

Constitution of the Skootamatta District Ratepayers Association

ARTICLE 1

Name

Section 1 The name of the Association shall be the Skootamatta District Ratepayers Association.

Section 2 The Association is incorporated in the Province of Ontario (1982), as a not-for-profit organization .

ARTICLE 2

Mandate: The Mandate of the Association shall be:

Section 1 To advance the interests of the property owners and their families resident on, and adjacent to Sheldrake, Skootamatta and Pringle Lakes.

Section 2 To advance the interests of persons mentioned in Article 2, Section 1; which interests shall include the following:

- a) to monitor water quality and to promote best practices in the sustainability of the water quality of the above named Lakes;
- b) to promote the fair taxation of the area residents and the prudent administration of the Township by elected officials
- c) to promote and/or provide for needed facilities not normally provided by the various levels of Government, in order to enhance the safety and well being of area residents
- d) to provide information to the residents on the various activities in the area, including those activities supported by the Association for the benefit of such residents and to provide historical commentary and useful information potentially of interest to members
- e) to promote active participation by area property owners in Township elections by the posting of candidate positions on the SDRA web-site and other methods to increase the voting influence of such owners
- f) to stimulate membership in the Association and participation in its activities, through the communication of the benefits of such to area property owners and their families
- g) to support and respect such matters as maintenance of each residents privacy and that their rights are not infringed upon by neighbours or governmental agencies

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ARTICLE 3

Headquarters

Section 1 The headquarters shall be located in the residence of the President, or other Officer as designed by the Executive.

ARTICLE 4

Officers

Section 1 A minimum of 3 and a maximum of 15 Directors of the Association shall constitute the Executive. The Term period for all Directors shall be 2 years before re-election term. The Term year starts from the date of the Annual General Meeting.

The Directors who are Officers of the Association shall be:

- a) President
- b) Vice-President
- c) Secretary
- d) Treasurer

The other Directors of the Association may be:

- a) 3 directors elected from amongst persons normally associated with Skootamatta Lake one of whom will be a Lake Steward
- b) 1 director elected from amongst persons normally associated with Pringle Lake.
- c) 1 director elected from amongst persons normally associated with Shel Drake Lake.
- d) Up to 5 Directors -at-Large

Section 2 Not less than two weeks before each Annual General Meeting the President shall ensure that a slate of Directors and Officers shall be prepared by the Executive. The names of the candidates shall be made available by the Secretary to all interested parties by posting in a conspicuous place, including the Association website prior to the Annual General Meeting, at which time the new Officers and other Directors will be elected by majority vote of the members of the Association. All voting will be done by a 'show of hands'.

Section 3 Additional candidates for the various offices may be submitted at the Annual General Meeting. Each candidate so nominated must be proposed and seconded by a member in good standing. If there are multiple candidates for an Officer position, or for more other Directors than allowed for in these Articles, individual voting by name will take place

Section 4 The President shall normally preside at all meetings of the Association. During his or her absence the Vice-President shall preside.

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- Section 5** The Secretary or designated alternative, shall attend all meetings of the Association and shall act as clerk thereafter and record all notes and minutes of the proceedings in the books to be kept for that purpose. He or she shall give or cause to be given notice of all meetings of the Association.
- Section 6** The Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds and any securities of the Association and shall keep full and accurate records of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Association. He or she shall manage the funds of the Association as directed by the Executive.
- Section 7** The Executive may appoint replacement Officers upon vacancy prior to term and may fill any vacancies in the authorized number of other Directors allowed in these articles
- Section 8** The detailed description of the duties of the Officers and Directors shall be determined by the Executive

ARTICLE 5

Membership and Dues

- Section 1** All property owners or permanent residents on and adjacent to Sheldrake, Skootamatta and Pringle Lakes are eligible for full membership.
- Section 2** A full membership fee or due will be levied, per household unit, annually. The amount levied may be amended periodically by resolution at the Annual Meeting.
- Section 3** A unit is defined as follows:
a) a husband and/or wife of voting age who own property or permanently reside in the defined area.
b) a single person of voting age owning property or permanently residing in the defined area.
- Section 4** Dues are due and payable upon receipt of the Annual Newsletter and no later than at the Annual General Meeting of the Association each year and may be paid to any Officer of the Association.

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ARTICLE 6

Admission, resignation, expulsion

- Section 1** Any property owner of the defined area may apply for full membership by submitting his name and a declaration of his area of habitation. Immediately upon payment of the dues he or she is automatically a full member.
- Section 2** Resignation of any member shall become valid upon written notice to the Secretary.
- Section 3** Expulsion of a member shall take place automatically when annual dues are not paid by the 1st of the second month following the annual meeting. Reinstatement may be made by the normal application for membership.

ARTICLE 7

Committees

- Section 1** The President, in consultation with the Executive, shall make additional appointments from the members such committees as deemed necessary for the conduct of the business of the Association.
- Section 2** The terms of reference of each committee shall be established by the Executive.
- Section 3** The terms of office of members of each committee shall expire at the adjournment of the next Annual General Meeting following their appointment.

ARTICLE 8

Meeting and Voting

- Section 1** The Annual General Meeting shall be held on a Saturday during July. Notice of the location and time of the meeting must be posted at least 7 days prior to the meeting date.
- Section 2** A Special Meeting of the Association may be called by the President or, failing him or her, any two members of the executive or failing them any fifteen members in good standing providing 28 days notice is given by the posting in a conspicuous place or notification of the members by mail.
- Section 3** Ordinary meetings of the Association shall be called by the President for the purpose of furthering the Mandate of the Association.

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Section 4 At any meeting of the Association, the Executive, or of a Committee, a resolution put to the vote shall be decided on by the simple majority of the votes cast, by outcall or a show of hands

Section 5 A quorum of the Association, where the lesser of; 25% or twenty members, will be considered to be in effect, in person or by proxy. Proxy votes will only be considered when in writing and signed and given to a member in good standing.

ARTICLE 9

Contracts

Section 1 Contracts, documents or any instruments in writing requiring execution by the Association shall be attested by two of the Officers of the Association, on the advice of the Executive, and all contracts, documents and instruments in writing so executed shall be binding upon the Association without any further formality.

Section 2 No member of the Association shall have power to enter into any contract, obligation or expense on behalf of the Association , without the authorization of the Executive and any member doing so shall be personally liable therefore.

Section 3 No single commitment or expenditure of funds by an Officer of the Association may exceed \$250.00 without the approval of the Executive

ARTICLE 10

Annual Report

Section 1 The Officers shall present a report to the Annual General Meeting on the conduct of the affairs of the Association together with a statement showing the aggregate financial transactions of the previous year and the state of the finances of the Association at the close of the fiscal year.

Section 2 The fiscal year of the Association shall extend from the 1st day of July to the 30th day of June.

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ARTICLE 11

Amendments

- Section 1** Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by a petition signed by at least 5 full members of the Association. Such proposed amendments shall be submitted to all voting members of the Association in writing at least 7 days prior to a meeting to vote on the proposed amendments.
- Section 2** The executive, in the interest of protecting the association and its members, may, by a majority vote, also amend the constitution at any time. Such amendments will remain in effect until the next AGM, at which time the amendments will be officially accepted or denied by ratification vote of the members.
- Section 3** The Officers shall promptly announce the results of any vote to amend the constitution. Amendments shall become effective immediately following a vote.
- Section 4** The word "Amendments" as used herein shall include additions to, deletions from, and alterations of the existing Constitution.

ARTICLE 12

Dissolution

- Section 1** Upon the dissolution of the Association any assets remaining after payment of the debts and liabilities shall be transferred, at the discretion of the Officers, to an organization having similar objects. If no such organization exists at that time, then the Officers may distribute any remaining assets to a recognized charity or charities.