

## **BY-LAW AMENDMENT: REDUCING MANDATORY NOTICE OF MEETING PERIOD**

Requested by the COPE Executive on April 14, 2025.

Submitted by the Policy and Constitution Committee May 7th, 2025.

WHEREAS the COPE Constitution requires 45 days notice for General Meetings and Constitutional Amendments which is beyond beyond standards in political parties, or under the Societies Act;

WHEREAS the large notice of 45 days has sometimes created organizational issues, as turning to the membership for approval requires planning months in advance;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the COPE Membership endorse a mandatory meeting notice requirement aligned with the BC Societies act of 14 days, with an amendment to suggest that 21 days notice be the suggested notice period except in exceptional circumstances.

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the COPE Constitution be amended as follows:

Part 3 – General Meetings, Section 2 is amended as such:

*Notice of a General Meeting, Special Meeting, Issues Meeting, Policy Conference, Annual General Meeting, or Nominating Conference shall specify the time day and in general terms the nature of the business to be discussed, no later than 14 days prior to the date of the specified meeting, with the suggested meeting notice being a minimum of 21 days except in exceptional circumstances. Notice of meeting place shall be given no later than 14 days before the specified meeting. These meeting notices shall be given in writing to all members in good standing and may, without limitation, be given by email, fax, personal delivery, or mail.*

*Notice of Motions for amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws shall be similarly submitted to the membership no later than 14 days before a General Meeting or AGM, or may be given at a preceding General Meeting or AGM.*

Part 4 – The Executive, Section 7 sections (a) and (b) is amended as such:

*7. If a Table Officer or Member-at-Large ceases to hold office,*

*(a) an election for the vacant position shall be held at the next general meeting, provided it is possible to give 14 days' notice of the election to the membership*

*(b) where 14 days' notice cannot be given, the election shall be announced at the next general meeting and take place at the following meeting.*

Comparison:

CURRENT CONSTITUTION	AMENDMENT
<p><b>Part 3 - General Meetings, Section 2</b></p> <p>Notice of a General Meeting, Special Meeting, Issues Meeting, Policy Conference, Annual General Meeting, or Nominating Conference shall specify the time day and in general terms the nature of the business to be discussed, no later than 45 days prior to the date of the specified meeting. Notice of meeting place shall be given no later than 14 days before the specified meeting. These meeting notices shall be given in writing to all members in good standing and may, without limitation, be given by email, fax, personal delivery, or mail. In the event of a by-election, the usual 45 days notice may be reduced to no less than 21 days.</p> <p>Notice of Motions for amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws shall be similarly submitted to the membership no later than 45 days before a General Meeting or AGM, or may be given at a preceding General Meeting or AGM.</p>	<p><b>Part 3 - General Meetings, Section 2</b></p> <p>Notice of a General Meeting, Special Meeting, Issues Meeting, Policy Conference, Annual General Meeting, or Nominating Conference shall specify the time day and in general terms the nature of the business to be discussed, no later than 14 days prior to the date of the specified meeting, with the suggested meeting notice being a minimum of 21 days except in exceptional circumstances. Notice of meeting place shall be given no later than 14 days before the specified meeting. These meeting notices shall be given in writing to all members in good standing and may, without limitation, be given by email, fax, personal delivery, or mail.</p> <p>Notice of Motions for amendments to the Constitution and/or Bylaws shall be similarly submitted to the membership no later than 14 days before a General Meeting or AGM, or may be given at a preceding General Meeting or AGM.</p>
<p><b>Part 4 - The Executive, Section 7</b></p> <p>If a Table Officer or Member-at-Large ceases to hold office,</p> <p>(a) an election for the vacant position shall be held at the next general meeting, provided it is possible to give 45 days' notice of the election to the membership</p> <p>(b) where 45 days' notice cannot be given, the election shall be announced at the next general meeting and take place at the following meeting</p>	<p><b>Part 4 - The Executive, Section 7</b></p> <p>If a Table Officer or Member-at-Large ceases to hold office,</p> <p>(a) an election for the vacant position shall be held at the next general meeting, provided it is possible to give 14 days' notice of the election to the membership</p> <p>(b) where 14 days' notice cannot be given, the election shall be announced at the next general meeting and take place at the following meeting.</p>