

CONSTITUTION

The **name** of the society is:

Support Our Health Care (SOHC) Society of Princeton

Our Vision

Our future includes a model of health care that serves Princeton and Area from “cradle to grave”, competently and efficiently, with Princeton General Hospital at the core of these services. The renewal of our health care services will ensure that our community will thrive.

Our Mission

Dedicated to the development of Princeton as a model of excellence and innovation in rural health care.

The **purposes** of the society are:

- To ensure that residents of Princeton and Area have access to timely, essential health care services within our community.
- To work with the Ministry of Health and the Interior Health Authority to develop an improved and sustainable health care model with Princeton General Hospital and Cascade Medical Clinic at its core
- To ensure equitable access to health care, regardless of an individual’s income, level of ability, age, cultural heritage, sex, sexual orientation or geographical location.
- To address local health care concerns, doctor shortages, and service reductions.

The **bylaws** of the society are as follows:

1. MEMBERSHIP

1.1. The annual membership fee in the society is \$2.00. The fee amount shall be determined from time to time by the members at the Annual General Meeting. Any persons residing in British Columbia, and being of the full age of 19 years, may become a member upon payment of the membership fee. Any person under the age of 19 years may become a member with a fifty plus one percent vote at any general meeting and upon payment of the membership fee.

1.2. Any member wishing to withdraw from membership may do so upon a notice in writing to the Executive through its Secretary. If any member is in arrears for fees or assessments for any year, such member shall be automatically suspended at the expiration of six months from the end of such year and shall thereafter be entitled to no membership privileges or powers in the society until reinstated. Any member upon a majority vote of all members of

the society in good standing may be expelled from membership for any cause which the society may deem reasonable.

2. EXECUTIVE

2.1. The Executive shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Directors.

2.2. The Executive shall, subject to the bylaws or directions given it by majority vote at any meeting properly called and constituted, have full control and management of the affairs of the society, and meetings of the Executive shall be held as often as may be required, but at least once every two months, and shall be called by the President. A special meeting may be called on the instructions of any two members provided they request the President in writing to call such meeting, and state the business to be brought before the meeting. Members of the Executive shall be informed of meetings and given 10 business days notice by mail, telephone or email. Meetings may be held without notice if a quorum of the Executive is present, provided however, that any business transactions at such meeting shall be ratified at the next regularly called meeting of the Executive; otherwise they shall be null and void. Any three members shall constitute a quorum.

2.3. A person appointed or elected a Director becomes a Director if they were present at the Annual General Meeting when being elected, and did not refuse the appointment. They may also become a Director if they were not present at the AGM but consented in writing to act as Director before the election.

2.4. A person must be a member in good standing to be elected to a position on the Executive.

2.5. Any Director or Officer, upon a majority vote of all members in good standing, may be removed from office for any cause which the society may deem reasonable.

2.6. The Executive shall be made up of 1 President, 1 Vice-President, 1 Secretary, 1 Treasurer, and a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 4 Directors.

3. PRESIDENT

3.1 The President shall be elected from the general membership at the Annual General Meeting. He/she shall preside at all meetings of the society and of the Executive. In his/her absence, the Vice-President shall preside at any such meeting. In the absence of both, a chairperson may be elected at the meeting to preside. If no President, Vice-President or chairperson are present at an executive meeting the meeting cannot take place.

4. VICE PRESIDENT

4.1 The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, preside at any meeting of the society. The Vice President shall assume any duties deemed necessary by the President and agreed upon by members of the Executive.

5. SECRETARY

5.1. It is the duty of the Secretary to attend all meetings of the Society and Executive, and to keep accurate minutes of the same.

5.2. The Secretary shall also keep a record of all the members of the society and their addresses and send all notices of the various meetings as required.

5.3. The Office of the Secretary will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

6. TREASURER

6.1. It is the duty of the Treasurer to attend all meetings of the Society and Executive, to receive all monies paid to the society and be responsible for the deposit of the same in whatever Bank, Trust Company, or Credit Union the Board may order. He/she shall properly account for the funds of the society and keep such books as may be directed. He/she shall present a full detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Executive whenever requested and shall prepare for submission to the Annual General Meeting a statement of the financial position of the society and submit a copy for the records of the society. It will be the responsibility of the Treasurer to collect and receive the annual dues or assessments levied by the society.

6.2. The Office of the Treasurer will be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

7. AUDITING

7.1. An audit of the books, accounts and records of the Treasurer may be requested on a motion by any two members at an AGM. The Executive Board may also make a request for an audit. The audit shall be carried out by a duly qualified accountant or by two members of the society elected for that purpose at a meeting of the general membership. The person or persons doing the audit cannot be the Treasurer or related to the person holding or held the office during the period in which the books will be audited. The fiscal year of the society shall be October 1 to September 30.

8. MEETINGS

8.1. The Society shall hold an Annual General Meeting in each year, no later than the end of November, on a date agreed to by the Executive. Notice of the AGM shall be sent to the email address of each member no later than 30 days prior to the date of the meeting. The meeting must be advertised in at least one local publication. At this meeting there shall be elected a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of two and a maximum of four Directors. The Officers and Directors so elected shall form an Executive Board, and shall serve until their successors are elected and installed. Any vacancy occurring during the year shall be filled at the next meeting provided it is so stated in the notice calling such meeting. Any member in good standing shall be eligible to hold any office in the society.

8.2. General meetings of the society may be called at any time by the Secretary upon the instructions of the President or Executive by notice through email to the last known email address of each member, delivered by email 7 days prior to the date of such meeting. A

special meeting shall be called by the President or Secretary upon receipt of a petition signed by one-third of the members in good standing, setting forth the reasons for calling such meeting, which shall be by letter to the last known address of each member, delivered in the mail 7 days prior to the meeting.

8.3. Three Executive members shall constitute a quorum for an Executive meeting

8.4. Ten members in good standing shall constitute a quorum at a general and annual general meeting.

9. VOTING

9.1. Any member in good standing shall have the right to vote at any meeting of the society. Such votes must be made in person and not by proxy or otherwise.

10. REMUNERATION

10.1. Unless authorized at any meeting and after notice for the same shall be given, no officer or member of the association shall receive any remuneration for his/her services.

11. BORROWING POWERS

11.1. The society cannot borrow any monies.

12. BYLAWS

12.1. The Bylaws may be rescinded, altered or added to by a "Special Resolution" presented and voted on at an Annual General Meeting of the membership.