



## ARTICLE 4 - MEMBERSHIP

### 4.1 Voting Member

4.1.1 The voting membership of the Society shall consist of any individual resident in the Province of Alberta and being the full age of 18 years who, subject to Article 4.7, hereof, wishes to participate in and support the Objects of the Society as described in Article 3.1 and they agree to be bound by the Bylaws of the Society and agrees to act in the best interest of the Society.

4.1.2 Non-voting members shall consist of organizations, agencies, institutions, both public and private, who wish to participate in or support the Objects of the Society as described in Article 3.1 and agree to be bound by the Bylaws of the Society.

### 4.2 Admission of Members

All applications for membership in the Society must be submitted to the Board for approval.

4.2.1 The Board may establish from time to time the requirements for the approval of applications for membership.

4.2.2 All successful applicants for membership shall agree to have their name entered into the Register of Members.

4.2.3 The Society's Board shall ratify the current Register of Members at least twenty-one (21) days prior to each Annual General Meeting.

### 4.3 Membership

4.3.1 Membership Year. The membership year is April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

4.3.2 Fees. The Board may establish membership fees from time to time.

### 4.4 Rights and Privileges of Members

4.4.1 A Member is in good standing when:  
a) the Member is listed within the Register of Members; and  
b) the Member is not suspended as a Member as provided for under Article 4.5.

4.4.2 Any Member in good standing is entitled to:  
a) Receive notice of the Annual General Meetings of the Society;  
b) Attend any Annual General Meetings of the Society;  
c) Speak at any Annual General Meetings of the Society; and  
d) Exercise other rights and privileges given to Members in these Bylaws.

- 4.4.3 Voting Members are Members entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting if they are:
- a) in good standing;
  - b) are at least eighteen (18) years old; and
  - c) listed within the Register of Members as having paid their CIWA dues in full thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

4.4.4 Number of Votes. A Voting Member is entitled to one (1) vote at a meeting of the Society.

## **4.5 Suspension of Membership**

4.5.1 Decision to Suspend. The Board, at a Special Meeting called for that purpose, may suspend a Member's membership for no more than three (3) months, for one or more of the following reasons:

- a) if the Member has failed to abide by the Bylaws;
- b) if the Member has been disloyal to the Society;
- c) if the Member has disrupted meetings or functions of the Society; or
- d) if the Member has done or failed to do anything judged to be harmful to the Society.

4.5.2 Notice to the Member. The affected Member will receive written notice of the Board's intention to deal with whether that Member should be suspended or not. The Member will receive at least two (2) weeks' notice before the Special Meeting. The notice will:

- a) be sent the written notice by single registered mail to the last known address of the Member shown in the records of the Society. The notice may also be delivered by an Officer of the Board; and
- b) state the reasons why suspension is being considered.

4.5.3 The Member will have the opportunity to appear before the Board to address the matter. The Board may allow another person to accompany the Member.

4.5.4 The Board will determine how the matter will be dealt with, and may limit the time given the Member to address the Board.

4.5.5 The Board may exclude the Member from its discussion of the matter, including the deciding vote.

4.5.6 The suspension decision of the Board is final.

## **4.6 Complaint Process**

4.6.1 The Board must upon a written complaint of any member of the Society investigate the conduct of the member who: allegedly breached the confidentiality agreement, whose conduct and/or actions may have not be in the best interest of the Society, or who may be in conflict with the Interest of the Society.

4.6.2 Upon the Board completing its investigation of a complaint, the Board may:

- a) dismiss the complaint; or
- b) terminate the Members membership with CIWA.

## **4.7 Termination of Membership**

4.7.1 Membership can be terminated by the following:

- a) Resignation. Any Member may resign from the Society by sending or delivering a

written notice to the Chair of the Society. Once the notice is received, the Member's name is removed from the Register of Members. The Member is considered to have ceased being a Member on the date their name is removed from the Register of Members;

- b) Death. The membership of a Member is ended upon their death; or
- c) Pursuant to section 4.6.2.

#### 4.7.2 Expulsion

The Society may, by Special Resolution at a Special General Meeting called for such purpose, expel any Member for any cause which is deemed sufficient in the interest of the Society. On the passage of the Special Resolution called for such purpose, such decision shall be deemed to be final and the name of the Member shall be removed from the Register of Members. The Member shall be considered to have ceased being a Member on the date their name is removed from the Register of Members.

### **4.8 Transfer of Membership**

- 4.8.1 No right or privilege of any Member is transferable to another person or corporation.

### **4.9 Continued Liability for Debts and Limitation on the Liability of Members**

- 4.9.1 Although membership ceases by death, resignation or otherwise, the Member continues to be liable for any debts owing to the Society at the date of ceasing to be a Member.
- 4.9.2 No Member is, in their individual capacity, liable for any debt or liability of the Society.