



Registered Nurses Association
of the Northwest Territories
and Nunavut

BYLAW 16

DIVISION

Date Revised:

Approved by BOD: Jan. 29, 2004

Ratified by Membership: Apr. 30, 2004

In this Bylaw, “Branch” means either the Northwest Territories Branch or the Nunavut Branch

SECTION 1 Membership

A registered nurse registered with the Association who resides in the Northwest Territories is a member of the Northwest Territories Branch and a registered nurse registered with the Association who resides in Nunavut is a member of the Nunavut Branch.

SECTION 2 Object of the Branches

In accordance with the Act and the bylaws, the Northwest Territories Branch or the Nunavut Branch may, by a resolution of a general meeting of the Branch, determine the termination of functions with respect to Nunavut by the Association.

SECTION 3 Officers of the Branch

- (1) There shall be a minimum of three officers of the Branch who are elected or appointed by the members of the Branch.
- (2) The Executive Director shall preside as acting chairperson of the initial meeting of the Branch until the chairperson is appointed from among the officers of the Branch.
- (3) A quorum for a meeting of the officers of a branch shall be a majority of the officers, one of whom must be the chairperson.
- (4) The term of office for the officers shall be three years with the possibility of renewal for an additional term.

SECTION 4 Duties of officers

- (1) The officers of the Branch shall perform the following duties:
 - (a) determine the fiscal and human resources necessary for a separate association to function;

- (b) determine when the Branch is prepared to hold a plebiscite in accordance with the bylaws on the division of the Association;
- (c) with the support of the members of the Branch, encourage the development of legislation and ensure the preparation of bylaws for a separate association;
- (d) cause to be maintained an accurate record of all monies received and/or spent by the Branch;
- (e) ensure that
 - (i) minutes are recorded at any meeting of the Branch or meeting of officers of the Branch,
 - (ii) a copy of the minutes of any meeting of the Branch or meeting of the officers of the Branch are forwarded to the President of the Association, and
 - (i) a copy of the minutes of any meeting of the Branch or a meeting of the officers of the Branch is available to members of the Branch, upon request.
- (f) any other duties assigned to them under the Bylaws.

SECTION 5 Voting on Division of the Association

- (1) The officers of the Branch shall
 - (a) cause a plebiscite to be held on the division of the Association by the members of the Branch;
 - (b) give at least three months notice of the date of the plebiscite to the President of the Association;
 - (c) give at least three months notice of the date of the plebiscite to the members of the Branch;
 - (d) develop a voters' list of eligible voters, to which the names of eligible voters may be added up to the day the vote closes;
 - (e) distribute the voters' list to Branch members at least three months before the date of the plebiscite; and
 - (f) ensure the voting procedure is in compliance with the bylaws and policies, including but not limited to the following:

- (i) the votes shall be made in writing by means of a secret ballot,
 - (ii) there shall be a returning officer who does not have voting privileges; and
 - (ii) advance polls shall provide for eligible members who are not able to vote on the date of the plebiscite.
- (2) A Branch member is eligible to vote on a plebiscite if
 - (a) he/she is a member in the active class of the Association;
 - (b) he/she is resident in the Branch in which the vote is conducted; and
 - (c) he/she has a valid health card from the Northwest Territories or from Nunavut as proof of residency in the Branch.
- (1) The results of the plebiscite shall be determined in the following manner:
 - (a) The returning officer shall count the ballots at a general meeting of the Branch that must be held no later than fourteen days after the plebiscite vote.
 - (b) Sixty percent constitutes a majority vote.
 - (c) A resolution in respect of the division of the Association, which concurs with the majority vote, shall be passed at the general meeting of the Branch.
 - (d) The officers of the Branch, in the event of the division of the Association, shall provide at least six months notice to the President of the Association.
 - (e) The result of the plebiscite vote shall be presented to the members of the Association at the general or a special meeting of the Association.
 - (f) In the event that a majority vote in favour of division is not achieved, no further plebiscite on division shall be held for at least twelve months after the date of the previous vote on division.

SECTION 6 Limitations of Power

Officers of the Branch shall have no other powers except those powers that are necessary to perform those duties that are prescribed in the bylaws.