

**PEACHLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BY-LAWS**

ARTICLE I – NAME AND OBJECTIVES

- Section 1: The name of the organization shall be the Peachland Chamber of Commerce.
- Section 2: The objectives of the Peachland Chamber of Commerce shall be to promote members first; improve trade and commerce; enhance the economic, civic, and social welfare of the district.
- Section 3: The usual place of meeting shall be within the municipality of Peachland.
- Section 4: The Peachland Chamber of Commerce shall not lend its support to any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE II – INTERPRETATION

- Section 5: Wherever the words “The Chamber” occur in these By-Laws, they shall be understood to mean “The Peachland Chamber of Commerce” as a body.
- Section 6 a: Wherever the words “Officers” occur in these by-laws, they shall be understood to mean “The Officers of the Board of Directors of the Peachland Chamber of Commerce”.
- Section 6 b: The “Board” shall be understood to mean the group of duly elected members of the Peachland Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.
- Section 7: Wherever the word “District” occurs in these by-laws, it shall mean that area, within and for which this Chamber was established, as defined in the Certificate of Registration under the Board of Trade Act.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 8: Any reputable person directly or indirectly engaged or interested in trade, commerce, or the economic and social welfare of the District shall be eligible for membership in the Chamber.
- Section 9: Associations, Corporations, Societies, Partnerships, or Estates, directly or indirectly engaged or interested in trade, commerce, or the economic and social welfare of the District may become members of the Chamber.
- Section 10: Any member in good standing may propose any eligible person or organization as a candidate for becoming a member of the Chamber,

providing such candidate shall undertake, if admitted, to be governed by the by-laws of the Chamber.

- Section 11: Membership shall continue from the time of admittance until a member resigns in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or has been removed from the roll of members by action of the board.
- Section 12: Any member of the Chamber who intends to retire from membership, or to resign their membership, may do so at any time, by giving written notice of such intention to an Officer of the Board, and upon discharging any lawful liability which is outstanding on the books of the Chamber against said member at the time of such notice.
- Section 13: The Board of Directors may remove from the roll of members the names of any newly enrolled member failing to pay annual dues within thirty days of admission, or of any other member who fails to pay such dues within sixty days of the date on which they fall due. Upon such action by the Board of Directors, all privileges of membership shall be forfeited.
- Section 14: Persons who have distinguished themselves by some meritorious or public service may be elected Honorary Members by a two-thirds vote of the Chamber. Such recognition shall be for a term of one year and may be repeated. Honorary membership shall include all the privileges of active membership except that of holding office but with exemption of payment of annual dues.
- Section 15: Any member of the Chamber may be expelled with a two-thirds vote of the board, given written notice of intention, reason, opportunity for rebuttal, and opportunity to speak at said meeting.
- Section 15 A: An associate Member is a non-voting member and is not eligible to be a Director.

ARTICLE IV – DUES AND ASSESSMENTS

- Section 16: The Board, subject to the approval of the general meetings whenever a change in the original amount is involved, shall determine the annual dues payable by members of the Chamber annually.
- Section 17: Other assessments may be levied against all members, provided the Board recommends them and approved by the majority of the members at a general meeting of the Chamber. The notice calling such general meeting shall state the nature of the proposed assessment.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 18: Officers shall be: a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, as well as at least five other directors. The officers shall be elected from among the membership each year at the annual general meeting by ballot and shall form the Board of Directors. They shall remain in office for two years OR until their successors are appointed, but no such officer of the Board of Directors shall hold the same office (title) for more than four years in succession. Upon approval of the board, any one position can be extended to a maximum of two more years. The retiring President shall be ex-officio, a member of the Board of Directors. New directors (to add to or replace exiting directors) can be nominated and accepted at any quarterly general meeting or AGM.
- Section 19: Where a member of the Executive dies; resigns their office; or is absent for three consecutive meetings of the Board, the Board of Directors may, at any subsequent Board of Directors meeting, elect an existing member of the Board of Directors to take office of the member who died, resigned, or is absent.
- Section 20 a: Any Officer or Board member may be suspended from his office or have his tenure of office terminated after due course. If in the unanimous opinion of the Board, he is grossly negligent in the performance of his duties, providing, however, that any Officer or Board member so suspended, or whose tenure of office has been terminated, shall be at liberty to appeal the decision of the Board of Directors directly to the membership at the next general meeting.
- Section 20 b: Any member in good standing may be voted into a director- at- large position through two-thirds vote by the Board of Directors.
- Section 21: The board shall have the general power of administration. It may make or authorize petitions or representations to the various governments within Canada, or others, as may be mandated or supported by a vote of a majority of members present at any general meeting.
- Section 22: The Board shall, in addition to the powers hereby expressly conferred on it, have such powers as are assigned to it by any by-law of the Chamber provided, that such powers are not inconsistent with the provisions of the Board of Trade Act.
- Section 23: Any five members or more of the Board, lawfully met shall be a quorum and a majority of such quorum may do all things within the Board of Directors.
- Section 24: The Board shall write, revise, or propose such by-laws, rules, and regulations as needed best adapted to promote the welfare of the Chamber,

and shall submit them for adoption at a general meeting of the Chamber called for that purpose.

- Section 25: The Board, or upon request of the President, may appoint committees, or designate members of the Board, the Chamber or others, to examine, consider, and report upon any matter, or to take such action as the Board may request.
- Section 26: The Board may suspend any committee person from office, or have said office terminated for just cause in due course. The Board may terminate any committee.
- Section 27: No paid employee of the Chamber of Commerce shall be a member of the Board. Board members of the Chamber shall receive no remuneration for services rendered, but the Officers may grant any Board member reasonable expense monies for the cost of supplies consumed while rendering services.
- Section 28: The President and Vice-president, before taking office, shall take and subscribe before the Mayor or before a justice of the peace, an oath in the following form:
- “I swear that I will faithfully and truly perform my duty as
.....of the Peachland Chamber of Commerce, and that I
will in all matters connected with the discharge of such duty do all things,
and such things only, as I shall truly and conscientiously believe to be
adapted to promote the objects for which the said Chamber was
constituted according to the true intent and meaning of the same. So help
me God.”
- Section 29: The meetings of the Board shall be open to all members in good standing of the Chamber and who may participate at the discretion of the Board.
- Section 30: No pronouncement in the name of the Chamber may be made unless authorized by the Board, or by some person to whom the Board has delegated this authority.
- Section 31 a: The President shall preside at all meetings of the Chamber and the Board of Directors. Said Officer shall regulate the order of business at such meetings; receive and put lawful motions; and communicate to the members at the meeting that which concerns the Chamber. The President shall, with the Secretary, sign all papers and documents on behalf of the Chamber, unless the Board designates someone else. It shall be the duty of the President to present a general report of the activities of the year at the annual general meeting.

- Section 31 b: The Vice-president shall act in the absence of the President, and in the absence of both these Officers, the Past-president shall act as chairman temporarily.
- Section 31 c: The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Chamber and shall deposit, or cause to be deposited, the same in a chartered bank selected by the Board. Out of such funds shall be paid amounts approved by the Board and shall keep a regular account of the income and expenditures of the Chamber and shall submit statements thereof for presentation to the annual general meeting and at any other time required by the Board. The Treasurer shall make such investment of the funds of the Chamber as the Board may direct; and shall, with the President, or other duly designated and authorized signatory, sign all notes, drafts, and cheques.
- Section 31d: The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate record of the proceedings of the Chamber and the Board of Directors. The Secretary is responsible for making said records available for directors, no longer than one week following said proceedings. At the expiration of his or her term of office, the Secretary shall deliver to the Chamber, all books, papers, or other property of the Chamber.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

- Section 32: The annual meeting of the Chamber shall be held in the month of May each year at the time and place determined by the Board. At least two weeks notice of the annual meeting shall be given to the membership.
- Section 33: Regular general meetings of the Chamber shall be held quarterly at the time and place designated by the board. At least two weeks notice of such meetings shall be given to members.
- Section 34: Special general meetings of the Chamber may be held at any time when summoned by the President, or requested in writing by any three members of the Board, or any ten members of the Chamber. At least three days notice of said meetings shall be given.
- Section 35: The Board of Directors shall meet from time to time (generally once a month) as may be necessary to carry on the business of the Chamber.
- Section 36: Notice of all general meetings, naming the time and place of assembly, shall be given by the Secretary. A notice inserted in one or more newspapers, published within the district of the circular letter, signed by the Secretary or President and mailed or emailed to the last known address of each member shall constitute sufficient notice.

- Section 37: At any annual or general meeting, five members (including at least one officer) shall be a quorum, and, unless otherwise specifically provided, a majority of members present shall be competent to do and perform all acts which are, or shall be directed to be done at any such meeting.
- Section 38: Minutes of the proceedings of all general and Board meetings shall be entered in books to be kept for that person, by the Secretary.
- Section 39: The entry of such minutes shall be signed by the person who presided and one other director, at the meeting at which they are adopted. Additions and amendments will be emailed to the membership.
- Section 40: All books of the Chamber shall be opened at all reasonable hours with sufficient notice, to any member of the Chamber, free of charge.

ARTICLE VII – VOTING RIGHTS

- Section 41: Every member in good standing represented at any general meeting shall be entitled to one vote provided that the vote of an association, corporation, society, partnership, or an estate member, shall in each such case be assigned to individuals.
- Section 42: Voting at Board or general meetings shall normally be by a show of hands, or if requested by the chairman, by a standing vote. A roll call vote shall be taken, if requested by five members provided such request receives approval of two-thirds of the members assembled.
- Section 43: The presiding Officer shall vote only in the case of a tie. Upon an appeal being made from a decision of the presiding Officer, the vote of the majority shall decide.
- Section 44: Motions or amendments shall be carried at any Board of Directors meeting, or general meeting, by a majority vote unless otherwise provided within these by-laws.

ARTICLE VIII – BYLAWS

- Section 45: Bylaws may be made, replace or amended by a majority of the members of the Chamber present at any general meeting, notice of such proposal have been given in writing by one member and seconded by another at a previous general meeting and duly entered as a minute of the Chamber.
- Section 46: Such bylaws shall be binding on all members of the Chamber, its Officers and all other persons lawfully under its control. These bylaws shall come into force and be acted upon only when they have been approved by the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

ARTICLE IX – AFFILIATION

Section 47: The Chamber, at the discretion of the Board, shall have power to affiliate with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Provincial Chamber, or any other organizations in which membership may be in the interests of the Chamber.

ARTICLE X – FISCAL YEAR.

Section 48: The fiscal year of the Chamber shall commence on the last day of February in each year.

ARTICLE XI – AUDITORS

Section 49: Financial statements shall be presented by the Treasurer at each annual meeting and at any other time requested by the Board. Financial statements will be subject to audit at the discretion of the Board.

ARTICLE XII – PROCEDURE

Section 50: Parliamentary procedure shall be followed at all general and Board meetings in accordance with Roberts “Rules of Order”.