

BRITISH COLUMBIA HUMANIST ASSOCIATION

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BOARD ELECTIONS POLICY

Approved: March 6, 2018

1. Prior to sending out notice of the Annual General Meeting (AGM), the board will appoint one director who is not standing for re-election as the Elections Officer; if no board member is available, any member in good standing may be appointed instead.
2. Contact information for the Elections Officer and the number of vacancies on the Board shall be included with the notice of the AGM.
3. Members wanting to stand for election to the Board must apply by email to the Elections Officer at least one week prior to the AGM. The application should include the member's full name, email address and a brief biography (under 250 words) to include on AGM notice on the BCHA website.
4. Nominations can be accepted from the floor at the AGM.
5. The Elections Officer will ensure that all members who have applied to stand for the board are eligible according to the BCHA bylaws. Applicants must be:
 - a. At least 18 years of age, where one director aged 16 or 17 may be elected as a youth representative;
 - b. A member of the BCHA in good standing for at least six months prior to election; and
 - c. Not ineligible according to Section 44(3) of the *Societies Act* (see Appendix). For purposes of interpreting (b), a member must be current at the time of the AGM and must have first become a member at least six months prior. A lapse in membership during that time is not counted against a member's eligibility to stand for the board.
6. **Elections:** If there are more nominees than vacancies, the Elections Officer shall
 - a. prepare ballots for the AGM listing candidates alphabetically by surname;
 - b. prepare a current membership list for the AGM;
 - c. distribute ballots only to current members in attendance at the AGM, members will vote for as many candidates as there are vacancies;
 - d. count the completed ballots, such that:
 - i. Blank ballots and ballots for more candidates than there are vacancies shall be deemed invalid and excluded from the count.
 - ii. Any candidate may request a recount by the Elections Officer and an independent scrutineer. There may only be one recount.
 - iii. The candidate(s) who receive the most votes are elected.

- e. repeat the above steps in the event of a tie;
 - f. make a motion at the AGM to certify the results of the election; and
 - g. destroy the ballots within one month of the AGM.
7. The Elections Officer shall ensure all newly elected board members sign a copy of the Board Roles and Responsibilities document.

Appendix: Societies Act

Persons qualified to be directors

44 (1) A person is qualified to be a director of a society only if the person is an individual who is at least 18 years of age.

(2) Despite subsection (1), an individual who is 16 or 17 years of age is qualified to be a director of a society if provided for in the regulations.

(3) Despite subsections (1) and (2), an individual is not qualified to be a director of a society if the individual is

(a) found by any court, in Canada or elsewhere, to be incapable of managing the individual's own affairs,

(b) an undischarged bankrupt, or

(c) convicted in or out of British Columbia of an offence in connection with the promotion, formation or management of a corporation or unincorporated entity, or of an offence involving fraud, unless

(i) the court orders otherwise,

(ii) 5 years have elapsed since the last to occur of

(A) the expiration of the period set for suspension of the passing of sentence without a sentence having been passed,

(B) the imposition of a fine,

(C) the conclusion of the term of any imprisonment, and

(D) the conclusion of the term of any probation imposed, or

(iii) a pardon was granted or issued, or a record suspension was ordered, under the *Criminal Records Act* (Canada) and the pardon or record suspension, as the case may be, has not been revoked or ceased to have effect.