

CONSTITUTION OF THE OLIVER-OSOYOOS NATURALISTS' CLUB

Adopted: _March 30,2015; Amended: _____

Article 1 NAME

The name of the Society shall be "Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalists' Club".

Article 2 OBJECTS

The objects of this Society shall be:

- a) To foster public awareness, appreciation and understanding of our natural environment.
- b) To encourage an active interest in natural history thereby ensuring our natural resources are wisely used and maintained for future generations.
- c) To cooperate and communicate with other naturalists and clubs affiliated with BC Nature (Federation of BC Naturalists).
- d) To take an active role in the management and protection of South Okanagan species and ecosystems, by assisting and cooperating in wildlife and habitat inventory, preservation, enhancement and rehabilitation projects.

BY-LAWS

Article 3 MEMBERSHIP

- a) Membership in the Society is open to any person interested in natural history and in sympathy with the objects of the Society.
- b) The Society year shall be from January 1st to December 31st.
- c) Membership fees shall be as recommended by the executive and passed at a general meeting of the Society, and shall be due on January 1st.
- d) Payment of the annual membership fee shall be a necessary condition for the continuance of membership.
- e) Members who join after October 31st shall be deemed paid up until December 31st of the following year.
- f) No member of the Society shall use the name of the Society in a public policy statement without the majority consent of the Executive Committee.

Article 4 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

- a) The Executive Committee shall consist of eight (8) Directors and the most immediate Past President who is not also a Director.
- b) Four (4) Directors shall be elected at the annual meeting, to serve a two-year term. All members in good standing are allowed to vote.
- c) The Executive Committee shall, from among their number, annually select the Officers of the Society:
 1. President
 2. Vice-President
 3. Treasurer
 4. Recording Secretary
 5. Federation (of BC Naturalists) Director
 6. Membership Chair
- d) No officer shall hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms. The exception shall be the Federation Director, who shall serve a one (1) year term, with no limit on the number of years that person may hold the office.
- e) The Executive Committee shall conduct the business and management of the affairs of the Society. They shall choose from their number and from the membership of the Society such committees as are deemed necessary.

Article 5. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS

- a) The Officers shall perform the usual duties and exercise the usual powers within the provisions of the Constitution and By-laws of the Society and in accordance with the Societies Act of British Columbia.
- b) The Recording Secretary shall keep and maintain the minutes and records of the Society.
- c) The Treasurer shall receive all monies and make all authorized payments. He/she shall also present books and records for annual audit or review at the end of the fiscal year, and report on the state of the finances of the Society at the Annual General Meeting and at meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article 6. MEETINGS

- a) The Annual Meeting shall be held in March of each year.
- b) The Annual Meeting shall include the report of the President and presentation of financial statements, election of Directors, and any other business as may require discussion and decision by the Society.
- c) At least one other general meeting shall be held in each year.

- d) At least 14 days notice shall be given of the Annual and all general meetings.
- e) A quorum at the Annual or any general meeting shall be 20 percent of the members in good standing.
- f) The executive shall meet at least four (4) times in the year, and a quorum for these meetings shall be five (5).

Article 7. ELECTIONS

- a) The election of Directors shall take place at the Annual General Meeting;
- b) Only members in good standing shall vote or be eligible for office.
- c) The Executive Committee shall have the power to accept any resignation and to appoint any member of the club to fill any vacancies during a club year.

Article 8. FINANCES

- a) The funds of the Society shall be applied solely for the promotion of the aims of the Society as stated in the Constitution, and no portion thereof shall be paid or made available for personal benefit of any member of the Society, provided that nothing in this Constitution and these By-laws shall prevent the reimbursement in good faith to any officer, director, or member of the Society for expenses reasonably and necessarily incurred while engaged in the affairs of the Society.
- b) The signing officers of the Society shall be any two of three officers so designated. A cheque made out to one of the signing officers must be signed by the other two.
- c) The books and records of the Society may be inspected by any member at the Annual General Meeting and at other times upon reasonable notice.

Article 9. AMENDMENTS

These By-laws may be changed only by passage of an extra-ordinary resolution by a two-thirds majority at a general meeting of the Society, notice of such resolution having been given in writing to the membership at least 30 days prior to the Annual General Meeting or at the previous Annual General Meeting.

Article 10. BY-LAWS

The Executive Committee may bring forward for a vote by the membership at one of the two annual meetings of the membership any such by-laws which are not inconsistent with the provisions of the articles of this constitution.

END OF THE CONSTITUTION. APPROVED : March 30,2015