

## By-Law No. 2 - Membership

1. Membership is open to men and women.
2. Membership will be limited to 205 members but may be adjusted by the Management Committee to reflect any change in circumstance such as a change in hall capacity and configuration.
3. The Management Committee Membership Chair shall maintain a list of prospective members if membership is at its limit (Article 2.2) and shall invite new members in accordance with dates of application. Members in good standing from the previous year will have until the November meeting of the current year to renew their membership after which new members will be accepted as per By-Law 2.2 when the membership is at capacity.
4. When an individual joins the Club, they shall pay an initiation fee of \$10.00 and an annual membership fee. Depending on when a member joins, the membership fee shall be prorated as follows:

September 1 to January 31 - full membership fee + initiation fee

February 1 to March 31 - half membership fee + initiation fee

After April 1 - full fiscal year's membership fee shall be due for the following year's fee from September 1 to August 31.

Upon acceptance to the Club, a new member should reference the Club's Constitution and By-Laws on the Club's website <https://www.probusperth.ca/constitution.htm>.

5. The annual membership fee will be set by the Management Committee annually, with any changes to the fee taking effect as of the following September 1. Any change in the membership fee must be approved at a General Meeting.
6. The Management Committee shall terminate the membership of any member who fails to pay the annual membership fee by the November meeting.
7. Honorary membership may be conferred on a person by a majority of members voting at a General meeting. An Honorary member shall not be required to pay the annual membership fee, and shall enjoy all privileges of membership **except** voting and election to office. No more than 2% of the membership shall be Honorary members at any given time.
8. Life membership may be conferred, by a majority of members at a General Meeting, upon a member who has rendered outstanding service to the Club. A Life member shall not be required to pay the annual membership fee, and shall enjoy all privileges of membership. No more than 2% of the membership shall be Life members at any given time.
9. Members who reach the age of 90 by December 31 will be made De-facto Life Members in January of the following year. These De-facto Life Members will be exempt from paying membership fees and will be recognized at the January General Meeting. These De-facto Life Members are a separate class of Life Members from those described in Section 8 of By-Law 2. Members described in this section will not be included in the number limit in section 2.2 but will be included in the annual membership report to and charge by Probus Canada.
10. Conduct of members - If, in the opinion of, and after due consideration by the Club's Management Committee, a member conducts himself / herself in such a manner as to bring discredit on the organization, or they cause discord within the membership, they may be asked to resign. The resignation request shall be made if, after discussion between the member and the Management Committee, the conflict is not resolved. In the event that the member does not resign, then the Management Committee shall inform the member in writing that their membership has been revoked.

Proposed By-Law to Limit Membership to 205 members with flexibility for the Management Committee to adjust the limit as circumstances dictate.

By-Law Text:

***Membership will be limited to 205 members but may be adjusted by the Management Committee to reflect any change in circumstance such as a change in hall capacity and configuration.***

Rationale: The current meeting venue, the Perth Royal Canadian Legion Branch 244, has a fire code seating capacity of 212 for the space we occupy. The current configuration of seats, tables, lectern, projection equipment in the room and the need to maintain some socializing space accommodates the upper end attendance of approximately 130 members. We are consistently accommodating over 100 members at a meeting depending on the main speaker's topic, weather and time of year. The Management Committee feels that we can accommodate the current attendance levels but if the membership were to grow it would become logistically more difficult and congested.

Implementation: The current membership number is approximately 200. The implementation of the proposed By-Law would be grandfathered as of November 2019. That is to say, that all current members would be accommodated plus any new members who join at the September 2019 meeting. Renewal of membership is to be by the end of the November meeting and, unlike the past, we would not "track down" members who have not paid by that date. Also members who are 90+, as described in By-Law 2.9, will not be included in the limit (Proposed By-Law 2.2). Some of these members are infrequent attendees at meetings while recognizing some are regular attendees. We currently have 7 members identified in the 90+ club and no members recorded as Honorary or Life Members (excepting the 90+ members who are known to the Membership Chair and automatically become Life Members).

On an ongoing basis, Members in good standing from the previous year will have until the November meeting of the current year to renew their membership after which new members will be accepted as per By-Law 2.2 when the membership is at capacity

The approach to the membership cap will need to be well communicated and communicated on an ongoing basis, at least initially.

Other Membership By-Law Changes:

There are a number of other housekeeping By-Law changes to reflect the inclusion of the proposed By-Law 2.2

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