

Bylaw Issue Review for the 2018 Annual General Meeting

At our 2017 Annual General Meeting there was a considerable discussion about our bylaws, in the context of the recent BC Societies Act requirement to “transition” or re-register our bylaws to conform to the BC format. At the meeting, the proposed bylaws as recommended by the board were approved, but three issues remained outstanding. As a result, the board was tasked with reviewing the outstanding issues and providing recommendations for review by our members.

The outstanding issues are proxies, term limits and the role of the past president. After careful consideration, the board made recommendations for consideration by our members. We distributed the recommendations to solicit comments by the members in advance of the AGM. As a result, the recommended “step-down” period for board members was reduced to one year from two.

Following is a review of the issues and board recommendations.

PROXIES:

CURRENT POLICY (AS AT 2017 AGM):

Proxy voting not permitted.

Bylaw section 3.15 Voting by proxy is not permitted.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Maintain the policy as it stands. For review at the annual general meeting in 2021, which will give the current policy time to see the effect on member engagement, attendance at the AGM meetings and the level and concern of disenfranchisement of any category of membership.

The current no proxy position is consistent with the model bylaws published by the BC government.

TERM LIMITS FOR BOARD MEMBERS:

CURRENT POLICY:

BLRC does not have term limits for board members currently.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

Effective as at the 2018 Annual General Meeting and for all future years, term limits for Directors will be enforced on the following schedule:

Directors (at-large) – will serve a 2 year term and at their option and subject to the vote of membership, may serve up to a total of 4 years. (that is, 2 X 2 year terms)

Directors in this category may serve an additional 2 years (for a total of 6 years of service) if they step into a role as a Director and Officer, subject to the nomination and vote of membership. At the end of their third term they are obligated to step down for a minimum period of 1 year, after which they may run for the board of directors once again.

Director and Officer – if a valued member of the Board also serves as an Officer, as designated in these bylaws and has served the maximum time of 4 years and wishes to remain engaged, at the discretion of the BLRC Board of Directors and subject to the vote of membership, may serve an additional 2-year term.

NOTE: This policy, if agreed to by membership, will have a transition period to ensure the existing board members do not all vacate their roles at the same time.

ROLE OF THE PAST PRESIDENT

CURRENT POLICY:

Currently there is no role for the past president.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

The outgoing president of BLRC will sit as past president for a one-year term to assist in the transition, provide continuity and act as council to the incoming President and board of Directors.