

Report of SOBLOC for YP98, 2019 AGM

Amendments to By-Laws

1. Elder

Justification: Elder is an important role in YPM and should be recognized and built into the organization's by-laws.

Changes:

- Insert "Elder: The individual selected in accordance with Article 11" in Article 1
- Add Article 11 to read:
 1. YPM Inc. Shall have an Elder
 2. The Board, on the recommendation of the Chairperson, shall appoint an Elder
 3. To be eligible for appointment to the position of Elder, a person:
 - a) must be at least 20 years old,
 - b) must not be a current Member of YPM Inc., and
 - c) must identify as First Nations, Inuit, or Métis.
 4. The Elder shall advise the Board on Indigenous membership, inclusion, and recognition.
 5. The Elder's tenure shall cease when a new Elder is appointed
 6. The Elder is not limited to serving for one term.

2. Gender Expression

Justification: Gender expression and gender are different and both should be protected from discrimination

Changes:

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

3. By-Election Proceedings

Justification: It would be improper for a member of the Board who is running in an election to also act at the meeting chair for that election. These changes ensure that is stated clearly.

Changes:

1. Article 15:4 shall be changed to read: Responsibility acting as meeting chair shall fall to the Past Chairperson from the previous year.
 - a) Should the Past Chairperson from the previous year not be available, then a member of the Board shall preside.
 - b) A member of the Board seeking election may not act as meeting chair.

- c) If neither a member of the Board nor the Past Chairperson from the previous year are available to act as meeting chair, then the Membership shall appoint a meeting chair at the meeting.

Amendments to Standing Orders

1. Time for Debate

Justification: Two hundred and sixty minutes (as the standing orders previously listed) is too long of a time for each second reading, as there are 6 bills that must go through the house. Eighty minutes ensures enough time for each bill.

Changes:

- Section 4:13 shall be changed to read: When the Orders of the Day for Second Reading of a Bill is called, time for debate on the motion shall not exceed eighty minutes.

2. Critic

Justification: The Critic presents after the Bill Presenting Minister and balances out debate. The role had not been previously added to YPM's standing orders.

Changes:

- Clause 13 shall be changed to read: When the Orders of the Day for Second Reading of a Bill is called, time for debate on the motion shall not exceed eighty minutes. Inclusive of the time for debate,
 - a) the Member who moved the motion may speak for no longer than ten minutes,
 - b) the Critic of the motion may speak for no longer than five minutes,
 - c) others may speak for no longer than three minutes, and
 - d) the mover shall have a right of reply of no longer than five minutes.

3. Tobacco

Justification: Tobacco being used ceremonially is welcomed in the house and should be exempt from the ban on tobacco.

Changes:

- Section Clause 17:1 shall be added to read: Notwithstanding clause (17), a Member may take tobacco into the House for ceremonial purposes.

4. Language Inclusion

Justification: Youth Parliament of Manitoba values multiculturalism and believes all members should have a right to speak in whatever language they are most comfortable.

Changes:

- Clause 29 shall be added to read: Members may speak in English, French, or an Indigenous language.
 - a. Members wishing to speak in another language must provide either an oral translation to the House, or a written translation to the Clerk of the House.

5. Question Period

Justification: The standing orders were vague on the procedure for deferring questions; this language clarifies it.

Changes:

- Clause 49 shall be changed to read: Oral Questions must seek information from a Member and shall not be argumentative or rhetorical in nature. The preamble to an Oral Question must be brief and relevant to the thrust of the question.
 1. A Member may only pose one Oral Question during Question Period, but is permitted to ask two further Supplementary Questions which must be related to the subject of the Oral Question. Supplementary Questions must be directed to the person who answered the original question.
 2. When an Oral Question has been addressed to a Member they must either answer the Oral Question, or defer the Oral Question to another Member.
 3. The other Member may accept or decline the deferral.
 4. The Member may only attempt to defer the Oral Question once.

6. Motions

Justification: Certain substantive motions were mistakenly labeled as procedural, non-debateable motions. These changes remedy that.

Changes:

- Clause 54:1 shall be changed to read: Substantive motions shall be subject to debate or amendment and shall include, but not be limited to the following motions:
 - Second Reading of Bills
 - Concurrence and Third Reading of Bills
 - Concurrence and Third Reading of Private Member's Bill
 - Motions of Amendment
 - Election of the Speaker
 - Motions of Thanks

7. Voting

Justification: To ensure the voice vote and standing vote are consistent, it is important that those who abstained from the voice vote also abstain from the standing vote. This language clarifies that.

Changes:

- Clause 72:2 shall be changed to read: Those Members who abstained or were not in the Chamber during the voice vote must abstain.
- Clause 72:3 shall be changed to read: Those Members who abstained from the voice vote must abstain from the division by standing when asked.

8. Bill Schedule

Justification: It is unrealistic in our schedule for each bill reading to always be on a separate day. This is especially true with Private Member's Bills.

Changes:

- Remove clause 76 which read: Every Bill shall receive three separate readings, on different days, before being passed.

9. Standing Committees

Justification: Whoever is acting as the Chairperson of a standing committee must have the powers and responsibilities of the speaker for committees to function. This addition makes that clear.

Changes:

- Add Clause 88:1 which shall read: The Chairperson of the Standing Committee assumes the powers and responsibilities of the Speaker as outlined in these Standing Orders, as applicable to the Standing Committee

Amendments to the Code of Conduct

10. Clause 1 Additions

Justification: To ensure everyone's health and safety at session, it is important that illicit substances, cannabis and weapons are not allowed at our event. Due to the legalization of cannabis, it is no longer covered under illicit substances so a separate clause must be added to address it.

Changes:

- Change Clause 1(a) to read: Members shall not consume illicit substances.
- Add Clause 2(a) to read: Members shall not consume cannabis, or cannabis products.
- Add Subclause 2 (a) (i): Members shall be permitted to possess or consume prescribed cannabis products.
- Add Clause 3(a): Members shall not carry weapons.

11. Clause 3 Addition

Justification: Gender expression and gender are different and both should be protected from discrimination

Changes:

- Change Clause 3(c) to read: Bullying, harassment, or discrimination, for reasons including but not limited to race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, gender expression, sex, sexual orientation, ability, financial status, religion, or ideological beliefs