

Notice of Motion

Be advised that the Chair of the Recreation Nova Scotia (RNS) By-Laws and Resolutions Committee will be bringing a motion forward to the RNS Annual General Meeting, November 24, 2004 to accept the recommendations of the “Committee” and the RNS Board as they pertain to the changes in the By-laws of the Association.

(Recreation Nova Scotia By-laws may be found at: www.recreationns.ns.ca/recns/by-laws.htm)

Recommendation: By-Law 3.1 Board of Directors be amended

By-Law 3.1 currently reads: *The Governance of the Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors, who shall consist of: Past President, President, President Elect, Vice President Finance, Vice President Board Development, Recording Officer, one Director at Large, student representative, four Directors at Large, Executive Director (ex-officio, non voting), one representative appointed from the Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation Division (ex-officio, non voting), and the Atlantic Regional Representative of the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association (ex-officio, non voting).*

By-Law 3.1 amended will read: *The Governance of the Association shall be vested in the Board of Directors, who shall consist of: Past President, President, President Elect, Vice President Finance, Vice President Board Development, Recording Officer, one Director at Large (student representative), four Directors at Large, and the Executive Director (ex-officio, non voting). A representative appointed from the Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation Division, and the Atlantic Regional Representative of the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association will be invited guests to board meetings, acting as liaisons for their respective organizations.*

Rationale: Ex-officio members of the board attend board meetings by reason of their office, rather than through elections. Executive Directors of the organization or public officials, such as representatives from Nova Scotia Sport and Recreation Division or the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association, are often designated as ex-officio members of the board because of their position. The expectations for elected board members and ex-officio members are the same, whether they can vote or not. Ex-officio board members hold the same legal and fiduciary responsibilities as any other board member. According to our policy governance model, they must be able to speak on behalf of the board and the membership rather than from their own or their employer’s perspective.

Creating liaison positions would allow these representatives to participate in Board activities in an advisory capacity and to provide a channel of communication between their respective employers and the Board., without subjecting the liaisons with legal and fiduciary responsibilities.

Recommendation: By-Law 6.1.1 , under 6.1 Nominations Committee, be amended.

By-law 6.1.1 currently reads: *Members may submit nominations for officers and directors to the nominating committee up to 30 days before the annual conference.*

By-law 6.1.1 amended will read: *Members may submit nominations for officers and directors to the nominating committee up to 30 days before the annual general meeting.*

Rationale: The election of board members occurs during the Annual General meeting, which does not always occur during the Annual Conference.

Recommendation: By-law 6.1.2, under 6.1 Nominations Committee, be amended.

By-law 6.1.2 currently reads: *The committee shall mail out a list of all nominations received 14 days prior to the AGM.*

By-law 6.1.2 amended will read: *The committee shall mail out a list of all nominations received, who have passed the nominations screening process, 14 days prior to the AGM.*

Rationale: The screening policy should apply to all nominations. Having a list of those who have already been successfully screened provides the membership with candidates that are deemed suitable for consideration .

Having an individual “fail” the nominations process, after the list has gone out, could cause considerable embarrassment to that individual.

Recommendation: By-Law 6.1.4 be amended

By-Law 6.1.4, under 6.1, Nominations Committee, reads: *Nominations will be accepted from the floor of the AGM with the appropriate mover and seconder.*

By-Law 6.1.4, under 6.1, Nominations Committee, reads: *Nominations will be accepted from the floor of the AGM with the appropriate mover and seconder. Nominations accepted from the floor will be subject to the Associations’ nominations screening policy.*

Rationale: The screening policy should apply to all nominations, regardless of when they were nominated. Volunteer screening is being done by a growing number of organizations. The screening allows the organization to assess potential risks, and determine the suitability of a candidate for a particular position.

For more information on the nominations screening policy, please follow this link:
www.recreationns.ns.ca/recns/nominations.htm