

Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce
BE IT ENACTED as a Bylaw of the Chamber as follows:

Whereas the Members of the Chamber deem it expedient to enact the following By-laws;

Now therefore be it enacted that the following By-laws be adopted

Definitions and Interpretation

1. Definitions

In this Bylaw and in all other Bylaws of the Chamber, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Act" means the *Boards of Trade Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. B-6)* and any statute that may be substituted, as amended from time to time;

"Bylaws" means this Bylaw and any other Bylaw of the Chamber as amended and which are, from time to time, in force and effect;

"Certificate of Formation" means the certificate of formation certified by the Minister evidencing the existence of the Chamber;

" Chamber" means the Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce

"Committee Member" means a member of any committee or other advisory body of the Council;

"Council" means the Council of the Chamber, as defined in the Act and as more particularly set-out in these Bylaws;

"Director" means a member of the Council and, for further certainty, includes the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer elected in accordance with the Act;

"District" means the area within and for which the Chamber was established as set out in the Chamber's Certificate of Formation or as defined by the Governor in Council, and includes any change in district that may be approved by the Governor in Council from time to time;

"Meeting of Members" includes a Quarterly Meeting, Annual General Meeting, special general meeting or other general meeting of Members of the Chamber

"Member" means an individual or organization that has been accepted as a Member of the Chamber in accordance with the Act and these Bylaws;

"Minister" means the federal Cabinet Minister who is responsible for the administration of the Act;

"Officer" or "Officers" means the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and any one or more other persons, respectively, who have been appointed as officers of the Chamber in accordance with the Bylaws;

"Ordinary Resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of the votes cast on that resolution;

"Quarterly Meetings" means the four (4) quarterly Meetings of Members in a calendar year that are required by the Act, each a "Quarterly Meeting";

"Special Resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast on that resolution;

2. Interpretation

In the interpretation of this Bylaw, words in the singular include the plural and vice-versa, words in one gender include all genders, and "person" includes an individual, body corporate, partnership, trust and unincorporated organization.

Other than as specified above, words and expressions defined in the Act have the same meanings when used in these Bylaws.

Business of the Chamber

3. Corporate Seal

The Chamber may have a corporate seal in the form approved from time to time by the Council. If a corporate seal is approved by the Council, the secretary shall be the custodian of the corporate seal.

4. Location of the Registered Office

The registered office of the Chamber shall be in the District.

5. Books and Records

The Council shall see that all necessary books and records of the Chamber required by the Bylaws or by any applicable statute or law are regularly and properly kept. The books and records shall be available at all reasonable hours to any Member of the Chamber free of any charge.

6. Execution of Documents

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the Chamber may be signed by one Director. In addition, the Council may from time to time direct the manner in which and the person or persons by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed. Any person authorized to sign any document may affix the corporate seal (if any) to the document. Any signing officer may certify a copy of any instrument, resolution, Bylaw or other document of the Chamber to be a true copy.

7. Financial Year End

The financial year end of the Chamber shall be December 31 in each year

8. Banking Arrangements

The banking business of the Chamber shall be transacted at a bank, trust company or other firm or corporation carrying on a banking business in Canada or elsewhere as the Council may designate, appoint or authorize from time to time by resolution. The banking business or any part of it shall be transacted by the Treasurer of the Chamber and/or other persons as the Council may by resolution from time to time designate, direct or authorize.

9. Appointment of Auditor

The Members shall, at the Annual General Meeting of Members in each year, appoint an auditor. In each year the appointed auditor shall conduct an annual audit of the accounts and annual financial statements of the Chamber for report to the Members at the Annual General Meeting of Members for the next year. An appointed auditor shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting of Members provided that the Council may fill any casual vacancy in the office of auditor. Any remuneration of the auditor shall be fixed by the Council.

10. Borrowing Powers

If authorized by a resolution which is duly adopted by the Council and confirmed by ordinary resolution of the Members, the Council may from time to time: borrow money on the credit of the Chamber; issue, reissue, sell, pledge or hypothecate debt obligations of the Chamber; give a guarantee on behalf of the Chamber; and mortgage, hypothecate, pledge or otherwise create a security interest in all or any property of the Chamber, owned or subsequently acquired, to secure any debt obligation of the Chamber. Any such resolution may provide for the delegation of such powers by the Council to such officers or Members of Council to such extent and in such manner as may be set out in the bylaw. Nothing herein limits or restricts the borrowing of money by the Chamber, bills of exchange or promissory notes made, drawn, accepted or endorsed by or on behalf of the Chamber.

11. Non-Partisan/Non-Sectarian

The Chamber shall be non-partisan and non-sectarian and shall not lend its support to any candidate for public office.

Membership in the Chamber

12. Membership Conditions

Membership in the Chamber shall be available only to:

- an individual, whether resident in the District or not, who is directly or indirectly engaged or interested in trade, commerce or the economic and social welfare of the District;
- a society, body corporate or organization who is directly or indirectly engaged or interested in trade, commerce or the economic and social welfare of the District; or
- an individual, society, body corporate or organization who is not referred to above, but is recommended by the Council for membership in the Chamber at any Meeting of the Members.

13. Admission of Members

An individual or organization proposed for membership in the Chamber pursuant to the section on membership conditions of this Bylaw is only admitted to membership in the Chamber if the proposed Member so consents and their membership is approved at a Meeting of the Members by Special Resolution of the Members. An individual or organization so admitted to membership in the Chamber is a Member with all the related rights and obligations immediately as of the receipt of such approval.

14. When Membership Dues are Payable

Members shall be notified in writing of the subscription amounts or membership dues at any time payable by them and, if any are not paid within thirty days of their due date the Members in default shall automatically cease to be Members of the Chamber.

15. Termination and Withdrawal of Membership

A membership in the Chamber is terminated when:

- the Member dies, or,
- in the case of a Member that is an organization or a corporation, the organization is disbanded or the corporation is dissolved;

- a Member fails to maintain any qualifications for membership described in the section on membership conditions of this Bylaw;
- the Member retires or resigns by providing ten (10) days written notice of such resignation to the Secretary of the Chamber satisfying any lawful liability outstanding against such Member on the books of the Chamber the time of such written notice; and
- the Member is expelled in accordance with any section on discipline of Members of this Bylaw or is otherwise terminated in accordance with the Act or Bylaws

16. Effect of Termination and Withdrawal of Membership

Upon any termination of membership, the rights of the Member, including any rights in the property of the Chamber, automatically cease to exist.

17. Discipline of Members

The Council shall have authority to suspend or expel any Member from the Chamber for any one or more of the following grounds:

- violating any provision of the Certificate of Formation, Bylaws, or written policies of the Chamber;
- carrying out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Chamber as determined by the Council in its sole discretion;
- for any other reason that the Council in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the purpose of the Chamber.

In the event that the Council determines that a Member should be expelled or suspended from membership in the Chamber, the President, or such other Officer as may be designated by the Council, shall provide twenty (20) days' notice of suspension or expulsion to the Member and shall provide reasons for the proposed suspension or expulsion. The Member may make written submissions to the President, or such other Officer as may be designated by the Council, in response to the notice received within such twenty (20) day period.

In the event that no written submissions are received by the President, the President, or such other Officer as may be designated by the Council, may proceed to notify the Member that the Member is suspended or expelled from membership in the Chamber.

If written submissions are received in accordance with this provision, the Council will consider such submissions in arriving at a final decision and shall notify the Member concerning such final decision within a further twenty (20) days from the date of receipt of the submissions. The Council's decision shall be final and binding on the Member, without any further right of appeal.

18. Membership Transferability

A membership in the Chamber may not be transferred.

Meetings of Members

19. Quarterly Meetings of the Members

In each calendar year the Chamber shall hold four (4) Quarterly Meetings of the Members.

20. Annual General Meeting of Members

The first Quarterly Meeting of Members in a calendar year shall be deemed the Annual General Meeting of Members and at this meeting the following items shall be put before the Members for consideration:

- The election of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and at least 8 other Directors of the Council;
- The appointment of auditors of the Chamber; - The annual report of the President of the Chamber;
- Annual financial statements and auditor's report of the Chamber;
- The annual report of the Treasurer of the Chamber

21. Special Meetings of the Members

In addition to the Quarterly Meetings, the Council or a majority of Members of the Chamber may call a Special Meeting of the Members. In the event that the Members requisition a Special Meeting of the Members, the Directors shall arrange for such meeting without delay.

22. Notice of Meetings of Members

Notice of the time, date and place of a Quarterly, Annual or Special Meeting of Members shall be given to each Member during a period of ten (10) to fourteen (14) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held by publication of a notice through one newspaper or otherwise, as is thought necessary by the Council and by one (1) or more of the following options:

- by delivery personally to the Member to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such Member's address as shown in the records of the Chamber;
- by mail at each Member' s recorded address by prepaid ordinary or air mail; or
- if sent to each Member by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such Member's recorded address for that purpose.

If an electronic means is to be used, each Member receiving an electronic notice or other document must consent to such method of communication and designate an information system for the receipt of the electronic notice or other document. For each Member who has not consented, a copy of the notice or other document is to be sent to that Member.

Where the business to be considered at a Meeting of the Members is any business other than the election of directors, appointment of auditors, annual report of the President, the consideration of the financial statements and auditor's report, and the treasurer's report, the notice of meeting shall include enough information on that business so that Members may make a reasoned decision in respect of such business.

23. Place of Meeting of Members

Meetings of the Members shall be held at any place within the District.

24. Persons Entitled to be Present at Meetings of Members

Members, non-members, officers, directors and the auditor of the Chamber are entitled to be present at a meeting of Members.

25. Quorum at Meeting of Members

A quorum at any meeting of the Members shall be seven (7) of the Members. If a quorum is present at the opening of a Meeting of Members, the Members present may proceed with the business of the meeting even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting.

26. Voting at Meeting of Members

Each Member shall be entitled to exercise one (1) vote at all Meetings of the Members.

Where a Member is an organization, such Member shall designate, in the form required by the Chamber, an individual to exercise the vote on its behalf.

At any Meeting of the Members, a majority of the Members present are competent to do and perform all acts that either under the Act or the Bylaws are or shall be directed to be done at a Meeting of the Members.

At any Meeting of Members every question shall be determined by an Ordinary Resolution, unless otherwise provided by the Bylaws or by the Act.

27. In Case of an Equality of Votes

In case of an equality of votes either on a show of hands or on a ballot or on the results of electronic voting, the chair of the meeting in addition to an original vote shall have a second or casting vote.

Council of the Chamber

28. Number of Directors

The Chamber shall be managed by the Council, which shall consist of:

- a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected from amongst the Members by the Members by Ordinary Resolution at the Annual General Meeting of the Members in each year; and
- A minimum of 8 and to a maximum of 15 directors, all of whom shall be elected from amongst the Members by the Members by Ordinary Resolution at the Annual General Meeting of the Members in each year.

For further certainty, the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer are Directors within the meaning of the Act and this Bylaw.

29. Qualifications of Directors

Only Members may serve as Directors of the Chamber.

30. Term of Office of Directors

The Directors shall be elected to hold office for a term of one (1), expiring not later than the close of the Annual General Meeting in the year following their election, or until they are removed from office or vacate it as specified under these Bylaws.

31. Number of Terms of Office of Directors

Each Director may be elected for more than one term.

32. Failure to Elect Directors

In the event that Directors are not elected at the Annual General Meeting in a calendar year:

- the Directors may be elected at any next Meeting of Members of the Chamber; and
- the Directors then in office shall remain in office until their successors are elected.

33. Oath of Office

The President and Vice-President of the Chamber, before starting the duties of their office, shall take and subscribe before the mayor of the city or town constituting the District, or before any justice of the peace, take an oath or affirmation in the following form:

"I swear that I will faithfully and truly perform my duty as _____ of the Redwater & District Chamber of Commerce, and that I will, in all matters connected with the discharge of that duty, do all things, and only such things, as I truly and conscientiously believe to be adapted to promote the objects for which the board was constituted, according to the true intent and meaning of the same. So, help me God"

34. Automatic Termination of Director's Term in Office

The term of office of a Director shall be automatically terminated:

- if a Director, which includes the President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, resigns by delivering a written resignation to the Secretary of the Chamber; or,
- where such resigning Director is the Secretary of the Chamber, by delivering a written resignation to the President of the Chamber;
- if at a Meeting of Members an Ordinary Resolution is passed by the Members present at the meeting that the Director be removed from office;
- on death of the Director; or
- if a Director is absent from meetings of the Council continuously for a period of six (6) months.

If the Director who is terminated under this provision is also the President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer of the Chamber, such Director's term of office as the President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer as the case may be, shall likewise be automatically terminated.

35. Removal of Directors by Council

The Council may suspend or remove any Director, which includes the President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, from office if such Director violates any provision of the Certificate of Formation, Bylaws, or written policies of the Chamber, is negligent in the performance of their duties, or carries out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Chamber as determined by the Council in its sole discretion. A Director so suspended or removed may appeal such suspension to the Members at the next Meeting of Members, at which time the Members may confirm the decision of Council or reinstate such Director for the duration of their term of office.

36. Vacancies of Directors

Where a seat on the Council is vacant pursuant to the section on automatic termination of Director's term of office or the section on removal by Council of this Bylaw, the Council may at any of its meetings elect a Member of the Chamber to fill such vacancy. Any Director so elected shall hold office until the next annual election of Directors of the Chamber. Despite the foregoing, the Members vote to remove a Director pursuant to this Bylaw,

they may elect a Director to fill such vacancy at the same Meeting of Members at which the Director is removed. If the Members do not fill such vacancy, the Council may at any of its meetings elect a Member of the Chamber to fill such vacancy.

37. Calling of meetings of Council

Meetings of the Council may be ordered by the President or any two (2) Directors at any time and, if so ordered, shall be convened by the Secretary.

38. Location of Meetings of Council

Meetings of the Council may be held at any time and place within the District as determined by the Council.

39. Members at Council meetings

Meetings of the Council shall be open to all Members of the Chamber. However, Members in attendance may not take part in the proceedings at any such meeting.

40. Notice of Meeting of the Council

Notice of the time, date and place for the holding of a meeting of the Council shall be given in the manner provided in this Bylaw to every Director of the Chamber during a period of ten (10) to fourteen (14) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held if sent by mail and not less than forty eight (48) hours before the day on which the meeting is to be held if sent by telephonic, electronic or other communication facilities.

Notice of a meeting shall not be necessary if all of the Directors are present, and no one objects to the holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice of or have otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting. Notice of an adjourned meeting is not required if the time, date and place of the adjourned meeting is announced at the original meeting.

41. First Meeting of a New Council

Despite the section governing notice of meeting of Council, provided a quorum of Directors is present, each newly elected Council may without notice hold its first meeting immediately following the Meeting of Members at which such Council is elected.

42. Regular Meetings of the Council

The Council shall have regular meetings once a month at a place, date and hour to be named. A copy of any resolution of the Council fixing the time and place of such regular meetings of the Council shall be sent to each Director immediately after being passed.

43. Quorum at Meetings of the Council

Five (5) of the Directors in office shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Council. A majority of such quorum may do all things within the powers of the Council.

44. Chair of Council meetings

The President shall chair all meetings of the Council or, in the absence of the President, the Vice-President. In the event that the President and Vice-President of the Council are absent, any other Director chosen by the Council may chair the meeting.

45. **Voting at Meetings of the Council**

Each Director shall be entitled to exercise one (1) vote at all meetings of the Council. At all meetings of the Council, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast on the question. In case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting in addition to an original vote shall have a second or casting vote.

46. **Other Committees of Council**

The Council may from time to time appoint any committee or other advisory body and its members as it deems necessary or appropriate for such purposes and, subject to the Act and Bylaws, with such powers as the Council shall see fit. Any such committee may formulate its own rules of procedure, subject to such regulations or directions as the Council may from time to time make. The duties and remuneration of any such committee shall be set by the Council. Any committee may be disbanded by the Council and committee member may be removed by the Council. All committees made or appointed by the Council shall report to the Council.

Officers of the Chamber

47. **Roles of Officers**

Unless otherwise specified by the Council which may, subject to the Act, modify, restrict or supplement such duties and powers, Officers of the Chamber shall have the following duties and powers associated with their positions:

- **President.** The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Chamber and shall be responsible for implementing the strategic plans and policies of the Chamber. The President shall, subject to the authority of the Council, have general supervision of the affairs of the Chamber.
- **Vice-President.** The Vice-President shall, in the absence or disability of the President, perform the duties and exercise the power of the President and shall perform such other duties as shall from time to time be imposed upon him/her by the Council or the President.
- **Secretary.** In addition to the requirements of the Act, the Secretary shall attend and be the secretary of all meetings of the Council, Members and committees of the Council. The Secretary shall enter or cause to be entered in the Chamber's minute book, minutes of all proceedings at such meetings; the Secretary shall give or cause to be given, as and when instructed, notices to Members, Directors, the auditors and members of committees; the Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, records, documents and other instruments belonging to the Chamber.
- **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall keep proper accounting records in compliance with the Act and shall be responsible for the deposit of money, the safekeeping of securities and the disbursement of funds of the Chamber; the treasurer shall render to the Council whenever required an account of all transactions as treasurer and of the financial position of the Chamber and the Treasurer shall have such other powers and duties as the Council or the President may specify.
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48. **Remuneration of Directors and Officers**

The Directors, Officers and Standing Committee Members of the Chamber shall not be remunerated for their services.

49. **Indemnification**

Every Director or Officer of the Chamber or other person who has undertaken or is about to undertake any liability on behalf of the Chamber or any corporation controlled by it, and their heirs, executors and administrators, and estate and effects, respectively, shall, so long as they have acted honestly and in good faith,

from time to time and at all times be indemnified and saved harmless out of the funds of the Chamber from and against:

- a. all costs, charges and expenses which such Director, Officer or other person sustains or incurs as a result of going about their duties or in or about any action, suit or proceeding which is brought, commenced or prosecuted against such Director, Officer or other person, or in respect of any act, deed, matter or thing whatsoever, made, done or permitted by such Director, Officer or other person, in or about the execution of the duties of such Director's, Officer's or other person's office or in respect of any such liability; and
- a. all other costs, charges and expenses which such Director, Officer or other person sustains or incurs in or about or in relation to the affairs of the Chamber, except such costs, charges or expenses as are occasioned by such Director's, Officer's or other person's own willful neglect or default.

In the event an individual request the advance of funds in order to defend an action, claim, suit or proceeding referenced in paragraph (a) of this provision, the Council may approve such advance.

Dispute Resolution

51. Mediation and Arbitration

Disputes or controversies among Members, Directors, Officers, committee members, or volunteers of the Chamber are as much as possible to be resolved in accordance with the mediation and/or arbitration procedures as provided in these Bylaws.

52. Mediation/Arbitration Resolution Mechanism

In the event that a dispute or controversy among Members, Directors, Officers, committee members, or volunteers of the Chamber arising out of or related to the Certificate of Formation, the Bylaws, or out of any aspect of the operations of the Chamber is not resolved in private meetings between the parties, then without prejudice to or in any other way derogating from the rights of the Members, directors, officers, committee members, employees or volunteers of the Chamber as set out in the Certificate of Formation, Bylaws or the Act, and as an alternative to such person instituting a law suit or legal action, such dispute or controversy shall be settled by a process of dispute resolution as follows:

- o The dispute or controversy shall first be submitted to a panel of mediators where the one party appoints one mediator, the other party (or if applicable the Council) appoints one mediator, and the two mediators so appointed jointly appoint a third mediator. The three mediators will then meet with the parties in question in an attempt to mediate a resolution between the parties.
- o The number of mediators may be reduced from three to one or two upon agreement of the parties.
- o If the parties are not successful in resolving the dispute through mediation, then the parties agree that the dispute shall be settled by arbitration before a single arbitrator, who shall not be any one of the mediators referred to above, in accordance with the provincial or territorial legislation governing domestic arbitrations in force in the province or territory where the registered office of the Chamber is situated or as otherwise agreed upon by the parties to the dispute. The parties agree that all proceedings relating to arbitration shall be kept confidential and there shall be no disclosure of any kind. The decision of the arbitrator shall be final and binding and shall not be subject to appeal on a question of fact, law or mixed fact and law.

All costs of the mediators appointed in accordance with this provision shall be borne equally by the parties to the dispute or the controversy. All costs of the arbitrators appointed in accordance with this provision shall be borne by such parties as may be determined by the arbitrators.

General

53. Method of Giving Notice

Any notice (which term includes, without limitation, any communication or document or other information) to be given (which term includes, without limitation, sent, delivered, received or served) pursuant to the Act, the Certificate of Formation, the Bylaws or otherwise to a Member, Director, Officer or Committee Member or to the auditor shall be sufficiently given:

- if delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person's address as shown in the records of the Chamber or in the case of notice to a Director to the latest address as shown in the last Annual Summary (as required by the Act) was sent by the Chamber to Corporations Canada;
- if mailed to such person at such person's recorded address by prepaid ordinary or air mail; or
- if sent to such person by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's recorded address for that purpose.

A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the recorded address as previously mentioned; a notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box; and a notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch. The Secretary may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any Member, Director, Officer, auditor or Committee Member in accordance with any information believed by the Secretary to be reliable. The declaration by the Secretary that notice has been given pursuant to this Bylaw shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The signature of any Director or Officer of the Chamber to any notice or other document to be given by the Chamber may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

54. Invalidity of any Provisions of these Bylaws

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Bylaw shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Bylaw.

55. Omissions and Errors

The accidental omission to give any notice to any Member, Director, Officer, Committee Member or auditor, or the non-receipt of any notice by any such person where the Chamber has provided notice in accordance with the Bylaws or any error in any notice not affecting its substance shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting to which the notice pertained or otherwise founded on such notice.

56. Bylaws or Bylaw Amendments

A new Bylaw or an amendment to the Bylaws requires approval of:

- a. the Members by Ordinary Resolution at any Meeting of the Members, provided that notice of meeting is provided to the Members in accordance with this Bylaw; and
- a. the Minister.

After the Members have approved the new Bylaw or an amendment to the Bylaws, they shall be sent to the Minister for approval in accordance with the rules established by the Minister for such approval.

The new Bylaw or Bylaw amendment shall not be in force or acted upon until the Minister has approved it.

Notice of a proposed new Bylaw or an amendment to the Bylaws must be in writing and sent to all Members with the notice of meeting at which such proposed amendment is put to the Members for approval. A copy of such notice must be duly entered in the books of the Chamber as a minute of the Chamber.

57. Repeal of prior Bylaws

All previous Bylaws of the Chamber are repealed as of the coming into force of this Bylaw. Such repeal shall not affect the previous operation of the previous Bylaws or affect the validity of any act done or right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired or incurred prior to its repeal.