

NOTICE OF MOTION

The following Notice of Motion is submitted to the BOABC membership for consideration in compliance with Part 8 Amendment of BOABC Bylaws. The Executive Committee, by motion at the January 2010 meeting, directed the Vice President for Membership Services to prepare a Notice of Motion to amend the relevant Association Bylaws by: [1] replacing the word ‘elected’ at the annual general meeting with ‘following, or chosen by accepted voting procedures’; and [2] to make any proposed changes to Bylaws and policies to support Secured Electronic Voting. The Committee also moved that the use of electronic communication with members, including email, be considered to meet the requirement of mail in all cases where it is required.

Proposed Amendments to Existing Bylaw Provisions [Changes in *bold italics* are needed to introduce a Secured Electronic Voting system to nominate BOABC candidates and elect officers.]

Motion: To amend relevant Bylaws to replace the word “*elected*” with the phrase “*chosen by the accepted voting procedure*” and to delete the practice of nominating from the floor at the AGM, in order to introduce a Secured Electronic Voting system. The changes are as follows:

Part 4, Executive Committee and Other Committees Section 10 - Composition

- (1) A president ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** by the Members at the annual general meeting;
- (2) Three {3} vice presidents ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** by the Members at the annual general meeting;
- (3) Seven {7} to fourteen {14} Directors ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** by the Members at the annual general meeting to represent regions of British Columbia established under section 13 of these bylaws;

Part 4, Section 11 Term of Office

[a] The Executive Committee, except the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Minister’s appointees, shall be ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office for two years or until their successors are elected.

[i] The President and one Vice President shall be ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** at the Annual General Meeting that occurs in the even calendar years and two Vice Presidents shall be ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** at the Annual General Meeting that occurs in the odd numbered calendar years.

[ii] Directors shall be ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** in the following numbers and Calendar years to represent the Regional Zones of the Province:

Part 4, Section 13, Regional Zones

Directors shall be ***chosen by the accepted voting procedure*** in the following numbers respectively to represent the following Regional Zones of the Province:

Part 4, Section 18, Other Committees

[2] The Nominating Committee shall present to the Annual General meeting a full slate of candidates for Officers and Directors for the ensuing term. ~~Candidates may also be nominated from the floor.~~ ***The last sentence is to be deleted from Part 4, Section 18 [2].***

Purpose of the Motion

Currently, the election of Association officers occurs at the AGM, where usually fewer than a 100 voting members make the selection. The purpose of the amendments to the Bylaws is to support the introduction of a secure electronic, web based voting system as the accepted voting procedure for the selection of the BOABC Executive Committee. The intention for introducing Secured Electronic Voting is to increase democracy in the election process, by maximizing the participation of all eligible BOABC members as voters and as candidates for office. As a result, membership involvement and participation in the BOABC should be strengthened.

The Association has researched a number of electronic voting systems. And the Vice President for Membership Services has made presentations to the Executive Committee on how such a model would work. With the adoption of the proposed Bylaw changes [above], the Association will establish policy procedures for the election of the Executive, including a Nominations Period followed by an Elections Period, which will conclude at the Annual General Meeting. An outline or model example of a Secured Electronic Voting system process would be as follows.

A Nomination Period for the offices of President and Vice-Presidents will take place over 30 days and occurring at least 60 days prior to the AGM. The nominees will be brought forward by the Nomination Committee and be posted on the website of the Secured Electronic Voting System and brought forward to the Elections Period.

For Zone Directors, nominations will coincide with the Nomination Period for President and Vice-Presidents. During the Nomination Period, each Zone will put forward a maximum of three names for each vacating Zone Director, for example. If only one member declares a willingness to serve, then that person shall be acclaimed. If two or three members declare a willingness to serve, their names will be carried forward as nominees to the Election Period. If more than three nominees declare, a vote will occur at a Zone meeting at the end of the Nomination period. The names of the three nominees for Zone Director with the most votes, for example, will be brought forward by the Nominations Committee and placed on the website of the Secured Electronic Voting system and will be brought forward to the Elections Period.

An Election Period lasting 14 days will be established and close at the AGM. All BOABC members, eligible to vote for President and Vice-Presidents, will vote on-line and have their votes tabulated immediately after the closing of the Election Period. The election of Zone Directors will occur during the same Election Period; however only members eligible to vote from a particular zone may vote for their respective Zone Director. The candidate with the greatest number of votes from members voting in each zone will be elected as a Zone Director.

Current Bylaws describing the Executive Committee Composition, Term of Office and Regional Zone representation for the elected positions of President, Vice President and Zone Director will be retained as described in the Bylaws. However, candidates will not be nominated from the floor of the AGM, as this would negate the purpose of the Bylaw amendments. The objective is to broaden the responsibility for choosing candidates and electing officers and to not leave it to just those members who are present at the AGM and are eligible to vote. Upon agreement to the Bylaw amendments [above], policies to enact Secured Electronic Voting will be developed, approved, put in place and explained to members in time for the 2011 AGM election.