

New Westminster Downtown Residents Association Bylaws

ARTICLE 1 - NAME AND JURISDICTION

1. The name of this association shall be NEW WESTMINSTER DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, hereafter called The Association.
2. The downtown area shall be the area bounded on the north by Royal Avenue, on the south by the Fraser River, on the west by 10th Avenue, and on the east by McBride Boulevard.

ARTICLE 2- OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association are:

1. To improve the quality of life in the downtown neighborhood.
2. To provide a forum for discussion of matters of concern to downtown residents, such matters to include but not limited to crime, nuisance behavior, traffic, noise, and personal safety.
3. To liaise with the city, the police service, the health department, and other organizations to achieve our mutual goals for a clean, quiet and crime-free neighborhood.

ARTICLE 3 – MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership in The Association shall be open to any person residing in the downtown area of New Westminster, including owners in fee simple or strata title, renters or leaseholders of residential property.
2. There will be an annual membership fee, as determined by the Board of Directors. The membership fee may be waived for residents unable to afford it. Members whose fees have been waived shall be considered paid members for the purpose of voting.
3. Only active registered members, i.e. members who have attended at least two public meetings in the past year OR one public meeting in the past year and three public meetings in the past two years, are eligible to vote on the administrative matters of The Association, including board elections.

ARTICLE 4 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

1. Regular public meetings shall be held at a time and place set by the Directors.
2. An annual general meeting shall be held once per year or as shall be decided by the Board or a majority of the active membership.
3. A quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or annual general meeting shall be 20% of the total active membership. If a quorum is not obtained for two consecutive meetings, the quorum shall be the number of active members present.
4. Voting privileges shall be limited to active members.
5. A majority vote shall be 51% or greater of the active membership present at a regular or annual general meeting, and shall be indicated by a show of hands.
6. The Board of Directors shall meet as necessary, at the call of the President.
7. Attendance at Public meetings shall be open to all residents of the downtown New Westminster area, invited guests and speakers or other interested people invited by the Board.
8. Public meetings may be held electronically, from time to time.

ARTICLE 5 - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of up to six elected Directors, or such numbers as shall from time to time be elected by the membership.

2. The Directors shall elect a President, Treasurer, and such other positions as may be deemed necessary.
3. Directors who fail to attend three consecutive public and/or board meetings shall be deemed to have abandoned their directorship, unless an exception is granted by a majority of the remaining Directors.

ARTICLE 6 - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

1. Nominations and election of Directors shall take place at the annual general meeting.
2. Directors must be active members of the association, who have not previously abandoned a directorship post, and must consent to their nomination as a Director.
3. The term of office for all Directors shall be one year with the option of standing for election for further one-year terms.

ARTICLE 7 - COMMITTEES

1. Committees as may be required from time to time, shall be elected at a regular meeting or, failing that, appointed by the Directors.
2. One or more Directors may be appointed to sit on each committee so elected.

ARTICLE 8 - RULES OF ORDER

1. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with basic principle of Canadian parliamentary procedures.
2. Should any procedural questions arise, Robert's Rules of Order shall apply.

ARTICLE 9 - RECORDS

1. A record of active membership shall be kept by the Directors.
2. A record of all monies received, and amounts paid out shall be kept by the directors.

ARTICLE 10 - AMENDMENTS

1. These by-laws shall not be amended, added to or suspended, except by a majority vote of the paid membership.

ARTICLE 11 - BANKING

1. A banking account shall be maintained by the Association in the name of Downtown Residents Association.
2. Signing officers for the said banking account shall be any two of the three Directors so designated by the Board of Directors as from time to time.