

Okanagan Historical Society

MINUTES of SPECIAL MEETING: BYLAWS and CONSTITUTION

Date: Saturday, September 20, 2025, 2:00 pm.
Okanagan Regional Library,
1380 Ellis St., Kelowna, B.C.

AGENDA

1. Call to order: 2:10 pm

2. Quorum established. 50 members attended (Note: 15 new members, 8 members after receiving mailings attending)

3. Current Bylaws, and New Bylaws Discussion included:

a) To make changes to Bylaws 45 days' notice to members required.

*45 days' **notice to branches** required. Changes had been discussed at Executive meetings in excess of that. Two weeks' notice required for Special Meeting.*

b) No minutes with agenda.

Minutes were posted on website shortly after 2024 AGM and are also printed in the 88th Report.

c) BC Society's Act May 2023.

This is a directive on how to manage your society, not any sort of amendment.

d) Branch health

Discussion at a number of meetings since October 2021. Paige, Lois and Dale designated Governance Committee. Dale proposed changes to Bylaws as Bylaws don't comply with BC Society's Act.

e) Bylaw vs Policy.

Bylaws – how to govern. Policies- provide detailed guidance

f) 2.7 A voting member is any person who is 19 years or older should be 16. Able to have a Driver's License. BC Voting age is 18. College students can be as young as 17.
Agreed.

g) 4.17 The quorum for the transaction of business at a general meeting is 5 voting members?
Quorums are often low and defined in terms of percentages.

h) 6.2 At least two days' notice of a directors' meeting must be given unless all directors agree to a shorter notice period. *Needs to be longer. Can be difficult to change availability.*

i) Membership.

Need to engage members. Branches need access to membership. Need to separate cost of book and membership.

4. Amendments to Constitution Discussion:

Why change? Changes being made to be more inclusive

5. Voting on New Bylaws

MOTION: To accept new Bylaws *including added changes:*

2.7 A Voting member is any person who is 16 years or older.

Other changes may be brought forward next year.

Moved: Lois Marshall. Seconded Neil Woolliams. Two opposed. 2 Abstentions. Carried.

6. Voting on Amendment to Constitution

MOTION: to Amend OHS Constitution as below

Under the heading "Purposes": to

- Remove the following phrase: "...more particularly its historical and archaeological aspects", and replace with the phrase: "To stimulate active interest in our heritage", and
- Remove the following phrase: "...museum boards and educational institutions" and replace with the following phrase: "...To cooperate with other institutions which further the Society's purposes"

Moved: Lois Marshall. Seconded Gwyneth Evans. One opposed. No Abstention. Carried.

7. **MOTION:** to Adjourn Meeting at 3:08 pm.

Moved: Chris Hive