

2024 AGM Proposed Bylaw Amendments Explainer

Motion N06: Revision of the Board of Directors

This motion is proposing that the positions of Chairperson, Director of College Affairs, and Director of Internal affairs be removed and turned into portfolio positions. Board members, once elected, have the opportunity to run for a portfolio position through an internal election process.

In order to address the loss of these 3 positions (Chairperson, Director of College Affairs, and Director of Internal Affairs) this motion also proposes the addition of 4 Director-at-Large positions. This would address the loss of the above positions and reduce barriers to running on the board. The additional position would address the loss of a board member when the Annacis Island campus was closed in 2022 and that campus representative position was removed.

Why is the board proposing this?

In recent years there has been an increase in members running for the positions of Chairperson, Director of College Affairs, and Director of Internal Affairs on the mistaken assumption that these positions hold greater power and prestige than other positions on the board. In fact, no position on the board has any more power than any other.

This change will better reflect the actual duties these positions hold and allow elected board members to decide among themselves who performs these duties, and also allows a mechanism to choose someone else if the board member holding a particular portfolio position steps down from, or is removed from the board. The addition of 4 Director-At-Large positions will also reduce the barrier of participation in the election as these positions have less initial responsibility should a member be elected into it.

Motion N07: Term Limit of Board Members

This motion is proposing that a term limit of 4 years be placed on Board Members.

Why is the board proposing this?

This motion has been proposed by the Board to address concerns regarding board members sitting on the board for many years and potentially stopping other members from sitting on the board and bringing new ideas. The Bylaws state that the Term of a board members is from the end of the first board meeting after the most recent election until the the end of the first . In order to address this concern the motion proposes that the term limit of board members be set to 4 terms (4 years) in office.

Motion N08: Moving Board Member Compensation into the SUVCC Bylaws

This motion is proposing that Policy 20.03 which includes how and how much board members may receive as a stipend for their time volunteering on the Board be removed and placed into Bylaw V. **Note: Policies can be changed by the Board of Directors at any time with a 2/3's majority vote, while Bylaws can only be changed at an Annual General Meeting and require a 2/3's majority vote.**

Why is the board proposing this?

This past year the board voted to increase the amount that board members receive as a stipend for their time served on the Board in an attempt to make it easier for members to serve on the Board by ensuring they are more adequately compensated for their time. However, the Board is also aware that because this policy can be changed by the board it would be very easy for future board to further increase their stipends with little to no oversight from the general membership. By moving this policy into Bylaw V, it will ensure that future Boards cannot easily change the amount they receive in stipends. Bylaws can only be changed at an Annual General Meeting which would require the Board to ask the members if they can have a raise. This is much more fiscally responsible as it ensures Board members cannot raise their stipends by any amount and at any time.