
Required Election Elements in Church Bylaws

The following was recorded and approved by the District Executive Committee in October and December 2023 regarding required election elements in church bylaws:

Moved that the following be approved as the required election elements in CPD church bylaws:

- **A clear indication of membership support that meets the minimum requirement for board election:**
 - **The principle of one vote per Active Member.**
 - **There must be a reasonable threshold of required participation that is equivalent to a quorum.**
 - **For elections that do not take place at a duly called and constituted meeting of the members:**
 - **Ballots (or the equivalent) must be distributed to all members who are eligible to vote at least seven (7) days prior to the vote being called.**
 - **A minimum of 50% of the unspoiled and completed ballots must be returned for an election to be considered valid.**
 - **The rights of Active Members to vote must be respected (i.e., no preferential group targeted).**
 - **There must be reasonable assurance that the Active Member who is eligible to vote is the person casting the vote.**
- **Although the process for election may change, the requirements for board members remain intact:**
 - **Board members must be voting members of the church (*Local Church Constitution*, Article 6.1 and 7).**
 - **Board members must meet the Scriptural requirements for the position (*Local Church Constitution*, Article 8.1)**
 - **Board members must meet any further bylaw requirements.**
 - **Board members must meet the requirements of the BC *Societies Act* sections 43 and 44 in an incorporated church, and this is a best practice if in an unincorporated church.**
 - **Board members must not be ineligible persons under the *Income Tax Act* of Canada.**



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- **Some form of vetting process (usually done by the nominating committee) must be performed.**
 - **Sufficient time (equivalent to notice) must be given for members to participate in the election process.**
 - **The results of the election process must be clearly communicated to the membership.**

CARRIED

