

## **SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS – Rationale**

The Executive of the RCA Association has developed four resolutions for the memberships to vote on during the 2020 Annual General Meeting (AGM). These resolutions concern changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of The Royal Canadian Artillery Association (RCAA) and require approval of 65% of the membership in attendance at the AGM.

**Special Resolution 2020-1 – Membership** is intended to formalize a trial membership program that was initiated in 2006. The intent of the trial was to increase the membership of the RCAA by providing local associations such as the Toronto Artillery Association, the Montreal Artillery Association and the Vancouver Artillery Association an ability to become members of the national organization at a reduced rate in order not to be burdened with having to pay for two memberships. Our constitution states that we consider our, "...position central to the RCA Family and an organization representative of all members of the Canadian Gunner family regardless of rank, whether serving, retired, regular or reserve...." Bringing the local associations onboard was seen as a means for the RCAA to represent all Gunners from coast to coast. The reduced rate was justified by not providing those members with an annual copy of the Canadian Gunner or the Quadrant and the fact that they were already paying dues to a local Artillery Association.

After thirteen years, we consider this trial has been a success and it's time to formalize this arrangement. The Special Resolution allows for the recognition of this two-tier pricing system and allows for our third type of member - those that are currently serving. All members will continue to have equal voting privileges, equal access to our affinity program, equal access to the Gunner Peer Support and equal access to the members' only portal. They are all members of The Royal Canadian Artillery Association because, "Once a Gunner, Always a Gunner".

**Special Resolution 2020-2 – Affiliated Associations** is intended to alter the paragraph regarding affiliated associations to align it with Special Resolution 2020-1 – Membership.

**Special Resolution 2020-3 – Spelling Consistencies** is required to correct some typographical errors in the constitution.

**Special Resolution 2020-4 – Spelling Amendment** is required to correct some inconsistencies in French grammar.

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## **SPECIAL RESOLUTION 2020-1 – MEMBERSHIP**

The following amendments to the Constitution and By-laws of The Royal Canadian Artillery Association are presented to the membership for their approval at the next Annual General Meeting.

The current wording in the Constitution states:

### **MEMBERSHIP**

*11. The following are the four categories of Membership available within the RCAA.*

*a. Ordinary Members*

*(1) All serving Artillery members of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery.*

*(2) Retired or former serving Artillery members of the Canadian Armed Forces who have paid the annual individual membership fee.*

*(3) The fee for Ordinary Membership shall be at a rate that may from time to time be determined at an Annual General Meeting.*

*b. Associate Members*

*(1) Serving or retired members of other Canadian Forces occupational classifications or other Artillery Officers of NATO or other Commonwealth forces acceptable to the Association and who have paid the annual individual membership fee.*

*(2) Civilian persons who have a special interest in the affairs of The Royal Canadian Artillery Association, who have paid the annual individual membership fee, and who are acceptable to the Association.*

*(3) The total number of Associated Members shall not exceed 35% of the total membership.*

*(4) The fee for Associate Membership shall be at a rate that may from time to time be determined at an Annual General Meeting.*

*c. Life Members*

*(1) While there are no specific criteria for Life Membership in the RCAA, such membership will normally be granted to those members who have made a career of service to The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery.*

*(2) Any serving or retired member of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery may make application to become a Life Member of the RCAA. An Ordinary Member may propose any serving or retired member for life membership in the RCAA.*

*(3) Such application or proposal shall be submitted to the Secretary accompanied by the Life Membership Fee and a service history of the applicant or nominee.*

*(4) Such properly constituted application shall be examined by the Executive Committee who may grant the application/nomination for Life Membership and so inform the member in writing.*

*(5) The fee for Life Membership shall be at a rate that may from time to time be determined at an Annual General Meeting.*

*d. Elected Honorary Life Members*

*(1) Any person who is deemed to have rendered outstanding service to the Artillery may be elected an Honorary Life Member of the Association at an Annual General Meeting. His/her record of service in The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery will normally be the dominant factor in selection.*

*(2) Nominations should be submitted to the Secretary 30 days before an Annual General Meeting accompanied by reasons, and where applicable, by a service history. Such nominations will be examined by the Executive Committee who may submit their recommendations to the Annual General Meeting.*

*(3) Voting will be by all eligible voters present on each name submitted.*

**The proposed amendment is to change the categories of membership as follows:**

11. The following are the five categories of Membership available within the RCAA.

a. Serving Members

(1) All serving members of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

(2) The fee for Serving Membership shall be paid for by the RCA Fund for Regular Force members and the Reserve Artillery units for Reserve Force members.

b. Ordinary Members

(1) Retired members of the RCA and its units, retired members of other units, family members and civilians with an interest in the RCA.

(2) The fee for Ordinary Membership shall be at a rate that will be set at each Annual General Meeting.

c. Life Members

(1) While there are no specific criteria for Life Membership in the RCAA, such membership will normally be granted to those members who have made a career of service to The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery.

(2) Any serving or retired member of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery may make application to become a Life Member of the RCAA. An Ordinary Member may propose any serving or retired member for life membership in the RCAA.

(3) Such application or proposal shall be submitted to the Secretary accompanied by the Life Membership Fee and a service history of the applicant or nominee.

(4) Such properly constituted application shall be examined by the Executive Committee who may grant the application/nomination for Life Membership and so inform the member in writing.

(5) The fee for Life Membership shall be at a rate that will be set at each Annual General Meeting.

d. Elected Honorary Life Members

(1) Any person who is deemed to have rendered outstanding service to the Artillery may be elected an Honorary Life Member of the Association at an Annual General Meeting. His/her record of service in The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery will normally be the dominant factor in selection.

(2) Nominations should be submitted to the Secretary 30 days before an Annual General Meeting accompanied by reasons, and where applicable, by a service history. Such nominations will be examined by the Executive Committee who may submit their recommendations to the Annual General Meeting.

(3) Voting will be by all eligible voters present on each name submitted.

e. Associate Members

(1) Retired members of the RCA and its units, retired members of other units, families and civilians with an interest in the RCA that currently belong to a local Association approved by The Royal Canadian Artillery Association as an Affiliated Association.

(2) The fee for Associate Membership shall be at a rate that will be set at each Annual General Meeting.

**Amend the following paragraphs from:**

*(4) Retired Artillery Members shall pay individual fees at a rate that shall be determined from time to time at an Annual General Meeting.*

*b. Associate Members shall pay individual fees at a rate that shall be determined from time to time at an Annual General Meeting.*

*c. Life Membership fees consisting of one single life time payment shall be determined from time to time at an Annual General Meeting.*

*d. There are no fees for Honorary Life Membership.*

**To:**

(4) The fee for Ordinary, Life and Associate Memberships shall be at a rate that will be set at each Annual General Meeting.

(5) There are no fees for Honorary Life Membership.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION 2020-2 – AFFILIATED ASSOCIATIONS**

The scope of our relationship with Affiliated Associations has been altered with the proposed change in our membership types as per Special Resolution 2020-1. Therefore, on acceptance of Special Resolution 2020-1 it is proposed that paragraph 12.b.(2) be amended as follows:

**From**

*(2) The purpose for Affiliation is primarily one of information sharing and communication; however Affiliated Associations are expected to encourage their members to become members of the RCAA. Dues for membership in the RCAA may be collected by the Affiliated Association and paid in bulk to the RCAA, but the membership and associated rights belong to the individual and not the Affiliated Association.*

**To**

(2) The purpose for Affiliation is to allow Associate members the opportunity of gaining all the benefits of membership in the national institution minus the tax credit gained by ordinary and Life members. Dues for membership in the RCAA may be collected by the Affiliated Association and paid in bulk to the RCAA, but the membership and associated rights belong to the individual and not the Affiliated Association.

**Delete paragraph 12.b.(3)**

*(3) Representatives of Affiliated Associations to the RCAA Annual General Meeting must hold membership in the RCAA in accordance with Para. 11.*

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION 2020-3 – SPELLING CONSISTENCIES**

The current wording of The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery and Le Régiment royal de l'Artillerie Canadienne is not consistent throughout our constitution. It needs revision in the following circumstances.

**Paragraph 2:**

**From:** 2. a. *Promouvoir l'efficacité et le bien-être du Régiment Royal de l'Artillerie Canadienne et...*

**To:** 2. a. Promouvoir l'efficacité et le bien-être du Régiment royal de l'Artillerie canadienne et...

**Paragraph 6:**

**From:** *the membership must reflect the diversity of the Royal Regiment.*

**To:** the membership must reflect the diversity of The Royal Regiment.

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION 2020-4 – SPELLING AMENDMENT**

The current wording of our Association name in the French language is not consistent throughout the document. It needs revision in the following circumstances.

**The title page:**

**From:** *L'Association de l'artillerie royale Canadienne.*

**To :** L'Association de l'Artillerie royale canadienne

**Paragraph 1:**

**From :**1. *Le nom de l'association sera l'Association de l'Artillerie Royale Canadienne (AARC).*

**To :**1. Le nom de l'association sera l'Association de l'Artillerie royale canadienne (AARC).

**Paragraph 26 :**

**From :** 26. *Le Conseil d'Administration est responsable pour la direction de l'Association de l'Artillerie Royale Canadienne.*

**To :** 26. Le Conseil d'Administration est responsable pour la direction de l'Association de l'Artillerie royale canadienne.