

THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF
SPECTRUM SOCIETY FOR COMMUNITY LIVING

CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the society is Spectrum Society for Community Living.
2. The purposes of the society are:
 - (a) To assist individuals who are autistic and/or developmentally disabled in becoming integrated members of their community.
 - (b) To assist these individuals in developing their independent living skills.
 - (c) To provide education, training and care for these individuals in a community residential setting.
 - (d) To promote the concept of normalization and assist each individual to develop his/her full potential within the least restrictive environment.
 - (e) To operate a charitable institution (without profits to its members) for the purpose of constructing, providing, maintaining, leasing, owning and managing one or more low-rental housing projects.

**Spectrum Society for Community Living
BYLAWS**

Part 1 - Interpretation

1. (1) In these bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires,
 - (a) "directors" means the directors of the society for the time being;
 - (b) "Society Act" means the Society Act of the Province of British Columbia from time to time in force and all amendments to it;
 - (c) "registered address" of a member means his address as recorded in the register of members.(2) The definitions in the Society Act on the date these bylaws become effective apply to these bylaws.

2. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; and words importing a male person include a female person and a corporation.

Part 2 - Membership

3. The members of the society are the applicants for incorporation of the society, and those persons who subsequently have become members, in accordance with these bylaws and, in either case, have not ceased to be members.

4. A person may apply to the directors for membership in the society and on acceptance by the directors shall be a member. All persons served by the Society and their family members are invited to apply for membership.

5. A Person is eligible to be accepted as an Individual Member if he or she:
 - (a) is 16 years of age or older; and
 - (b) is interested in advancing the purposes and supporting the activities of the Society.Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Person is not eligible for individual membership if he or she is:
 - (c) an employee of the Society;
 - (d) a contractor for services to the Society where the contract has an annual aggregate value of \$10,000 or more; or
 - (e) a spouse of a Person under (c) or (d) above.

6. The amount of the first annual membership dues shall be determined by the directors and after that the annual membership dues shall be determined at the annual general meeting of the society.

7. A person shall cease to be a member of the society

- (a) by delivering his resignation in writing to the secretary of the society or by mailing or delivering it to the address of the society;
- (b) on his death or in the case of a corporation on dissolution;
- (c) on being expelled; or
- (d) on having been a member not in good standing for 12 consecutive months.

8. (1) A member may be expelled by a special resolution of the members passed at a general meeting.

(2) The notice of special resolution for expulsion shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the reason or reasons for the proposed expulsion.

(3) The person who is the subject of the proposed resolution for expulsion shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the general meeting before the special resolution is put to a vote.

9. All members are in good standing except a member who has failed to pay his current annual membership fee or any other subscription or debt due and owing by him to the society and he is not in good standing so long as the debt remains unpaid.

Part 3 - Meetings of the Members

10. General meetings of the society shall be held at the time and place, in accordance with the Society Act, that the directors decide.

11. Every general meeting, other than an annual general meeting, is an extraordinary general meeting.

12. The directors may, when they think fit, convene an extraordinary general meeting.

- 13.
- (1) Notice of a general meeting shall specify the place, day and hour of meeting, and in case of special business, the general nature of that business.
 - (2) The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice by, any of the members entitled to receive notice does not invalidate proceedings at that meeting.

14. The first annual general meeting of the society shall be held not more than 15 months after the date of incorporation and after that an annual general meeting shall be held at least once every calendar year and not more than 15 months after the holding of the last preceding annual general meeting.

Part 4 - Proceedings at General Meetings

15. Special business is

- (a) all business at an extraordinary general meeting except the adoption of rules of order; and
- (b) all business transacted at an annual general meeting, except,
 - (i) the adoption of rules of order;
 - (ii) the consideration of the financial statements;
 - (iii) the report of the directors;
 - (iv) the report of the auditor;
 - (v) the election of directors;
 - (vi) the appointment of the auditor, if required; and
 - (vii) the other business that, under these bylaws, ought to be transacted at an annual general meeting, or business which is brought under consideration by the report of the directors issued with the notice convening the meeting.

16.

- (1) No business, other than the election of a chairman and the adjournment or termination of the meeting, shall be conducted at a general meeting at a time when quorum is not present.
- (2) If at any time during a general meeting there ceases to be a quorum present, business then in progress shall be suspended until there is a quorum present or until the meeting is adjourned or terminated.
- (3) A quorum is three members present or a greater number that the members may determine at a general meeting.

17. If within 30 minutes from the time appointed for a general meeting a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be terminated; but in any other case, it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week, at the same time and place, and if, at the adjourned meeting, a quorum is not present within 30 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting, the members present constitute a quorum.

18. Subject to bylaw 19, the president of the society, the vice president or in the absence of both, one of the other directors present, shall preside as chairman of a general meeting.

19. If at a general meeting

- (a) there is no president, vice president or other director present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting;
or
- (b) the president and all the other directors present are unwilling to act as chairman, the members present shall choose one of their number to be chairman.

20. (1) A general meeting may be adjourned from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
- (2) When a meeting is adjourned for 10 days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of the original meeting.
- (3) Except as provided in this bylaw, it is not necessary to give notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned general meeting.
21. (1) No resolution proposed at a meeting need be seconded and the chairman of a meeting may move or propose a resolution.
- (2) In case of an equality of votes the chairman shall not have a casting or second vote in addition to the vote to which he may be entitled as a member and the proposed resolution shall not pass.
22. (1) A member in good standing present at a meeting of members is entitled to one vote.
- (2) Voting is by show of hands.
- (3) Voting by proxy is not permitted.

Part 5 - Directors and Officers

23. (1) The directors may exercise all the powers and do all the acts and things that the society may exercise and do, and which are not by these bylaws or by statute or otherwise lawfully directed or required to be exercised or done by the society in general meeting, but subject, nevertheless, to
- (a) all laws affecting the society;
 - (b) these bylaws; and
 - (c) rules, not being inconsistent with these bylaws, which are made from time to time by the society in general meeting.
- (2) No rule, made by the society in general meeting, invalidates a prior act of the directors that would have been valid if that rule had not been made.
- 24.
- (1) The president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and one or more other persons shall be the directors of the society.
- (2) The board will be composed of a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of ten (10) Directors.
25. (1) The term of office of a Director is two (2) years.
- (2) No person shall be eligible for election as a director for more

than five (5) consecutive terms. A person who has served as a Director for five (5) consecutive terms will not be eligible for election as a Director for at least one (1) year following the expiry of his or her latest term. These term limits begin with the adoption of this amendment to the bylaws.

(3) Nominations for Directors must be submitted in advance of an election, in accordance with such deadlines as may be established by policy. Nominations will not be permitted from the floor at a General Meeting.

26. (1) The directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.

(2) A director so appointed holds office only until the conclusion of the next following annual general meeting of the society, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting.

27. (1) If a director resigns his office or otherwise ceases to hold office, the remaining directors shall appoint a member to take the place of the former director.

(2) No act or proceeding of the directors is invalid only by reason of there being less than the prescribed number of directors in office.

28. The members may by special resolution remove a director before the expiration of his term of office, and may elect a successor to complete the term of office.

29. In observance of Bylaw 61, no director shall be remunerated for being or acting as a director but a director shall be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred by him while engaged in the affairs of the society.

Part 6 - Proceedings of the Directors

30. (1) The directors may meet together at the places they think fit to dispatch business, adjourn and

otherwise regulate their meetings and proceedings, as they see fit.

(2) The directors may from time to time fix the quorum necessary to transact business, and unless so fixed the quorum shall be a majority of the directors then in office.

(3) The president shall be chairman of all meetings of the directors, but if at a meeting the president is not present within 30 minutes after time appointed for holding the meeting, the vice president shall act as chairman; but if neither is present the directors present may choose one of their number to be chairman at that meeting.

(4) A director may at any time, and the secretary, on the request of any director, shall convene a meeting of the directors.

- 31.
- (1) The directors may delegate any, but not all, of their powers to committees consisting of the director or directors they think fit.
 - (2) A committee so formed in the exercise of the powers so delegated shall conform to any rules imposed on it by the directors, and shall report every act or thing done in exercise of those powers to the earliest meeting of the directors to held next after it has been done.
32. A committee shall elect a chairman of its meetings; but if no chairman is elected, or if at a meeting the chairman is not present within 30 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the directors present who are members of the committee shall choose one of their number to be chairman of the meeting.
33. The members of a committee may meet and adjourn as they think proper.
34. For a first meeting of directors held immediately following the appointment or election of a director or directors at an annual or other general meeting of members, or for a meeting of the directors at which a director is appointed to fill a vacancy in the directors, it is not necessary to give notice of the meeting to the newly elected or appointed director or directors for the meeting to be constituted, if a quorum of directors is present.
35. A director who may be absent temporarily from British Columbia may send or deliver to the address of the society a waiver of notice, which may be by letter, telegram, telex or cable, of any meeting of the directors and may at any time withdraw the waiver, and until the waiver is withdrawn,
- (a) no notice of meeting of directors shall be sent to that director; and
 - (b) any and all meetings of the directors of the society, notice of which has not been given to that director shall, if a quorum of directors is present be valid and effective.
36. (1) Questions arising at a meeting of the directors and committee of directors shall be decided by a majority of votes.
- (2) In case of an equality of votes, the chairman does not have a second or casting vote.
37. No resolution proposed at a meeting of directors or committee of directors need be seconded and the chairman of a meeting may move or propose a resolution.
38. A resolution in writing, signed by all the directors and placed with

the minutes of the directors is as valid and effective as if regularly passed at a meeting of directors.

Part 7 - Duties of Officers

39. (1) The president shall preside at all meetings of the society and of the directors.

(2) The president is the chief executive officer of the society and shall supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.

40. The vice president shall carry out the duties of the president during his absence.

41. The secretary shall

- (a) conduct the correspondence of the society;
- (b) issue notices of meetings of the society and directors;
- (c) keep minutes of all meetings of the society and directors;
- (d) have custody of all records and documents of the society except those required to be kept by the treasurer;
- (e) have custody of the common seal of the society; and
- (f) maintain the register of members.

42. The treasurer shall

- (a) keep the financial records, including books of account, necessary to comply with the Society Act; and
- (b) render financial statements to the directors, members and others when required.

43.

- (1) The offices of the secretary and treasurer may be held by one person who shall be known as the secretary treasurer.
- (2) When a secretary treasurer holds office the total number of directors shall not be less than 5 or the greater number that may have been determined pursuant to bylaw 24 (2).

44. In the absence of the secretary from a meeting, the directors shall appoint another person to act as secretary at the meeting.

Part 8 - Seal

45. The directors may provide a common seal for the society and may destroy a seal and substitute a new seal in its place.

46. The common seal shall be affixed only when authorized by a resolution of the directors and then only in the presence of the persons prescribed in the resolution, or if no persons are prescribed, in the presence of the

president and secretary or president and secretary treasurer.

Part 9 - Borrowing

47. In order to carry out the purposes of the society the directors may, on behalf of and in the name of the society, raise or secure the payment or repayment of money in the manner they decide, and, in particular but without limiting the foregoing, by the issue of debentures.

48. The members may by special resolution restrict the borrowing powers of the directors, but a restriction imposed expires at the next annual general meeting.

Part 10 - Auditor

49. This part applies only to where the society is required or has resolved to have an auditor.

50. The first auditor shall be appointed by the directors who shall also fill all vacancies occurring in the office of auditor.

51. At each annual general meeting the society shall appoint an auditor to hold office until he is re-elected or his successor is elected at the next annual general meeting.

52. An auditor may be removed by ordinary resolution.

53. An auditor shall be promptly informed in writing of appointment or removal.

54. No director and no employee of the society shall be auditor.

55. The auditor may attend general meetings.

Part 11 - Notices to Members

56. A notice may be given to a member, either personally or by mail to him at his registered address.

57. A notice sent by mail shall be deemed to have been given on the second day following that on which the notice is posted, and in proving that notice has been given, it is sufficient to prove the notice was properly addressed and put in a Canadian Post office receptacle.

58. (1) Notice of a general meeting shall be given to

(a) every member shown on the register of members on the day notice is given; and

(b) the auditor, if Part 10 applies.

(2) No other person is entitled to receive a notice of general meeting.

Part 12 - Bylaws

59. The documents and records of the Society, including the financial and accounting records and the minutes of General Meetings, committee meetings and meetings of the Board, will be open to the inspection of any Director at reasonable times and on reasonable notice.

A Member in good standing is entitled, upon providing not less than fourteen (14) days' notice in writing to the Society, to inspect any of the following documents and records of the Society at the Address of the Society during the Society's normal business hours:

- a. the Constitution and these Bylaws, and any amendments thereto;
- b. the statement of directors and registered office of the Society;
- c. minutes of any General Meeting, including the text of each resolution passed at the meeting;
- d. resolutions of the Members in writing, if any;
- e. annual financial statements relating to a past fiscal year that have been received by the Members in a General Meeting;
- f. the register of Directors;
- g. the register of Members;
- h. the Society's certificate of incorporation, and any other certificates, confirmations or records furnished to the Society by the Registrar;
- i. copies of orders made by a court, tribunal or government body in respect of the Society;
- j. the written consents of Directors to act as such; and
- k. the disclosure of a Director or of a senior manager regarding a conflict of interest.

Except as expressly provided by statute or at law, a Member will not be entitled or have the right to inspect any other document or record of the Society. However, subject to such policies as the Board may establish, a Member in good standing may request, in writing delivered to the Address of the Society, to inspect any other document or record of the Society and the Board may allow the designated representative of such Member to inspect the document or a

copy thereof, in whole or in part and subject to such redaction as the Board deems necessary, all in the Board's sole discretion.

Copies of documents to which a Member is allowed to inspect may be provided on request by the Member for a fee to be determined by the Board, provided such fee does not exceed the limits prescribed by the Act.

60. These bylaws shall not be altered or added to except by special resolution.

Part 13 - Previous Constitution Provisions

61. The directors shall serve without remuneration, and the directors shall not receive, directly or indirectly, any profits from their position as Directors, but may be paid expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties. This provision was previously unalterable.

62. The Society shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its member(s) and no part of any income of the society shall be payable or otherwise available for the personal benefit of the member(s) thereof, and any profits or other accretions to the society shall be used for promoting its purpose. This provision was previously unalterable.

63. Upon wind-up or dissolution of the Society, the assets remaining after the payment of all costs, charges, and expenses properly incurred in the wind-up, including the remuneration of a liquidator, and after payment to employees of the society of any arrears of salaries or wages, and after payment of any other debts of the society, shall be distributed to a charitable organization (or organizations) in Canada, registered under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, which shall be designated by the Board of Directors. This provision was previously unalterable.

64. The Society shall carry on works exclusively of a charitable nature. This provision was previously unalterable.