

Report of SOBLOC for YP 97, 2018 AGM

Amendments to the Bylaws

1. Consistent numbering of Articles

Justification: Consistency in the numbering of Articles allows for easier interpretation and greater accuracy.

Changes:

- Change the Article titled “Amendment of Governing Documents” from being numbered as Article 14 to Article 17
- Change the Article titled “Committees” from being numbered as Article 15 to Article 18
- Change the Article titled “Dissolution” from being numbered as Article 17 to Article 19
- Change the Article titled “Residual Powers” from being numbered as Article 18 to Article 20

2. Formatting and grammatical changes

Justification: Correct and consistent formatting and grammar conventions allow for easier interpretation.

Changes:

- Change or add punctuation where necessary
- Change capitalization cases where necessary
- Change numbering conventions where necessary
- Change clause levels where necessary
- Change clause references where necessary

3. Adding “nationality” to Article 5, clause (2)

Justification: YPM Inc. believes that all individuals should be eligible to become Members of the organization, regardless of their nationality.

Changes:

- Add “nationality” to Article 5, clause (2), which now reads:
 - “Subject to clause (1), membership in YPM Inc. shall be open to all persons without distinction as to race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sex, sexual orientation, ability, financial status, religion, or ideological beliefs.”

4. Changing the time limits for nomination speeches and candidates' speeches in Election Meetings

Justification: It is excessive for the allotted time limits for nomination speeches and candidates' speeches to be three and five minutes long, respectively, when a Question Period will follow.

Changes:

- Change nomination speeches to be a maximum of two minutes
- Change candidates' speeches to be a maximum of three minutes

5. Removing the Election Meeting's ballot count from the minutes of the next Board meeting

Justification: The exact ballot count is unnecessary to include in conjunction with the results of the Election Meeting.

Changes:

- Remove Article 13, sub-clause (16)(b), which states:
 - "The final ballot count shall be included in the minutes of the next meeting of the Board."

6. Change the definition of "overt campaigning" to not include statements by a third party on behalf of a candidate without the candidate's knowledge

Justification: If a candidate does not have knowledge of campaigning performed on their behalf, it is unfair to penalize them.

Changes:

- Change Article 13, sub-clause (18) to become sub-clause (19) as per the formatting changes in Amendment 2, which will now state:
 - "Notwithstanding the arrangement of a nominator and seconder, those Members intending to run for a position on the Board shall not engage in overt campaigning.
 - a. Overt campaigning shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - i. any statement by a candidate to the effect that they are seeking election, barring requests for a nominator or seconder; or
 - ii. any statement of endorsement by a third party on the candidate's behalf, **with** the candidate's knowledge."

7. Adding that questions for the Election Meeting’s Question Period are answered in reverse order

Justification: The exact ballot count is unnecessary to include in conjunction with the results of the Election Meeting.

Changes:

- Remove Article 13, sub-clause (16)(b), which states:
 - “The final ballot count shall be included in the minutes of the next meeting of the Board.”
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Amendments to the Code of Conduct

1. Grammatical changes

Justification: Correct grammar allows for easier interpretation.

Changes:

- Change capitalization cases where necessary

2. Terminological changes

Justification: YPM Inc. wishes to ensure greater consistency and inclusivity in the YPM Code of Conduct.

Changes:

- Change “legislative sessions” in Section 2 to “Parliamentary Sessions” to be consistent with the Bylaws
- Change Section 3, sub-section (c) to be consistent with the Bylaws, which now states:
 - “Bullying, harassment, or discrimination, for reasons including but not limited to race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, sex, sexual orientation, ability, financial status, religion, or ideological beliefs;”
- Change Section 3, sub-section (b), from:
 - “Members shall not enter the sleeping areas of the opposite sex.” *to*
 - “Members shall not enter the sleeping areas to which they are not assigned.”

3. Revising the dress regulations

Justification: The Code of Conduct is not the place to dictate specific pieces of clothing that are acceptable in the House, and cultural equivalents of parliamentary dress should be recognized as acceptable.

Changes:

- Removal of examples of acceptable dress
- Allowing for “cultural equivalents” of parliamentary dress as a guideline for dress

4. Revising the measures for penalizing a Member

Justification: “No tolerance” of behaviours should be defined. As well, given that situations are complex, the Board should be able to consider specific circumstances in individual cases.

Changes:

- Changing Section 3 from:
 - “The following behaviors shall not be tolerated by members of, or at events hosted by, YPM Inc.:" to
 - “A Member shall be removed from an event hosted by YPM Inc. if they have been found by the Board to have committed any of the following behaviours:"
 - Changing Section 3, sub-section (d) from:
 - “Slander and libel.” to
 - “Slander or libel.”
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Amendments to the Standing Orders

1. Grammatical and spelling changes

Justification: Correct grammar and spelling allows for easier interpretation.

Changes:

- Change capitalization cases where necessary
- Add punctuation where necessary
- Change instance of “yea” to “yay”

2. Pronoun changes

Justification: YPM Inc. believes in the recognition of genders outside of the gender binary.

Changes:

- Change all instances of “his or her” to “their”
- Change all instances of “him or her” to “them”
- Include “Honourable Chairperson” as an acceptable designation in Section XIII, sub-section (84)

3. Removal of sentence from Section VI, sub-section (28)

Justification: It is not necessarily true that the first Member to rise to speak will be recognized first by the Speaker.

Changes:

- Remove “When two or more Members rise to speak, the Speaker shall recognize the Member who rose first in their assigned place.” from Section VI, sub-section (28)

4. Removal of Section VI, sub-section (32) and sub-section (32), sub-sub-section (1)

Justification: It is not necessarily true that the first Member to rise to speak will be recognized first by the Speaker.

Changes:

- Remove Section VI, sub-section (32), which states:
 - “Members may not read their speeches, although they may make reasonable reference to their notes.”
- Remove Section VI, sub-section (32), sub-sub-section (1), which states:
 - “If a Member persists in reading their speech, the Speaker may direct the Member to discontinue their comments.”
- Change Section VI, sub-section (32), sub-sub-section (2) to become Section VI, sub-section (32), which states:
 - “If a Member speaks to issues not germane to the motion on the floor, the Speaker shall ask the Member to discontinue their comments.”