

MPRA  
Biennial Convention  
2019  
Resolutions

## MPRA Resolutions 2019

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## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### I. Special Resolution to Ratify the MPRA Bylaws

#### Special Resolution #1

WHEREAS the former *Society Act* required the MPRA to file copies of all special resolutions which amended its bylaws;

AND WHEREAS the MPRA passed a number of resolutions to amend its bylaws between 2008 and February 2017;

AND WHEREAS the MPRA filed all special resolutions passed since 2008 that amended its bylaws;

AND WHEREAS the Registrar of Societies has informed the MPRA that it no longer has a record of the MPRA filing special resolutions to amend bylaws after 2008;

AND WHEREAS the MPRA transitioned to the new *Societies Act* in or about February 2017;

AND WHEREAS all bylaws filed on transition in February 2017 were validly passed by special resolution;

AND WHEREAS members have conducted themselves at all times as though the bylaws as filed in February 2017 were valid and in force;

AND WHEREAS the Registrar of Societies has confirmed that it would be appropriate for the MPRA to pass a special resolution ratifying its bylaws as filed in February 2017;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the membership of the MPRA ratifies the MPRA Bylaws filed with the Registrar of Societies on its transition to the new *Societies Act* in February 2017.

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurst*

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### II. Special Resolution to Ratify Becoming a Member-Funded Society

#### Special Resolution #2

WHEREAS the MPRA has not received as a society primarily funded by its members to carry on activities for the benefit of its members;

AND WHEREAS the MPRA has never received public donations in excess of \$20,000 or 10% of its gross income,

AND WHEREAS the MPRA is not otherwise disqualified from becoming a member-funded society by s. 191(2) of the *Societies Act*;

AND WHEREAS the members of a member-funded society (but not the general public) are entitled to access the MPRA's records pursuant to the *Societies Act*;

AND WHEREAS in or about February 2017, the MPRA transitioned to the new *Societies Act*;

AND WHEREAS, on transition, the MPRA filed with the Registrar of Societies a version of the constitution that provides in part as follows:

This society is a member-funded society. It is funded primarily by its members to carry on activities for the benefit of its members.

On its liquidation or dissolution, this society may distribute its money and other property to its members.

AND WHEREAS the MPRA did not pass a special resolution to become a member-funded society before it transitioned to the new *Societies Act*,

AND WHEREAS the MPRA cannot amend its constitution to become a member-funded society at a later date without a court order;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of the MPRA ratify the constitution as filed with the Registrar of Societies in or about February 2017, including the provision which states that the MPRA is a member-funded society.

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurst*

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### III. Special Resolution to Amend Clause 3 of the MPRA Constitution

#### Special Resolutions #3

WHEREAS section 10 of the *Societies Act* provides that a Society's constitution may only include the name of the society, the purposes of the society, and any permissible statement that the Society is a member-funded society;

AND WHEREAS Clause 3 of the MPRA constitution provides:

Should a District be suspended or cease operations, all books and assets of the District shall become the property of the Association.  
This clause is alterable.

AND WHEREAS Clause 3 is not permitted by s. 10 of the *Societies Act*;

AND WHEREAS the membership of the MPRA wishes for Clause 3 to remain in effect, but as a bylaw rather than a constitutional provision;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MPRA constitution be amended to remove clause 3 from the constitution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the MPRA bylaws be amended to include the following as Bylaw 57(e) in Part 13:

Should a District be suspended or cease operations, all books and assets of the District shall become the property of the Association.

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurst*

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### IV. Special Resolution Concerning Notice of AGM

#### Special Resolutions #4

WHEREAS section 60 of the former *Society Act* required the MPRA to give 14 days' written notice to those members entitled to receive notice of a general meeting, unless the members otherwise waived the notice requirements;

AND WHEREAS, consistent with the former section 60 of the *Societies Act*, MPRA Bylaw 52 provided for notice of a Biennial Convention Meeting or Biennial Reporting Meeting to be provided as follows:

#### 52. Notice

a) Notice of a Biennial Convention Meeting/Biennial Reporting Meeting must be given to:

I. Each Provincial Executive and every District shown on the register of Districts on the day the notice is given, and (*As amended May 2015*)

ii. The auditor, if appointed under Part 11.

b) No other person is required to receive a notice of a Biennial Convention Meeting/Biennial Reporting Meeting. (*As amended May 2015*)

AND WHEREAS section 77 of the new *Societies Act* now explicitly requires that where a society has more than 250 members, the society may provide notice by posting it on its website at least 21 days before the meeting, and providing email notice to all members who provide an email address;

AND WHEREAS section 77 of the new *Societies Act* requires that notice of an annual general meeting be delivered between 60 and 14 days before the meeting;

AND WHEREAS it is advisable for the notice requirements in the MPRA Bylaws to be congruent with the notice requirements in the *Societies Act*;

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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 52 of the MRPA Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

52. Notice

a) Notice of a Biennial Convention Meeting/Biennial Reporting Meeting must be provided as follows:

i. The Notice shall be posted on the MPRA website at least 21 days before either of those meetings and maintained on the website until the date of those meetings

ii. The Notice shall be sent by email to each of the following between 60 and 14 days before that meeting:

a. Each Provincial Executive and every District shown on the register of Districts, and

ii. The auditor, if appointed under Part 11; and

iii. The Notice shall be published in the summer and fall MPRA newsletters and distributed by email to all members.

b) No other person is required to receive a notice of a Biennial Convention Meeting/Biennial Reporting Meeting. (*As amended May 2015*)

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurst*

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### V. Special Resolution Concerning Appointment of Auditor

#### Special Resolutions #5

WHEREAS section 111 of the *Societies Act* provides that where an auditor is required, it must be appointed at each general meeting by ordinary resolution;

AND WHEREAS MPRA Bylaw 50(b) allows, but does not require, the Provincial Executive to appoint a qualified accountant to act as auditor;

AND WHEREAS the MPRA is not required to have an auditor under its bylaws, and because the MPRA was not a reporting society under the former *Society Act*;

AND WHEREAS it is nevertheless advisable for the accountant requirements in the MPRA Bylaws to be congruent with the accountant requirements in the *Societies Act*;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Bylaw 50(b) of the Bylaws be amended to read as follows:

The delegates at a Biennial Convention Meeting and/or members attending the Biennial Reporting Meeting may appoint a qualified accountant to be the auditor by ordinary resolution.

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurst*



## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### VI. Special Resolution concerning new PID Number

#### Special Resolution #6

Whereas the MPRA have changed the method of identifying members for the annual dues deduction to the Personal Identifier (PID) as requested by the MPP

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that the wording will be changed in all places of MPRA documents to reflect this wording.

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurs*

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### VII. Vice President Region One Vancouver Island

#### Special Resolution #7

**Subject:** Region One Vancouver Island Vice President

**Whereas:** The area of Vancouver Island is large and

**Whereas:** It is difficult for one Vice President to service the whole area

**Therefore, be it resolved:** That there will be two Regional Vice Presidents for the Vancouver Island Region.

*Submitted by the Provincial Executive  
Biennial Convention 2019*

*Provincial President Steven Polak  
Provincial Secretary Janice Broadhurst*

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### Special Resolution #08

**Subject:** Consistency of wording for termination of membership

**Reference:**

Municipal Pension Retirees Association's current Constitution and Bylaws Part 3, Clause 6  
Municipal Pension Retirees Association's current Regulations Section 5 Annual Dues Clause 7

**Issue:**

Currently there is a different wording between the Constitution and Regulations in relation to when a member's name will be removed from the membership list after they have notified the Association of their wish to resign. There is also a need to clarify the means of communication that can be used to submit the request for voluntary termination of membership.

**Whereas:** the Municipal Pension Retirees Association's current Constitution and Bylaws Part 3, Clause 6 states "Any member may terminate his or her membership in the Association by submitting a resignation in writing to the Provincial Office and the member's name shall be removed *forthwith* from the Membership roll", and

**Whereas** the Municipal Pension Retirees Association's current Regulations Section 5 Annual Dues Clause 7 states: "Members who no longer wish to be members must notify the Provincial Office in writing. Members will continue as members until the end of the current year. Refunds for annual dues will not be given" and

**Whereas** there is a need for consistency of wording between the Constitution and Regulations and

**Whereas** there is a need for clarifying and updating the means of communication for terminating membership in the Association

**Therefore, be it resolved:**

**Part 3 -Resignation, Suspension and Expulsions Clause 6** be amended to read:

Any member may terminate his or her membership in the Association by submitting a resignation in writing by mail, facsimile, or email to the Provincial Office. The member's name will be removed from the Membership roll at the end of the current year. Refunds for annual dues will not be given.

**Be it further resolved that**

**Section 5 Annual Due Clause 7** be amended to read:

Members who no longer wish to be members must notify the Provincial Office in writing by mail, facsimile, or email. Members will continue as members until the end of the current year. Refunds for annual dues will not be given.

## **MPRA Bylaw Resolutions**

### **Special Resolution #9**

**Subject:**      **Quorum for Regional Meetings**

**Reference:**    MPRA District Regulations Article V- Meetings

**Issue:**        Over the last few years there appears to be an issue at many of the regional district meetings to have 10 members; so we are recommending that the Quorum which is currently set at 10 be changed to 5.

**Whereas:**     By reducing the quorum it gives each district the ability to have regular meetings where business can be done.

**Therefore, be it resolved:** the quorum shall be a minimum of five members or 5% of the district membership whichever is greater.

## MPRA Bylaw Resolutions

### Special Resolution #10

**Subject:** First Year Membership Fee

**Issue:** First year membership fee is discouraging to new members

**Whereas:** The MPRA is working to increase the membership to provide a more effective voice for the society with its partners and with the MPP

A potential member pays a full year membership fee no matter what time of year that the person joins the MPRA and this can discourage potential members from joining near the end of a calendar year.

**Therefore, be it resolved:** That the application fee for new members be waived in the calendar year that the application is received.

## **MPRA Bylaws Resolutions**

### **Special Resolution #11**

**Subject:**        **Changing the Procedure for Voting on Resolutions at the MPRA Biennial Convention**

**Issue:**         Voting concurrence or non-concurrence with the Resolutions Committee's recommendation and not on the actual resolution, is confusing.

**Whereas:**

1. The MPRA Provincial Regulations do not specify how resolutions should be processed, and
2. The MPRA Constitution and Bylaws do not specify how resolutions will be voted upon by the delegates at the Biennial Convention, and
3. The current procedure can be confusing, and discourage delegates from participating

**Therefore, be it resolved:**

1. That the current practice of submitting resolutions to the Resolutions Committee will continue.
2. That the Resolutions Committee will review each resolution and present their recommendation to the Convention delegates, indicating whether the resolution should be adopted
3. That the Convention delegates will consider the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, shall hear the views of those who submitted the resolution as well as any discussion from other delegates, and then shall vote to accept or reject the resolution, and not vote on concurrence or non-concurrence with the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee

## **MPRA Resolutions**

### **Resolution #12**

**Subject:**      **Climate Change**

**Issue:**        Comprehensive Clean Energy Policy

**Whereas:**     Canada will hold a federal election in 2019 and  
                      Whereas climate change is foremost on the minds of Canadian citizens

**Therefore, be it resolved:**    that the MPRA work with other organizations to encourage federal election candidates to commit to passing a comprehensive clean energy legislation and to commit to providing the resources needed to make positive changes to our environment

## **MPRA Resolutions**

### **Resolution #13**

**Subject:**      **National Pharmacare**

**Issue:**        Lack of National Pharmacare Program

**Whereas:**     Canada will have a national election in 2019

**Therefore, be it resolved:**    that the MPRA work with other organizations to encourage federal election candidates to commit to passing a National Pharmacare Program, once they are elected.



## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #14

**Subject:** Medical Services Plan (MSP Premiums being discontinued)

**Reference:** The Advisor – Winter 2018- President’s Message page 2

**Issue:** The MSP premiums will be totally discontinued by 2020 and the Employers’ Contributions could continue to go to the Basic Account, the 0.8 of 1% of the Employers’ Contributions to the Inflation Adjustment Account (used for Group Health Benefits could be continued.

**Whereas:** Whereas, the unsubsidized dental plan as of January 2017 is a hardship to some Municipal Pension Plan retirees

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that in 2020 when the Medical Services Plan Premiums are phased out completely, the premiums are put into a separate account under the control of Plan Partners. Returning the subsidized dental plan is the goal.

## **MPRA Resolutions**

### **Resolution #15**

**Subject: Regular Eye Examinations**

**Whereas:** Regular Eye Examinations used to be covered by Medical Services Plan of BC (MSP) and  
Whereas the examinations are no longer covered and patients are now charged up to \$74.00 for this examination

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that the MPRA advocate for full coverage of Regular Eye Examinations

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #16

**Subject: Shingles Vaccine**

**Whereas:** The Shingles Vaccine (Zostavax) is not covered by any healthcare plan and  
Whereas the new Vaccine (Shingrix) is more effective but also more expensive and also  
not covered  
and  
Whereas many retirees cannot afford either vaccine due to the high cost

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that the MPRA place as one of its top priorities in 2019 the  
issue of full funding for the shingles vaccine

## **MPRA Resolutions**

### **Resolution #17**

**Subject:**      **Liability Insurance for District Executive Members**

**Issue:**        Anyone can sue a member of the District Executive for any reason. Members of the District Executive do not have the funds to defend themselves

**Whereas:**     Districts may be liable for accidents and misadventures by members and guests at District meetings.

**Therefore, be it resolved:**    That liability insurance be provided for all District Executive Members. Such liability insurance to be provided by the Provincial body of the MPRA

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #18

**Subject:**      **Membership Application Form**

**Issue:**        The membership application form requires that the applicant provide BC Pension reference number. Persons receiving a civic pension that is not a Municipal Pension do not have a BC Pension reference number.

**Whereas:**     Retirees receiving a civic pension that is not a BC Municipal Pension are encouraged and recruited to join the MPRA

**Therefore, be it resolved:**    That the MPRA amend the application form to ensure these retirees find it easy to join the MPRA as associate members in keeping with the MPRA goal of increasing membership

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #19

**Subject:**       **Distribution of the MPRA Publicity Video**

**Issue:**         Some members do not have online access and cannot review the MPRA Publicity Video

**Whereas:**      The MPRA Publicity Video can only be reviewed by members who have access to the internet,

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that a flash drive of the MPRA video be made available upon request to each District to be used to further promote the MPRA to potential members in accordance with the provincial goal of increasing membership

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #20

**Subject:** Driver's Medical Examination Report (DMER)

**Issue:** Indiscriminate DMER Pricing Scheme

**Whereas:**

When a driver turns 80 they are required to see their doctor for a DMER every two years  
Seniors completing their DMER assessments contribute toward road safety  
This mandatory DMER is not covered by provincial health care and the bill is left to the clinic's discretion -it can range anywhere from \$50.00 to \$500.00  
In the near future, there will be approx. 200,000 affected drivers in BC.  
The Office of the BC Seniors Advocate has expressed concern about the discriminate DMER pricing scheme.

**Therefore, be it resolved:** That the MPRA consult and co-ordinate with fellow stakeholders that this indiscriminate cost be regulated and covered by the Provincial Health Care.

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #21

**Subject:** Shingrix- Shingles Vaccine

**Issue:** High costs prevent many Seniors from receiving the Vaccine

**Whereas:** Approximately 1 out of 3 people will get shingles in their lifetime  
Shingles is more common in people over 50 years of age or in those with immune systems weakened by medication or disease  
An attack of Shingles can be devastating to ones' overall health and well being - especially seniors  
Coverage for Shingles vaccine is currently a MPRA campaign item  
Immunize BC reports 97% effectiveness for Shingrix in large clinical studies  
Shingrix is administered as two doses -two to six months apart @\$150.00 per dose

**Therefore, be it resolved:**

That the MPRA engage stakeholders and lobby government for coverage of the Shingrix Vaccine



## **MPRA Resolutions**

### **Resolution #22**

**Subject:** Communication to District Members

**Issue:** Access to District Email List

**Whereas:**

1. District #36 members have asked our Recording Secretary to send them timely and pertinent information on items that may be of interest to them, and
2. Sending email from a personal email account is cumbersome

**Therefore, be it resolved:** That the MPRA office create guidelines and facilitate distribution through organizational email account and/or make access available to the District Recording Secretary

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #23

**Subject:** Advocacy role to influence processes used to initiate testing of drivers aged 80 and over

**Issue:**

On or around the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, drivers get a notice, by mail from the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles, advising them that they need to make an appointment to see their doctor. The doctor's visit is meant to determine their fitness to drive. There is no consideration for the person's driving history. Doctors are required to decide whether a person requires a driving test. Criteria has not been established to provide consistency in assessment of the senior nor in the fee that is charged.

**Whereas:** the Municipal Pension Retirees Association advocates for its members, and  
**Whereas** there are retirees who are 80 years of age and older, or soon approaching that age, and  
**Whereas** in British Columbia, the superintendent of motor vehicles has mandated that 80+, seniors who drive, be assessed by their doctor regardless of the status of their driving record, and  
**Whereas** the doctor's visit can cost anywhere from \$100 to \$200, and must be paid by the Senior,

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that

The Municipal Pension Retirees Association work with other Senior's Advocacy groups to influence the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles in the processes used to initiate testing of drivers:

1. Testing based on past driving record rather than age, and be applicable to all drivers, not just those 80 and over,
2. Exempt seniors who have an impeccable driving record from this assessment; and
3. That given this is a mandated process that the Motor Vehicle Branch pay the fee for testing, or at minimum set a standardized fee that doctors can charge.

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #24

**Subject:** Re-instatement of dental plan coverage for opted-out MPRA members when/if the dental plan is again subsidized.

**Issue:** The Dental Plan for MPRA members ceased to be subsidized in January 1, 2017. Some members withdrew from Dental coverage because they could not afford the unsubsidized plan. Consideration should be given to establishing a process that allows MPRA members to be re-instated into the Dental Plan when subsidies for the plan are re-introduced.

**Whereas:** The Municipal Pension Retirees Association is currently advocating for improvements to our Extended Health Care coverage provincially with funds coming available from the elimination of the Medical Services Plan premiums and is lobbying the Federal Government to implement a National Pharmacare Program; both of which would enable funding for improvements to the extended health and dental programs.

**Whereas** medical research has proven that poor dental health contributes to overall poor health, particularly within the cardiovascular system

**Whereas** although Pacific Blue Cross has a requirement that in order to enroll in the Dental Health program, a person must have uninterrupted coverage from a recognized insurance provider; in 2016 this requirement was waived allowing anyone to enroll in the unsubsidized dental requirement of “uninterrupted coverage from a recognized insurance provider.”

**Therefore, be it resolved:** The Municipal Pension Retirees Association develop a strategy with the Dental Plan provider for when the Dental Plan is again subsidized:

1. That permits all members to benefit from the re-introduced subsidies, whether or not they are currently enrolled in a Dental Plan.
2. That the option is not cost prohibitive so that current opted out members are able to afford coverage.

## MPRA Resolutions

### Resolution #25

**Subject:** Transition to paperless system

**Issue:** More members are using electronic communications on a regular basis in their every day activities. Potential members of the MPRA who will retire in 2019 and subsequent years, use computers almost exclusively at work and at home. Consideration should be given to increasing access to on-line processes.

**Whereas:** A large portion of new retirees come from jobs where they used electronic communication routinely, and

**Whereas** retirees who are accustomed to using electronic communications at home for purposes such as communicating, banking, purchasing, obtaining information, are more prone to be frustration and incredulity when this is not available, and

**Whereas** there is a software for development of on-line forms that can be completed, saved, edited and sent electronically, and

**Whereas** The Municipal Pension Retirees Association has already introduced forms under Publications on it website, and

**Whereas** there are members who do not have access to email or other web-based programs, so will require access to paper forms, and options for submitting information.

**Therefore, be it resolved:** that

The Municipal Pension Retirees Association develop a strategy to transition towards a paperless system by 2021 with the first focus being the revision to the existing on-line forms so that they can be completed, saved, edited and sent electronically to the Provincial Office.

**Be It Further Resolved** that

Until all members provide an email address for communication purposes, an alternate paper system be available through the Provincial Office and District Executives.

## **MPRA Resolutions**

### **Resolution #26**

**Subject:** Hearing Aids

**Whereas** as Hearing Aids are extremely expensive and

**Whereas** many of our members cannot afford to purchase Hearing Aids which is detrimental to their well being.

**Therefore be it resolved** that the MPRA pursue with the Provincial and Federal Governments to create laws to reduce the cost of the purchase of hearing aids, and the maintenance of hearing aids be more affordable to all persons needing hearing aids.