

Proposed Constitutional Change

SaskCulture's constitution contains the following clause:

27. d) Notwithstanding anything contained herein, nominations will also be accepted from the floor at any Annual General Meeting.

Nominations from the floor of an annual meeting were written into the constitution at a time when nominations were submitted on paper by mail, and elections were done in-person by paper ballot. Other reasons nominations from the floor can be ineffective include:

1. Lack of Preparedness: Floor nominations are often last-minute, meaning members don't have adequate time to consult with these candidates. Good governance requires thoughtful consideration of candidates' qualifications and availability, which is difficult without prior notice.
2. Lack of Transparency: Allowing floor nominations can appear non-transparent, especially if the candidates are unknown to the membership. Members who are not present may also feel excluded from fully participating in the selection process.
3. Uninformed Candidates: The organization may have nominees who are not fully informed about the responsibilities of being a board member and/or who haven't participated in a consultation with the nominations committee.
4. Disruptive to Meeting Agenda: Floor nominations can prolong the meeting, especially if voting is required. This may disrupt the planned agenda and make the meeting less efficient.
5. Lack of Fair Campaigning: Established nominees typically have time to communicate their platforms and goals before the meeting, allowing members to make informed choices.

Times have changed and there are now more efficient and effective ways to nominate and elect board candidates. The above issues can be addressed by setting deadlines for nominations in advance, allowing for a nominee campaigning period, and providing time for due diligence and an orderly, transparent election process, ideally online and prior to the annual meeting.

At the AGM, the membership will be presented with the following Constitutional change, to remove the following clause:

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