

## **By-law Number: 8 (OHLIA)**

Type: Board Governance

Approval Date:

Date for Review: When required

All divisions of the Ontario Library Association (OLA), including the Ontario Public Library Association, are governed by By-law No. 1.

By-Law No. 8 is specific to OHLIA.

BE IT ENACTED as a By-Law of the ONTARIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION, as follows:

### **1. NAME**

The name of the division shall be the Ontario Health Library and Information Association (OHLIA) Division of the Ontario Library Association and shall hereinafter be referred to as the “OHLIA Division” and the Ontario Library Association shall be referred to herein as the “Corporation.”

### **2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of the OHLIA division is to foster and encourage the expansion and improvement of health libraries in Ontario through:

- A. **Advocacy:** To be a voice for those working in or having an interest in the health library sector or any other setting involved with supporting the need for health information in Ontario. To support OHLIA members in their provision of health information resources and demonstrating the value of the health library or health information services within their organizations.
- B. **Education and research:** To support OHLIA members in continuing education and research to foster professional development. To promote research related to effective health libraries. To inform the membership of developments and trends in health library service.
- C. **Communication:** To strengthen professional communication amongst those working in or otherwise having an interest in health libraries or any other setting where health information is provided, including those who are employed, unemployed, students, and retirees in Ontario through the creation of networking and mentorship opportunities, including the sharing of professional experiences. To provide opportunities for health library staff to discuss problems and exchange ideas with others in the field.

- D. Partnerships: To work with the broader library community on shared issues, opportunities, and initiatives.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

The members of the OHLIA Division are those Members in good standing of the OLA who are also working or residing in Ontario.

The members of a region are those members of the Division who are either employed in that particular geographical area, provided however that a member cannot be a member of more than one region with the Division.

The membership of all OLA divisions shall be composed of nine regions:

- 1 Southwestern region
- 2 Central West region
- 3 Mid Central region
- 4 Central region - East
- 5 Toronto
- 6 Eastern region
- 7 Northern region – West
- 8 Northern region – East
- 9 Outside Ontario

### **4. COUNCIL GOVERNANCE**

The affairs of the OHLIA Division shall be managed by those elected to Council in a manner consistent with By-Law No. 1. The OHLIA Division shall elect between three (3) and seven (7) At Large Representatives which meet the diverse needs of that division. Criteria of representation may involve regional seats, specific focus or topical representation, etc.

- a. The composition of the Council shall include at least:
  - The Past-President
  - The President
  - The Vice-President
  - Executive Director (non-voting)
  
- b. OHLIA Council has also determined to include in their at-large representation:
  - a. Five Councillors-at-Large
  - b. Representation that ideally reflects diverse perspectives from a range of library roles (such as library technicians, solo library workers, or management), as well as different types of libraries (e.g. hospital, academic, public health agencies, other health information settings), and cultural and geographic diversity

Provided that each of the foregoing, except for the Executive Director, are personal members in good standing of the Division at the time of their election and throughout their term of office.

- c. The Vice-President shall serve the first year after election as Vice-President, the second year as President, and the third year as Past-President. In the event of the resignation of the President during their term of office, the Vice President shall assume the duties of the President for the remainder of that term.
- d. The term of office of a councillor is three years.
- e. A Secretary and Treasurer shall be chosen by the Council from the Councillors each year. One councillor shall serve as the Super Conference Planner for a 2 year term
- f. The councillors shall be appointed annually by the President to portfolios, which shall be determined from time to time by Council.
- g. If an OHLIA Council member is absent for three consecutive Council meetings, without authorization by a Council resolution, that Council member's seat becomes vacant and the remaining Council members shall forthwith declare the seat vacant and move to fill it as per [OLA Policy G4.4 "Nominations and Elections"](#)

## **6. AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to all divisional bylaws are governed by OLA Bylaw #1 and the OLA Resolutions Policy and Procedure G6.1. Resolutions are the means for any OLA member to propose action for the membership to consider. Bylaw #1 stipulates notice to members of resolution as follows:

- Notice of any by-law amendments: 30 days
- Notice of other resolutions: 7 days.