

## **PHELPS and DISTRICT VETERANS CLUB**

### **Revised OBJECTIVES of CLUB and BYLAWS**

**March 2020**

Following are the proposed revisions of the Objectives and Bylaws for the Phelps and District Veterans Club.

*We wish the Members to review the revisions and approve through our formal voting process. Due to the current COVID-19 emergency situation globally, we are unable to conduct a formal voting process until we can reconvene a General Members Meeting. Stay tuned.*

*Wishing all of you safety, health, strength and love as we continue through these trying times. Keep your spirits up as best you can – spring is here!*

#### Background

In order to provide an ongoing operating structure that honours the sacrifices, traditions and historic contributions that the Founding Members of the Vets Club established in 1956 and that has served the community of Phelps and District since its inception, the current Board of Directors have determined that all bylaws past and present should be reviewed, edited and approved by membership .

In July through November 2019 the Phelps and District Veterans Club Board of Directors undertook such a review to ensure they reflected the current vision and objectives of the Club, having evolved over several decades. The Board members reviewed and edited the current documents over the next few meetings, and have now agreed on a proposed set of revisions to reflect current values, vision and language so as to be more meaningful for Club Members and those partaking in Club activities and events.

The Board wishes to ensure longterm sustainability of the Club, in terms of financial viability but also membership, and promote active engagement within and from the community. The Board also wishes to attract new members of all ages within the community, including youth and new residents of the area.

For the most part, revisions made can be categorized as cosmetic and modernized language. The Board has also worked to meet our objectives to support an increased membership for viability and enable community outreach, while ensuring the original founders' objectives are maintained. The Board has done due diligence in choosing words carefully to maintain the original intent of the Club, while encouraging growth and engagement.

## **OBJECTIVES of the VETS CLUB**

(a) TO establish, maintain and conduct a club for the accommodation, convenience and recreation of war veterans, their families, friends and all Community Members dedicated to upholding and supporting their abiding objectives.

(b) TO afford to all members all the usual advantages, conveniences and accommodation of a Club and community hall.

(c) TO associate and promote good fellowship among war veterans as well as Community Members and to preserve and honour the memories and incidents of former comradeships.

(d) TO co-operate with other organizations having objectives, wholly or in part the same as or similar to the objects of the corporation.

(e) TO collect monies by way of donations, dues or otherwise and to hold and expand the same in furtherance of the objects of the Corporation.

(f) TO enter into any arrangements with any authorities, provincial, Municipal, local or otherwise, that may seem conducive to the Corporations' objectives, and to obtain from any such authority any rights, privileges and concessions which the Corporation may think desirable to obtain and carry out, exercise and comply with any such arrangements, rights, privileges and concessions.

(g) TO assist in Community undertakings and in particular youth activities such as the girl guides, seniors activities and support, or other Community Objectives which the Executive and Membership deem appropriate under the guidelines of our guiding principles inherent within the Corporation. Note: Recreation objectives towards our Youth, Golden Age Club Initiatives, Library Initiatives, Woman's Institute Initiatives, Educational Initiatives, Health Initiatives etc., would all be worthy of our consideration and potential support whenever possible.

## **BY-LAWS of the VETS CLUB**

- ( 1) This club shall be democratic, non-sectarian, and shall not be affiliated to or connected directly or indirectly with any political party or organization.
- (2) This club will stand for loyalty to Canada, the community and strong comradeship among members.
- (3) The Vets Club will endeavour to provide comfort and assistance to those in our community who find themselves disabled, sick, aged or needy due to tragic life events.
- (4) The Vets Club will endeavour to sustain and maintain a Vets Club and social gathering place to serve and meet the needs of our community and membership objectives and provide the facilities necessary for fundraising etc., in line with our established community objectives.
- (5) There shall be an Annual Meeting each year in December, at which time an election of officers shall occur. There shall be a general meeting each month.
- (6) Membership dues shall be reviewed and recommended by the Board of Directors for Members' approval annually.
- (7) Membership shall be encouraged for all ex-servicemen , or sons and daughters of ex-servicemen, as well as community members who support the principles and objectives established by our former wartime veterans. Minimum age of members must be 19 years.
- (8) The club year shall be the Calendar year.
- (9) At all times the presiding Officers retain the right to suspend or deny membership based on disloyalty towards the principles of the Corporation, abuse of privilege or behaviour unbecoming towards members or property.
- (10) The real property of the club is to be covered by insurance at all times.
- (11) This club is a non-profit organization and all monies not needed for the operation of the club shall be used to advance the charitable initiatives as have been determined by the acting Officers and Membership.
- (12) Should any unforeseen circumstance develop in the future that places the Corporation into a position of liability or closure, all remaining assets should be liquidated to first clear any and all liabilities and the balance remaining placed in a secured managed trust to be applied strictly towards the Corporations original objectives in a timely manner. Should such circumstances ever arise, no individual member will stand to gain or inherit or suffer liability for any reason based on past service or entitlement.

(13) All sub committees must coordinate, conform and meet with approval of the Vet's Club presiding Officers in accordance with the foundational principles and guidelines inherent within.

(14) Governance and oversight of the Vets Club shall be through one Board of Directors, consisting of a President of the Vets Club, Vice President, Secretary Treasurer, Chair of the Board, and other members, to a minimum of 7 and a maximum of 9, with a quorum of 5 members.

(15) Election of Officers shall take place at the meeting in December.

(16) All bylaws and amendments to same must first be approved by presiding executive and then adopted by Membership voting at an Annual Meeting (or General Meeting if necessary).