of Reference for such committee. A committee, in the exercise of the powers delegated to it, will conform to any rules that may from time to time be imposed by the Board in the Terms of Reference or otherwise, and will report every act or thing done in exercise of those powers to the Board at such times as the Board may determine.

#### **11.4 Dissolution of Committee**

The Board may dissolve any Standing or Ad Hoc Committee.

#### **11.5 Committee Members**

The Board shall appoint members in good standing to the following types of committees in accordance with these Bylaws and policy of the Board as determined from time to time:

- (a) Statutory Committees;
- (b) Standing Committees;
- (c) Ad Hoc Committees;
- (d) Joint Committees; and
- (e) External Committees.

#### **11.6 Vacancies**

Unless otherwise specifically provided in these Bylaws, a vacancy in a committee position created during an appointment term shall be filled at the discretion of the Board.

### **11.7 Removal of Committee Members**

Any committee member appointed by the Board may be removed by the Board.

### **11.8 Remuneration**

Committee members may be remunerated for acting in their capacity as a committee member as determined by ordinary resolution of the Board and may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses necessarily incurred while engaged in the business of the committee.

### **11.9 No Liability When Acting in Good Faith**

Subject to the Societies Act, the members shall not hold the any committee members individually or collectively liable for decisions and/or actions taken in good faith on behalf of the Association, including, without limitation, in the discharge of their duties as committee members.

### **11.10 Statutory Committees**

The Statutory Committees, their composition and duties shall be as follows:

#### **(a) Audit and Finance Committee**

- (i) The Audit and Finance Committee shall consist of:
  - A. the President-Elect,
  - B. two Directors elected by the Directors at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year,
  - C. three Members-at-Large elected at the Annual General Meeting each year, and
  - D. an individual who is not a member of the Association and is a financial expert who has expertise in accounting or related financial management.
- (ii) The Committee members referred to in sub-clauses A. to C., inclusive, above, shall be financially literate or shall become financially literate within a reasonable time after becoming members of the Committee.
- (iii) The Directors shall appoint the Chair of the Committee from among the Committee members at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year.
- (iv) The Audit and Finance Committee shall advise the Board on issues related to financial reporting, information systems, risk management and internal controls of the Association, including the management of programs run or funded jointly by the Association and other third parties, including the provincial government or its agencies.
- (v) The Audit and Finance Committee has the authority to conduct any investigation related to the fulfillment of its duties and shall report to the Directors on the results of any such investigation.
- (vi) The Audit and Finance Committee shall have direct access to the external auditors and the senior staff of the Association.

#### **(b) Nominating Committee**

- (i) The Nominating Committee shall consist of:
  - A. the Immediate Past President,

- B. the President-Elect,
  - C. three Members-at-Large appointed by the Representative Assembly,
  - D. two Directors who are not Officers and who the Directors have elected at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year.
- (ii) The Directors shall appoint a Committee member as Chair of the Committee at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year.
  - (iii) The Nominating Committee shall:
    - A. oversee nominations for all positions to be elected by the members,
    - B. ensure that there are at least three voting members nominated for the three positions of Member-at-Large of the Audit and Finance Committee to be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting,
    - C. make recommendations to the Board regarding appointees for committees the members of which are elected or appointed by the Board,
    - D. advise the Board on issues related to nominations and related matters,
    - E. report at each Annual General Meeting at the Business Session.
- (c) **Governance Committee**
- (i) The Governance Committee shall consist of:
    - A. the President,
    - B. the Immediate Past President,
    - C. two Members-at-Large appointed by the Representative Assembly,
    - D. two Directors who the Directors have elected at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year, and
    - E. the Chair of the Board.
  - (ii) The Directors shall appoint a Committee member as Chair of the Committee at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year.
  - (iii) The Governance Committee shall:
    - A. review and advise the Board on governance practice and policy,
    - B. develop governance structures, policies, practices and standards for consideration of the Board that promote and enhance effective Board and Association functioning,
    - C. advise the Board on issues related to elections,
    - D. oversee Board orientation, education and evaluation,
    - E. oversee evaluation of all committees members,
    - F. supervise extraordinary governance reviews, and
    - G. report at each Annual General Meeting at the Business Session.
    - H.

(d) **Human Resources and Compensation Committee**

- (i) The Human Resources and Compensation Committee shall consist of:
- A. the President,
  - B. the President-Elect,
  - C. the Immediate Past President,
  - D. the Chair of the Audit and Finance Committee,
  - E. the Chair of the Board; and
  - F. two Directors who have been elected by the Directors at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting each year.

The President is the Chair of the Committee but may appoint another member of the Committee to act as Chair.

- (ii) The Human Resources and Compensation Committee shall advise the Board on human resources and compensation issues affecting the Association. Without limiting the generality of the preceding sentence, the Human Resources and Compensation Committee also shall:
- A. conduct an annual performance assessment of the CEO and report to the Board; and
  - B. review and make recommendations to the Board regarding remuneration and benefits for senior staff members.

(e) **Negotiating Committee**

- (i) The Negotiating Committee shall consist of:
- A. one member in good standing who shall be appointed by the Board from a list of at least three members in good standing nominated by the Specialists of BC, at least one of whom is practicing in a community within the scope of the Rural Subsidiary Agreement;
  - B. one member in good standing who shall be appointed by the Board from a list of at least three members in good standing nominated by the Society of General Practitioners, at least one of whom is practicing in a community within the scope of the Rural Subsidiary Agreement;
  - C. three members in good standing who shall be appointed by the Board, consisting of one Specialist, one General Practitioner and one member who has experience with compensation for medical services on a sessional, service contract or salary basis; and
  - D. the senior staff person of the Association responsible for negotiations, whom shall not be entitled to vote and who, unless the Board resolves otherwise, shall act as the principal spokesperson of the Negotiating Committee in all negotiations undertaken by the Negotiating Committee.



- (ii) If the Specialists of BC or the Society of General Practitioners does not provide a list of three nominees in accordance with Bylaw 11.10(e)(i)(A) or (B), as the case may be, then the Board may appoint any member in good standing to the Negotiating Committee in lieu of the appointee that would otherwise have been drawn from a list submitted by that Society.
  - (iii) The Board shall appoint one of the members of the Negotiating Committee as Chair, who shall have the same voting rights as the other members of the Negotiating Committee and, in the event of an equality of votes, shall not have a second or casting vote.
  - (iv) A member of the Negotiating Committee may be removed by the Board, and his or her replacement appointed by the Board, subject to the following:
    - A. if the member so removed was appointed in accordance with Bylaw 11.10(e)(i)(A) or (B), then the replacement member will be chosen from a new list of three nominees provided under Bylaw 11.10(e)(i)(A) or (B), as the case may be, so long as the relevant Society has not had its rights suspended under Bylaw 5.4(a) or its recognition revoked under Bylaw 5.4(b); and
    - B. if the member so removed was a Specialist, General Practitioner, or a member who had experience with compensation for medical services on a sessional, service contract or salary basis and was appointed under Bylaw 11.10(e)(i)(C), then the replacement member shall also be a Specialist, General Practitioner or a member who has experience with compensation for medical services on a sessional, service contract or salary basis, as the case may be.
  - (v) Subject to the Board establishing one or more other negotiating committees under paragraph (vii) of Bylaw 11.10(e), the Negotiating Committee shall, from time to time and at the request of the Board, establish its terms of reference for the approval of the Board.
  - (vi) Appointments to the Negotiating Committee shall be for a term of 3 years or for a period that will allow the conclusion of the pending negotiations, whichever period is shorter.
  - (vii) Without limiting any of the powers of the Board under these Bylaws to establish committees, the Board may establish such other negotiating committees, appoint the members of any such committees, set and amend their terms of reference and discontinue any such committees, all as the Board considers appropriate from time to time.
- (f) **Tariff Committee**
- (i) The Board shall appoint all members of the Tariff Committee no later than at the second meeting of the Board following the adjournment or conclusion of the Annual General Meeting in any year.
  - (ii) The Tariff Committee shall, in accordance with regulations established by the Board from time to time pursuant to its power under Bylaw 8.11(c):
    - A. review all written proposals it receives from Sections regarding new fee items, and modifications to existing fee items, the technical component of fees and existing relative values;
    - B. make recommendations on such proposals to the Board, including, where the Tariff Committee considers appropriate, interim relative values, temporary relative values,

professional fees and fees for cost recovery; and identify the net financial impact of such proposals and recommend a source of funds if necessary; and

C. act in an advisory capacity to the Board on other issues, as requested.

(g) **Review Committee**

(i) Subject to paragraph (ii) of this Bylaw 11.10(g), the Review Committee shall consist of:

A. two members who shall be appointed by the Board, consisting of one member of the Specialists of BC and one member of the Society of General Practitioners;

B. one member who shall be appointed by the Society of General Practitioners;

C. one member who shall be appointed by the Specialists of BC; and

D. a non-physician Chair who shall be appointed each year pursuant to paragraph (ii) below;

each of whom shall have a term of one year and may be reappointed, and shall additionally include, for each case that comes before it,

E. one member, who shall not be entitled to vote, who shall be appointed by the Section whose case has been referred to the Committee, but if there is any disagreement or dispute about which Section should make the appointment under this paragraph the Board may designate the Section and if the designated Section does not appoint a member, the Board shall make the appointment; and

F. one member, who shall not be entitled to vote, who shall be appointed by a Section that the Board has designated from among the Sections that are adverse in interest to the Section whose case has been referred to the committee, if the Board determines that there is a Section that is adverse in interest. If a designated Section does not appoint a member, the Board may make the appointment from among any Section that is adverse in interest to the Section whose case has been referred to the Committee, if there is a Section that is adverse in interest; or

G. one member, who shall not be entitled to vote, who the Board may appoint, if the Board determines no member will be appointed under clause F.

(ii) No member who is a Director or member of the Tariff Committee may also be a member of the Review Committee. A Director or member of the Tariff Committee who accepts an appointment to the Review Committee must first resign as a Director or Tariff Committee member, and if s/he fails to resign, is deemed to have resigned upon accepting an appointment to the Review Committee.

(iii) The Board shall maintain a list of at least three independent non-medical persons for the purpose of making appointments pursuant to this paragraph. The Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners shall appoint the first Chair of the Committee from the list. If the incumbent Chair is not reappointed by agreement among the Board, Specialists of BC and Society of General Practitioners, or if the Chair declines reappointment, resigns or is otherwise unable or unwilling to act, the Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners shall appoint the Chair of the Committee from the list. If the Society of General Practitioners and the Specialists of BC cannot agree on a Chair within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the list from the Board, the Committee may by unanimous resolution request the Board to select a Chair from the list, or if the Committee does not pass such a resolution or if none of the people on the list are willing

or able to act as Chair, any of the Society of General Practitioners, the Specialists of BC or the Board may apply to the Supreme Court of British Columbia, pursuant to the Commercial Arbitration Act, for the appointment of the Chair from the list, or if none of the people on the list are willing or able to act as Chair, for the appointment of an independent non-medical person as Chair.

- (iv) Any Section may refer any decision of the Board regarding any recommendation of the Tariff Committee to the Review Committee for review within one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of distribution of the decision.
- (v) The Review Committee shall in accordance with paragraph (vi), make a decision on a reference it receives under this Bylaw 11.10(g) within a reasonable time and shall put its decision in writing. Every decision of the Review Committee is final and binding on every member, the Specialists of BC, the Society of General Practitioners, every Section and the Board.
- (vi) All determinations of the Review Committee shall be made by unanimous vote of the members of the Review Committee, including the Chair. If the members of the Review Committee, including the Chair, are unable to render a unanimous determination, the determination of the Chair shall be the determination of the Review Committee for all purposes.
- (vii) The Review Committee shall establish, and may amend from time to time, its terms of reference or rules of procedure, subject to the following:
  - A. The Review Committee shall only consider matters where a manifest or over-riding error can be shown in the decision referred to it or in the process or procedure by which the decision referred to it was made.
  - B. The Review Committee shall receive new information only in extraordinary circumstances.
  - C. The Board may participate in a Review Committee hearing itself, through representative person or persons, and/or may designate a committee to do so. The Board may designate a Section opposed in interest to the interest of the Section making the referral under this Bylaw to participate in a Review Committee hearing.
  - D. The Review Committee will normally only receive written submissions, but may, in its discretion, allow oral submissions.
  - E. The Review Committee shall provide a current copy of its terms of reference or rules of procedure to the Board for the information of the Board.
- (viii) The Review Committee shall report its final determinations to the Board and shall report to the Annual General Meeting at the Business Session.

**BYLAW 12.**  
**ABSENCE, VACANCY AND REMOVAL**  
**OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED MEMBERS**

**12.1 Absence from Meetings**

Every Director at Large and every Representative Assembly Delegate must notify the CEO of the reason for his or her absence from any meeting s/he is required to attend.

## **12.2 Directors at Large Deemed Resignation**

A Board Director at Large shall be deemed to have resigned the Director at Large position if s/he:

- (a) ceases to be a member in good standing;
- (b) is absent from more than two Board meetings in a year, with a year being from annual general meeting to annual general meeting, unless otherwise excused by the Chair of the Board; or
- (c) is elected and accepts the position of President-Elect, Representative Assembly Delegate, Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

## **12.3 Representative Assembly Delegates Deemed Resignation**

A Representative Assembly Delegate shall be deemed to have resigned the Delegate position if h/she:

- (a) ceases to be a member in good standing;
- (b) is absent from two or more Representative Assembly meetings in a year, with a year being from annual general meeting to annual general meeting, unless otherwise excused by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker;
- (c) ceases to have a registered address in the District s/he represents;
- (d) ceases to be a member of the organization that appointed him or her; or
- (e) is elected and accepts the position of President-Elect, Board Director at Large, Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

## **12.4 Removal and Replacement of President-Elect, President and Immediate Past President**

- (a) The President-Elect, President or Immediate Past President may be removed from office by a special resolution of the voting members in good standing, the voting on which shall be conducted by mail ballot, electronic ballot, or any combination thereof, as determined by the Board.
- (b) A special resolution for the removal of the President-Elect, President or Immediate Past President, may be initiated by special vote of the Board, and shall be initiated:
  - (i) by written petition to the CEO signed by 20% of the voting members in good standing; or
  - (ii) by ordinary resolution of the members at a Special Meeting called for that purpose.
- (c) Within 14 days of the initiation of a special resolution to remove President-Elect, President or Immediate Past President, the CEO shall cause to be distributed by mail or electronically to each member entitled to vote on the special resolution:
  - (i) one ballot for each position proposed to be removed; and
  - (ii) a notice specifying the date by which completed ballots must be received, which shall be a date set by the CEO that is between 20 and 25 days following the distribution of the ballots.
- (d) Any vacancy in the position of a President-Elect, President or Immediate Past President, whether by removal or resignation, shall be filled for the remainder of the elected term as follows:

- (i) the President shall be replaced by the President-Elect, who shall in addition to the duties of President-Elect, serve the remainder of the term as Acting President and then continue to assume the office of President.
- (ii) the President-Elect shall be replaced by an election held pursuant to Bylaw 13;
- (iii) the Immediate Past President shall not be replaced.

**12.5 Removal and Replacement of Board Directors at Large**

- (a) A Board Director at Large may be removed from office by a special resolution of the Representative Assembly.
- (b) Any vacancy in the position of a Board Director at Large whether by removal or resignation shall be filled in accordance with Bylaw 13 for either the remainder of the term or for a full term, at the discretion of the Representative Assembly.

**12.6 Removal and Replacement of Appointed Representative Assembly Delegates**

- (a) Appointed Representative Assembly Delegates may be removed from office by the organization or class of members that appointed them.
- (b) Any vacancy in the position of an appointed Representative Assembly Delegate, whether by removal or resignation, shall be filled by the organization or class of members that appointed them for either the remainder of the term or for a full term, at the discretion of the Representative Assembly.

**12.7 Removal and Replacement of Elected Representative Assembly Delegate**

- (a) An elected Representative Assembly Delegate may be removed from office by special resolution of the voting members in good standing of the class eligible to vote for that Representative Assembly Delegate.
- (b) A special resolution for the removal of an elected Representative Assembly Delegate may be initiated by special vote of the Board, and shall be initiated:
  - (i) by written petition to the CEO signed by 20% of the voting members in good standing of the class eligible to vote for that Representative Assembly Delegate; or
  - (ii) by ordinary resolution of the Representative Assembly.
- (c) Within 14 days of the initiation of a special resolution to remove an elected Representative Assembly Delegate, the CEO shall cause to be distributed by mail or electronically to each member entitled to vote on the special resolution:
  - (i) one ballot for each elected Representative Assembly Delegate proposed to be removed; and
  - (ii) a notice specifying the date by which completed ballots must be received, which shall be a date set by the CEO that is between 20 and 25 days following the distribution of the ballots.
- (d) Any vacancy in the position of an elected Representative Assembly Delegate whether by removal or resignation shall be filled in accordance with Bylaw 13 for the remainder of the term or for a full term, at the discretion of the Representative Assembly.

## **12.8 Removal and Replacement of Speaker or Deputy Speaker**

- (a) The Speaker or Deputy Speaker may be removed from office by a special resolution of the Representative Assembly.
- (b) Any vacancy in the position of Speaker or Deputy Speaker, whether by removal or resignation, shall be filled as follows:
  - (i) the Speaker shall be replaced by the Deputy Speaker, who shall serve as Speaker for the remainder of the term; and
  - (ii) the Deputy Speaker shall be replaced by an election held pursuant to Bylaw 13 for the remainder of the term.

### **BYLAW 13.** **ELECTIONS**

## **13.1 Elections Generally**

Elections for Officers, Directors, and Representative Assembly Delegates will be conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of these Bylaws and such election policies and procedures as established by the Association from time to time. Elections may be by paper, mail or electronic ballot.

Only members in good standing and who are not in a membership category that is prohibited from voting are eligible to nominate a candidate and/or vote in accordance with these Bylaws.

## **13.2 Ranking**

The candidates for each Officer, Director, and Representative Assembly Delegate position to be filled by election shall be ranked according to the number of votes received by each on acceptable ballots, beginning with the candidate who received the greatest number of votes according to a method of majority rule or, in the case of more than two candidates, by an alternate method if designated in advance by a special vote of the Board or the Representative Assembly, as the case may be.

## **13.3 Assumption of Office**

Officers shall be installed during the Annual General Meeting and the Officers, Directors and Representative Assembly Delegates shall assume office immediately upon the adjournment or conclusion of the Annual General Meeting.

## **13.4 Time and management of Elections**

The CEO shall be the Chief Electoral Officer responsible for the management and administration of elections, which shall be held at such time as determined by the Board.

## **13.5 Nominations**

Each nomination by the membership shall be signed by one nominator and three seconders who are members eligible to vote and/or nominate and by the nominee indicating acceptance of the nominations.

## **13.6 Failure to Nominate**

If after the date specified for the return of completed nominating papers there is not at least one nomination for any position to be elected by either the membership or the Representative Assembly,

the Nominating Committee shall nominate one eligible member for each such position for which no nomination was received, in accordance with a process determined by the Board.

### **13.7 President-Elect Nomination and Election**

- (a) One President-Elect nominee from amongst the membership will be selected by a special committee of the Representative Assembly formed for that purpose. At least 60 days prior to the date on which the election of the President-Elect is to be held, the name of the special committee's nominee will be sent to the membership along with a call for nominations inviting any other member who wishes to run to submit their nomination papers. The call for nominations will include the deadline for receipt of nominations and the date of election.
- (b) A nomination must be received by the CEO at least 40 days before the time fixed for the election.
- (c) If more than one nomination is received, a ballot and instructions for voting shall be sent to each member eligible to vote on a day that it is at least 30 days before the date fixed as the return date.

### **13.8 Nomination and Election of Representative Assembly Delegates**

- (a) At least 60 days prior to the date on which the election of a Representative Assembly Delegate is to be held, a notice stating the deadline for receipt of nominations, date of election and a nomination paper shall be sent to each member eligible to vote for a particular Representative Assembly Delegate in accordance with these Bylaws.
- (b) A nomination must be received by the CEO at least 40 days before the time fixed for the election.
- (c) If more than one nomination is received for any position, a ballot and instructions for voting shall be sent to each member eligible to vote for a particular Representative Assembly Delegate on a day that it is at least 30 days before the date fixed as the return date.

### **13.9 Nomination and Election of Speaker and Deputy Speaker**

- (a) The election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker shall take place by secret ballot at a meeting of the Representative Assembly.
- (b) At least 60 days prior to the date on which the election of the Speaker and Deputy Speaker by the Representative Assembly is to be held, a notice stating the deadline for receipt of nominations, date of election and a nomination paper shall be sent to each member eligible to nominate a member for the position.
- (c) A nomination must be received by the CEO at least 40 days before the time fixed for the election.

### **13.10 Nomination and Election of Board Directors At Large**

- (a) The election of the Board Directors at Large shall take place by secret ballot at the spring meeting of the Representative Assembly.
- (b) At least 60 days prior to the date on which the election of a Board Director(s) at Large by the Representative Assembly is to be held, a notice stating the deadline for receipt of nominations, date of election and a nomination paper shall be sent to each member eligible to nominate a member for the position.

- (c) A nomination must be received by the CEO at least 40 days before the time fixed for the election.

### **13.11 Consent to Act as Director**

All Directors must consent in writing to act as a Director upon their election or appointment.

## **BYLAW 14.**

### **MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP**

#### **14.1 Annual General Meeting**

- (a) **General** – There shall be an Annual General Meeting of the Association, which shall be held, subject to the Societies Act, on the date and place determined by the Board. The Annual General Meeting may be divided into:
  - (i) one or more Business Sessions; and
  - (ii) one or more Educational Sessions.
- (b) **Attendance** – Any member in good standing of the Association is entitled to attend the Annual General Meeting, and the following may attend:
  - (i) all members of the General Council and Executive Committee of the CMA who have their registered address in British Columbia;
  - (ii) a representative from the College; and
  - (iii) any guests of the President, President-Elect, or the Board;provided that only those who are voting members in good standing of the Association shall be entitled to vote.
- (c) **Business Sessions** – The CEO shall convene all Business Sessions at the Annual General Meeting and conduct a vote to elect a Chair. In the aggregate, the Business Sessions of the Annual General Meeting shall constitute the annual general meeting of the Association and all business required to be conducted at the annual general meeting by the Societies Act shall be conducted at the Business Sessions, including, without limitation:
  - (i) introduction of newly elected Officers;
  - (ii) consideration of the report of the Directors;
  - (iii) consideration of the report of the Auditor;
  - (iv) consideration of the financial statements and the report of the Audit and Finance Committee;
  - (v) election of Honorary Members, if any;
  - (vi) election of the three Members at Large of the Audit and Finance Committee;
  - (vii) the appointment of the Auditor, if required;
  - (viii) approval of membership fees;
  - (ix) consideration of any proposal for any special levy or assessment;
  - (x) consideration of the report of the Governance Committee;



- (xi) consideration of the report of the Nominating Committee;
- (xii) consideration of the report of the Negotiating Committee;
- (xiii) consideration of the report of the Review Committee;
- (xiv) consideration of the report of the Specialists of BC and the report of the Society of General Practitioners;
- (xv) the consideration of any members' proposals submitted in accordance with the Societies Act; and
- (xvi) conduct of any other business.

**Education Sessions** – Upon payment of any attendance fee set by the Board, any individual referred in Bylaw 14.1(b) may attend any Educational Session, which may be conducted in a Section meeting or General Educational Session, as may be determined by the Board. The Board shall appoint the Chair of any Educational Session any time before the Educational Session.

(d) **Notice and Voting**

- (i) The CEO shall ensure that at least 30 days' and not more than 60 days' notice of the Annual General Meeting is given to every member in good standing of the Association at the member's mailing address, which notice shall specify the date(s), place and hour of the Annual General Meeting and each Business Session and Education Session, and the text of any special resolution, and any proposal submitted by the voting members in good standing in accordance with the Societies Act to be submitted at the Business Session.
- (ii) The CEO shall ensure that notice of the Annual General Meeting is posted on the Association website throughout the period commencing 21 days before the Annual General Meeting, which notice shall specify the date(s), place and hour of the Annual General Meeting and each Business Session and Education Session, and the text of any special resolution, and any proposal submitted by the voting members in good standing in accordance with the Societies Act to be submitted at the Business Session.
- (iii) Voting at the Annual General Meeting shall be by show of hands, unless a ballot is directed by the Chair of the meeting or demanded by a majority of voting members in good standing, and provided that the election of Members at Large of the Audit and Finance Committee shall be by ballot, unless they are elected by acclamation. Voting by proxy is not permitted.
- (iv) Persons invited to attend the Annual General Meeting who are not voting members in good standing of the Association shall attend as observers only. The place of the Annual General Meeting shall be scrutinized by the CEO or a designated member of the Board and no unauthorized person shall be permitted to enter any meeting or session thereat.

**14.2 Special Meetings**

- (a) **Designation** – Any meeting other than a meeting at the Annual General Meeting is a Special Meeting.
- (b) **Convening** – The Board may when it thinks fit, and on requisition by the voting members in accordance with the Societies Act shall, convene a Special Meeting.

- (c) **Chair** – All Special Meetings shall be chaired by the Speaker or Deputy Speaker of the Representative Assembly.
- (d) **Notice** – The CEO shall ensure that at least 14 days' and not more than 60 days' notice of a Special Meeting is given to every voting member in good standing of the Association at the member's mailing address, which notice shall specify the date(s), place, hour of the Special Meeting and will include the text of any special resolution to be submitted at the meeting. In the case of a meeting requisitioned by voting members, the notice will include, in 200 words or less, the business to be considered at the Special Meeting, and the text of any special resolution that the requisitionists wish to have considered at the meeting.

The CEO shall ensure that notice of the Special Meeting is posted on the Association website throughout the period commencing 21 days before the Special Meeting, which notice shall specify the date(s), place and hour of the Special Meeting, and will include the text of any special resolution to be submitted at the meeting. In the case of a meeting requisitioned by voting members, the notice shall include, in 200 words or less, the business to be considered at the Special Meeting, including the text of any special resolution that the requisitionists wish to have considered at the meeting.

**BYLAW 15.**  
**MEETINGS OF THE BOARD AND COMMITTEES**

**15.1 General**

- (a) Questions arising at any meeting to the Board, or any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee shall be determined by a simple majority of votes cast, unless otherwise provided, and in case of an equality of votes, except in the case of the Board, the Chair of the meeting shall have a casting vote. Unless otherwise provided in these Bylaws, the Chair of each Standing, Ad Hoc and Statutory Committee shall not otherwise be entitled to vote at his or her respective committee meeting.
- (b) A resolution approved in writing by all the Directors, or all the members of any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee shall be as valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Board, or Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee, as the case may be, duly called and constituted. Such resolution may be in two or more counterparts which together shall be deemed to constitute one resolution in writing. Such resolution shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board or Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee and shall be effective on the date stated thereon or on the latest date stated on any counterpart.
- (c) Any Director, or member of any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee may participate in a meeting of the Board, or any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee by means of conference telephone or other communications facility by means of which all participants in the meeting can hear each other and provided that a quorum of such participants agree to such participation. A Director or member of any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee participating in a meeting in accordance with this Bylaw 15.1(c) shall be deemed to be present at the meeting and to have so agreed and shall be counted in the quorum therefore and be entitled to speak and vote thereat.
- (d) At least 5 days' prior written notice of every meeting of the Board and every Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee shall be given to the mailing address of the Board or Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee member, as the case may be. A Director or member of any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee may waive notice in any manner before, during or after the meeting of the Board or Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee, as the case may be.

Attendance at a meeting shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of notice, unless attendance is for the purpose of disputing notice and notice is disputed immediately after the meeting is first brought to order.

## **15.2 Proceedings of the Board; Chair and Vice-Chair**

- (a) The Directors shall meet no fewer than four times in each year and may dispatch business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings, as they think fit.
- (b) The Directors shall elect a Director as Chair and a Director as Vice Chair of the Board at the first meeting of the Board following the Annual General Meeting. The Chair and Vice Chair will be full voting members of the Board and hold office until the adjournment of the next Annual General Meeting following his or her election. The Directors may by special vote remove the Chair or Vice Chair at any time.
- (c) After consultation with the President, the Chair of the Board may call a meeting of the Board at any time, by giving notice in accordance with Bylaw 15.1(d). The Chair of the Board shall preside at every meeting of the Directors. If the Chair has advised the CEO that s/he will not be present at the meeting, is not present within 15 minutes of the time appointed for holding the meeting, or is unwilling or unable to act, the order of succession of chairing the meeting, subject to the same considerations for failure of the Chair of the Board to preside, is as follows:
  - (i) Vice Chair;
  - (ii) President;
  - (iii) President-Elect;

and if none of the above are in attendance, the Directors present shall choose one of their number to be Chair of the meeting.

## **15.3 Emergency Meeting**

- (a) **Board** – Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, an emergency meeting of the Board shall be called by the President on 24 hours' notice.
- (b) **Committee** – The Board may call an emergency meeting of any Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee on 24 hours' notice.
- (c) **Manner of Notice** – Notice of any emergency meeting called pursuant to this Bylaw may be given in any manner and need not be written.

## **15.4 Committees**

- (a) **General** – Except as otherwise provided in this Bylaw 15.4, all Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committees shall meet, at the call of the Chair of the committee, at least once per year and may otherwise meet, at the call of the Chair of the committee, and adjourn as they think proper.
- (b) **Negotiating Committee** – The Chair of the Negotiating Committee may, and upon request of any two members of the Negotiating Committee shall, call a meeting of the Negotiating Committee.
- (c) **Tariff Committee and Review Committee** – The Chair of each of the Tariff Committee and the Review Committee may, and upon request of any two members of the particular committee, shall, call a meeting of that committee.

**BYLAW 16.**  
**AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

**16.1 Proposals to Amend**

A proposal to amend the Constitution or Bylaws may be made by:

- (a) any voting member in good standing, by way of notice of motion signed by the proposer and one seconder, also being a voting member in good standing, setting out the proposed amendment;
- (b) any voting member in good standing, by way of notice of motion signed by the proposer and one seconder, also being a voting member in good standing, setting out the proposed amendment, and supported by the signatures of 5% or more of the voting membership in good standing;
- (c) the Board; or
- (d) the Governance Committee.

**16.2 Procedure to Amend**

- (a) Every proposal to amend the Constitution or Bylaws originating by way of Bylaw 16.1(a) or 16.1(b) or 16.1(c) shall be referred to the Governance Committee who, in consultation with the proposer, shall amend any such proposal to the extent necessary to satisfy legal requirements and to ensure that any proposed amendment is not inconsistent with any other provision of the Constitution and Bylaws not intended to be amended.
- (b) Any amendment to the Constitution or Bylaws originating by way of Bylaw 16.1(d) shall be referred to the Board for its consideration, who may, in consultation with the Governance Committee, make such revisions to the proposed amendment as it thinks advisable.
- (c) Every proposal to amend the Constitution or Bylaws originating by way of Bylaw 16.1(a) shall be referred to the next meeting of the Representative Assembly where a vote will be taken on whether the special resolution will proceed to referendum.
- (d) Every proposed amendment to the Constitution or Bylaws shall be in the form of a "Special Resolution to Amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws".
- (e) In the case of a proposed amendment originating by way of 16.1(a), the CEO shall distribute by mail or electronically within 30 days of an approval of the Representative Assembly in accordance with Bylaw 16.2(c), ballots to all voting members in good standing together with a notice specifying the day by which completed ballots must be received, which shall be a date set by the CEO that is between six and eight weeks after the date of distribution.
- (f) In the case of a proposed amendment originating by way of 16.1(b), (c) or (d), the CEO shall distribute by mail or electronically:
  - (i) Special Resolutions to Amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws received by the CEO between January 1 and June 30, inclusive, of the same calendar year and ballots to all voting members in good standing on or before the last business day of October of that calendar year; and
  - (ii) Special Resolutions to Amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws received by the CEO between July 1 and December 31, inclusive, of the same calendar year and ballots to all

voting members in good standing on or before the last business day of April of the following calendar year;

together with a notice specifying the day by which completed ballots must be received, which shall be a date set by the CEO that is between six and eight weeks after the date of distribution.

- (g) Within one week of the date specified in Bylaw 16.2(e) or (f) the CEO shall cause the ballots and telephone votes received to be counted. Ballots and telephone votes received after the date specified in the notice shall not be counted.
- (h) All matters relating to the conduct and administration of voting on Constitution and Bylaw amendments, including the appointment of scrutineers and the counting of votes, shall be governed by regulations established by the Board and administered by the CEO.
- (i) In the event of any interruption or disruption of normal mail or other delivery service in British Columbia, the CEO shall have the authority to extend the dates for the distribution of Special Resolutions to Amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws and ballots, for the return of completed ballots, and for the counting of ballots, for such period or periods as the CEO shall consider necessary or advisable.
- (j) A Special Resolution to Amend the Constitution and/or Bylaws shall be effective on the later of:
  - (i) the date of its filing with the Registrar of Companies, in accordance with the Societies Act; and
  - (ii) any later effective date specified in the special resolution.

## **BYLAW 17. REFERENDUM**

### **17.1 Requirement**

- (a) The Board shall not approve, adopt, ratify or concur with:
  - (i) any agreement or proposed agreement between the Association and the Government of British Columbia, the Medical Services Commission and/or any paying agency whatsoever relating to direct or indirect compensation for medical services or otherwise relating to contracts for medical services; or
  - (ii) any provincial legislation, proposed provincial legislation, or amendments or proposed amendments to provincial legislation, including the regulations enacted under the Medicare Protection Act as it exists from time to time, which affects the medical profession; or
  - (iii) any agreement or proposed agreement between the Association as bargaining agent for any particular group or groups of physicians within the medical profession, and the payor or any agent of the payor, which relates to direct or indirect compensation for medical services or otherwise relates to contracts for medical services;

unless and until it has been approved by referendum in accordance with this Bylaw 17.

- (b) The Board is entitled to determine that any particular agreement or proposed agreement under Bylaw 17.1(a)(i) applies only to a specific group of members and when making such a determination, the Board shall identify the group of members.

## **17.2 Other Matters**

The Board may submit any other matter it thinks appropriate to referendum in accordance with this Bylaw 17.

## **17.3 Procedure**

(a) The CEO shall distribute by mail or electronically:

- (i) in the case of any matter described in Bylaw 17.1(a)(i) or (ii) or Bylaw 17.2, the referendum information and ballots to all voting members in good standing, subject to Bylaw 17.3(a)(iii); or
- (ii) in the case of any matter described in Bylaw 17.1(a)(iii), the referendum information and ballots only to all physicians in the group or groups on behalf of whom the Association acted as bargaining agent; or
- (iii) where the Board has made a determination under Bylaw 17.1(b), the referendum information and ballots only to all voting members in good standing in the group identified by the Board under Bylaw 17.1(b);

together with a notice specifying the date by which the completed ballots and telephone votes must be received, which shall be a date set by the CEO that is between three and five weeks after the date of distribution of the referendum and, in the case of a referendum under Bylaw 17.3(a)(i), specifying that replies are solicited only from those directly affected by the referendum. Ballots and telephone votes received after the date specified in the notice shall be disregarded.

(b) Voting on the referendum shall be governed by the regulations established by the Board.

(c) Every referendum shall be decided by a simple majority of votes cast; except the Board may specify a larger majority by which a matter submitted to referendum under Bylaw 17.2 shall be decided.

## **PART B** **GENERAL**

### **BYLAW 18.** **QUORUM**

#### **18.1 Business Session**

The quorum at all meetings at all Business Sessions shall be fifty voting members in good standing.

#### **18.2 Board**

The quorum at all meetings of the Board shall be six Directors then in office.

#### **18.3 Representative Assembly**

The quorum at all meetings of the Representative Assembly shall be a majority of the voting members of the Representative Assembly then in office. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker do not count towards a quorum.

#### **18.4 Committees**

The quorum at all Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee meetings shall be a majority of the committee members then in office.

## **18.5 Sections**

The quorum for meetings of any Section may be fixed by the Section and if not so fixed shall be the lesser of twenty or one-third of the members in good standing of the Section.

### **BYLAW 19. AUDITOR**

The Association must have an Auditor, and subject to the Societies Act, the Auditor shall be appointed at a Business Session at the Annual General Meeting.

### **BYLAW 20. RECORDS**

#### **20.1 Location of Records**

All documents, copies, registers, minutes and records, including financial records, of the Association shall be kept at the registered office of the Association, or such other place as the Board may determine.

#### **20.2 Financial Records**

The Association shall cause to be kept proper books of account and accounting records in respect of all financial and other transactions of the Association in order properly to record the financial affairs and condition of the Association and to comply with the Societies Act.

#### **20.3 Inspection of Financial Records**

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, only Directors under guidelines established by the Board from time to time and members of the Audit and Finance Committee shall be entitled to inspect the accounting records of the Association.

#### **20.4 Inspection of Documents and Records by Members**

A member in good standing is entitled, upon providing not less than 14 days' notice in writing to the Association, to examine any of the following documents and records of the Association at the address of the Association during the Association's normal business hours:

- (a) the Constitution and these Bylaws, and any amendments thereto;
- (b) the statement of directors and registered office of the Association;
- (c) minutes of any general meeting, including the text of each resolution passed at the meeting;
- (d) resolutions of the members in writing, if any;
- (e) annual financial statements relating to a past fiscal year that have been received by the members in a general meeting;
- (f) the register of Directors, subject to any restrictions stated or permitted under the Societies Act;
- (g) the register of members, subject to any restrictions stated or permitted under the Societies Act;
- (h) the Association's certificate of incorporation, and any other certificates, confirmations or records furnished to the Association by the Registrar;
- (i) copies of orders made by a court, tribunal or government body in respect of the Association;
- (j) the written consents of Directors to act as such and each written resignation of a Director; and

(k) the disclosure of a Director regarding a conflict of interest in accordance with the Societies Act.

Copies of documents to which a member is allowed to examine may be provided on request by the member for a reasonable production fee to be determined by the Board.

## **20.5 Minutes**

Minutes of every meeting listed below shall be prepared by the secretary of the meeting or by such other person as the meeting approves, shall be kept at the registered office of the Association, shall, except for the minutes of confidential committees so specified by the Board, be open to inspection by any member in good standing and shall be distributed as follows:

- (a) minutes of all Business Sessions shall be distributed to all voting members in good standing in a manner determined by the Board;
- (b) minutes of all meetings of the Board shall be distributed to all Directors;
- (c) minutes of all meetings of each Standing, Ad Hoc or Statutory Committee shall be distributed to the members of that committee and to the Directors on their request;
- (d) all Sections, Affiliated Medical Societies and Associated Societies shall distribute the minutes of their meetings to their respective members in good standing and to the CEO; and
- (e) the Specialists of BC and the Society of General Practitioners shall distribute the minutes of their meetings to their respective members in good standing and to the CEO.

### **BYLAW 21.**

#### **NOTICES**

Notices shall be in writing and may be delivered by prepaid mail, personal delivery, telex, telecopier or other form of electronic transmission of written material, to the mailing address of a member. Calculation of the time of giving notice shall be from the time the notice leaves the registered address of the Association. Accidental failure to give notice or failure of a particular member to receive a notice shall not affect the validity of the meeting or other process for which the notice is given. Notice shall be deemed received, if mailed, on the third business day following the date of mailing thereof, if delivered, on delivery, and if transmitted electronically, on the day of being electronically transmitted.

### **BYLAW 22.**

#### **TRANSITION**

**22.1** These bylaws shall take effect on the date they are filed with the Registrar of Companies. The following provisions shall apply to assist in the transition of the Association to these Bylaws, notwithstanding that they may be inconsistent with other provisions in these Bylaws.

- (a) Directors holding office as of the date that these Bylaws come into force shall cease to hold office on September 11, 2017 instead of at the conclusion of the 2017 Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The Chair and Vice Chair of the Board currently in office at the time these Bylaws come into force shall remain in office until September 11, 2017. On or around May 10, 2017, the CEO shall distribute a call for nominations for elected Delegates of the Representative Assembly, Board Directors at Large, President-Elect, Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Representative Assembly, and Members-at-Large of the Governance and Nominating Committees, to voting members in good standing entitled to so nominate, to be returned on or around June 12, 2017.



- (c) For the spring 2017 cycle of elections only, the Representative Assembly will not appoint a special committee to nominate a member for the position of President-Elect.
- (d) On or around June 26, 2017, the CEO shall distribute a ballot to voting members in good standing specific for positions each member is entitled to elect from amongst President-Elect, District Delegates to RA, Rural Delegates to RA, First Nations Delegates to RA and GP Delegates to RA, to be returned on or around by July 24, 2017.
- (e) Organizations who appoint Delegates to the RA will be asked to do so prior to July 24, 2017.
- (f) The RA will have its inaugural meeting on or around September 8, 2017 at which time its Delegates shall assume office and it will elect the Board Directors at Large, Speaker and Deputy Speaker and Members-at-Large of the Governance and Nominating Committees.
- (g) The new President Elect, and the new Board described at Bylaw 8.2 will take office on September 11, 2017.

**22.2** Terms for the some of the first cohort of Board Directors at Large and Representative Assembly Delegates as described Bylaws 8.3 and 10.5(a), to (d) respectively, will be adjusted to prevent mass turnover in any one year.

**22.3** This Bylaw will expire at the conclusion of the 2018 AGM.