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# St. Anne Centre By Laws and Regulations

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St. Anne Centre

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Revised June 19, 2025

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**Article I**

The name of the society shall be St. Anne Community and Nursing Care Centre, hereafter known as St. Anne Centre.

**Article II**

In these by-laws and any regulations resulting from them, the following words shall have the meaning here after set forth:

- (A) "Society" shall mean St. Anne Community and Nursing Care Centre or St. Anne Centre, Arichat, Nova Scotia.
- (B) "Member" shall mean a "Member of the Society who must be 18 years of age and over.
- (C) "Board" shall mean St. Anne Centre Board.
- (D) "Director" should mean a person duly elected, appointed or chosen as a trustee of St. Anne Centre, Arichat, Nova Scotia. The group of Directors shall be known as the Board of Directors. No member of the medical or general staff of St. Anne Centre can serve as a director.
- (E) "Registrar" means the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies appointed under the Nova Scotia Companies Act.
- (F) "Immediate Family" being defined as: father, mother, step-parent, brother, sister, spouse, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, step child or ward, grandparent, or any person residing in the same household.

**Article III: Ownership**

- (A) Ownership of Society shall be vested equally among members.
- (B) Collectively the members will form together the Society of St. Anne Centre.
- (C) Any member of the Society is qualified to originate, table and take part in any issue or subject that may properly come to the Annual General Meeting of the Society, to vote on any subject, and to hold any office to which he or she may be elected or appointed providing no conflict of interest is involved.
- (D) A quorum of this Society will be 25, eight (8) of whom must be Directors.

- (E) Membership in the Society shall cease:
- a. upon death, or
  - b. if the member resigns by written notice to the Society, or
  - c. if the member ceases to qualify for membership in accordance with these by-laws, or
  - d. if, by a vote of the majority of the members of the Society or a majority vote of the Directors of the Society at a meeting duly called and for which notice of the proposed action has been given, the Member's membership in the Society has been terminated.

## **Article IV**

### **Section 1**

The operation of St. Anne Centre will be the sole responsibility of the CEO and administrative team and oversight the responsibility of an eleven (11) member Board of Directors, representing the Society, to be elected, appointed, or chosen in the following manner:

- (A) Where possible one (1) to be appointed by St. Anne Centre Auxiliary. If one is not appointed by the Auxiliary, the Board Chair shall appoint a Board member to serve as liaison between the Auxiliary and the Board.
- (B) Where possible, one (1) to be appointed by the Richmond County Council.
- (C) The remaining nine (9) members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed with adequate representation from the Isle Madame and Louisdale areas.
- i) The method and process for recruitment, appointment and selection will be outlined in board policy.
  - ii) Unanticipated vacancies will be filled as necessary according to policy.

**Board Membership Terms**

Each member of the Board of Directors shall serve for a three (3) year term. Board members may serve for a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms. Exceptions to this are the Board of Director members appointed by the Municipality of the County of Richmond and the Auxiliary.

The Board may fill vacancies by appointing a director to serve until the next AGM.

**Section 2**

The Board of Directors shall be responsible to:

- (A) Promote and maintain a high standard of service in our long-term care facility and Urgent Treatment Centre.
- (B) Promote good public relations and maintain official recognition of St. Anne Centre.
- (C) Meet the objectives of the society and provide a quality governance model.

**Section 3****Conflict of Interest**

(A) Members of the Board of Directors and their immediate relatives shall not enter into any business arrangement with St. Anne Centre in which they are interested directly or indirectly, except:

- (i) On a written and competitive sealed quotation basis and,
- (ii) Having refrained from voting and debate thereon.

(B) The Chairperson of any meeting of the Board, or committees of the Board, shall request any member who has declared an interest in any business or other financial arrangement with St. Anne Centre, which is being discussed to excuse themselves during the discussion and the vote. The matter and the event shall be recorded in the minutes.

(C) A director shall not participate in any Board of Director meetings or discussions at any time when the discussion or business transacted is directly in relation to a relative in the employ of, or is a resident of, St. Anne Centre.

**Section 4****Confidentiality**

(A) Every director and employee of the Society shall respect the confidentiality of matters brought before the Board, keeping in mind that unauthorized statements could adversely affect the interest of the Society. Each Board member will be required to sign a Confidentiality Agreement on an annual basis.

(B) The Board shall give authority to one or more directors or employees of the Society to make statements to the news media or public about matters brought before the Board, as per policy SAC-BRD-029 (St. Anne Centre Organizational Communication).

**Article V: Directors****Section 1**

Representatives will be appointed as per Article IV and introduced to the annual general meeting. The Directors shall meet as a group and elect the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Treasurer.

**Section 2**

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Society. He/She/They shall act as Chairperson of the Executive Committee and shall in general exercise the powers and perform the duties common to the Board Chair.

**Section 3**

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall act as Chair, and shall exercise the power and perform the duties of the Chair. In the absence of both, the Directors present shall appoint a Chair pro tempore.

**Section 4**

The Board will hire a secretary (non-Director) to prepare the minutes and distribute them. The secretary is responsible to review all documents prior to distribution. The Secretary shall maintain the Board's organizational records, keep an accurate record of the business transacted at all meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors with the exclusion of in-camera meetings. They/them shall write and distribute all correspondence in advance on the Board meetings. They are also responsible for the care and custody of the Seal of the Society.

**Section 5**

The chair of the finance committee shall be responsible for ensuring that a proper account of receipts and expenditures is maintained. She/he/they is also responsible for ensuring the presentation of the auditor's report and financial statements of the Society at the Annual Meeting.

**Section 6**

The directors shall serve without remuneration, and no director shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from his/her position as director, provided that a director may be paid reasonable expenses incurred by him/her in the performance of his/her duties.

**Section 7**

Any member absent for three (3) consecutive meetings (regular and/or special) of the Board of Directors without just cause may be removed by a two-third majority vote of the Board. A member absent for two (2) consecutive meetings (regular and/or special) must be notified in writing of the Board's intention to implement the conditions of this article upon a third consecutive absenteeism. Just cause is deemed to be absence for reason of personal sickness, sickness and/or death in the family, work requirements, special circumstances, etc. Upon receiving a two-third majority vote for the member's removal, the Board of Directors may fill that vacancy. The replacement member shall hold office for the remainder of the term of the member being replaced.

**Section 8**

The Auditor shall be recommended by the Board and appointed annually via a motion at the AGM. Such appointments will be reviewed by the Board. A tender process shall take place a maximum of every three (3) years.

**Article VI: Committees****Section 1**

All standing committees shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at their first meeting following their election or appointment and shall be:

(i) The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Chairs of the Finance Committee and Governance Committees. Its duty will be to transact all regular business of the Society between meetings of the Board of Directors, provided that any action shall not conflict with the policies and expressed wishes of the Directors. All matters of importance will be referred to the Board of Directors.

- (ii) The Finance Committee shall consist of at least two (2) Directors and shall include the Chair of the Finance Committee. This committee, at its discretion, may appoint a member at large who has experience in financial matters. The Finance Committee shall review all financial statements.
- (iii) The Building Committee shall consist of three (3) persons, at least one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors. They shall oversee repairs and maintenance of the property of the Society. This committee, at its discretion, may appoint an additional member at large who has experience in the field of construction
- (iv) The Governance Committee shall consist of at least four (4) persons, two (2) of whom are members of the Board of Directors. The committee shall make recommendations to the Board of Directors to improve governance function.
- (v) The Strategic Planning Committee (a sub-committee of the Governance Committee) will consist of two (2) members of the Board of Directors, the CEO, the Accreditation Coordinator, a staff member and. Other members may be added at the discretion of the Board of Directors or the Strategic Planning Committee.

## **Section 2**

The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. Each committee, however, will elect its own chairperson. The quorum of any committee shall consist of at least a majority of the members of a respective committee.

## **Section 3**

Working Group Charters (ad hoc and on a need to have basis) shall be appointed by the Board of Directors as deemed necessary. Such special committees shall limit their activities to the accomplishment of the specific task for which they were appointed. Upon completion of the task, such special committees shall stand discharged.

Examples of Working Group Charters are:

- (i) The Recruitment Committee shall consist of three (3) members, two (2) of whom must be present Board members. In addition, the past Board Chair, or another appointed member, shall serve as the Chairperson of this committee. Its purpose is to identify prospective Board members and screen these prospects as nominees for the membership to consider. This is to be a year long commitment (from one AGM to the next).

**ARTICLE VII: Meetings****Section 1**

There shall be one (1) annual meeting (AGM) of the Society within three (3) months after the end of each fiscal year being March 31. Notices of this meeting shall be posted for at least seven (7) days previous to the date in two (2) conspicuous places throughout Isle Madame and Louisdale (e.g. Coop stores, Credit Unions), in local news media (e.g. Radio Richmond, Telile, Parish Bulletins) and social media (Facebook).

**Section 2**

A general or special meeting of the Society may be held at any time and shall be called:

- a. If requested by the chair, or
- b. If requested by a majority of the directors, or
- c. If requested in writing by 20 of the members.

**Section 3**

(i) Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of 10 times per year. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time at the discretion of the Executive Committee. A quorum shall be six (6) directors.

(ii) If required, any three (3) directors may call a special meeting of the Board providing the request is in writing (or via email) and signed (confirmed via email) by the three directors.

**Section 4**

The order of business at the Annual Meeting will be as follows:

Call to Order  
Review and Approval of the Agenda  
Approval of the Minutes from the last AGM  
Business arising from the Minutes  
Auditor's Report  
Report of the Chair (optional)  
Report of the CEO  
Report of the Medical Staff  
Report of the St Anne Centre Auxiliary  
New Business  
Appointment of Auditor  
Nomination and Appointment of Directors  
Adjournment

**Note: Any additions to the Agenda at the AGM must be by Motion.**

**Article VIII: CEO**

The Board of Directors shall hire a qualified Chief Executive Officer (CEO) who shall be the Board's direct representative in the management of St. Anne Centre. This CEO shall be given the necessary authority and be responsible for the administration of St. Anne Centre in all its departments, subject to the policies enacted by the Society, the Board of Directors, or by any of its committees to which authority to enact policies has been delegated. The CEO is responsible and accountable for the general and day-to-day operation of St. Anne Centre in keeping with the Mission, Vision, Guiding Principles, policies, Strategic Plan, By-Laws, applicable Acts and Regulations, Department of Health and Wellness policies, and any other established standards. More specifically, the authority and duties of the CEO shall be:

- (i) To prepare and share with the Board of Directors minimum annually or when there are significant changes impacting the Centre's operations. An organizational chart of the leadership team of St. Anne Centre.
- (ii) To prepare, along with the Finance Committee, financial reports showing the expected receipts and expenditures as required.
- (iii) To employ a fair and transparent process in selection, employment and management of employees.
- (iv) To discharge employees/personnel for just cause.
- (v) To attend all meetings of the Board of Directors except when the Board directs otherwise.
- (vi) To submit monthly reports to the Board of Directors, indicating operational and financial activities of St. Anne Centre.
- (vii) To develop a positive working relationship with the medical staff, employees, stakeholders and other partners.
- (viii) To perform any other duty that may be necessary in the best interest of St. Anne Centre, as authorized by the Board of Directors.
- (ix) To inform the Board of all district and provincial updates of interest to the institution.
- (x) To ensure a culture of safety in the operation of St. Anne Centre.

The Board of Directors shall ensure that an employment contract is executed with the CEO; the said contract shall reflect the above guidelines enacted by the Board of Directors.

### **Article IX: Honorary Membership**

Honorary Membership in the Society may be conferred upon an individual by a vote of the Board of Directors as per Policy SAC-BRD-028 (Honorary Society Memberships).

### **Article X: Signing Authority**

A board of director's resolution is required to grant signing authority on society development funds. Signing officers commonly include executive Board members, the CEO and Financial officer. Two signatures are required and must include at least one authorized Board member's signature.

### **Article XI**

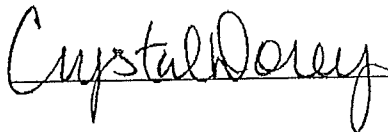
No alterations or amendments shall be made to these By-laws except by a three-fourths vote of such owners of the Society entitled to vote who are present at a duly advertised meeting of which notice specifying the intention to propose such resolution has been duly given. Notice of meeting shall be that outlined in Article VII of these By-laws.

### **Article XII**

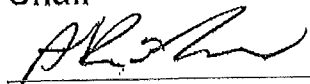
All By-laws heretofore made by the St. Anne Centre Society are rescinded.

**Article XIII: Adoption**

Adopted at the Annual Meeting of St. Anne Community and Nursing Care Centre Society held on June 19, 2025 by Special Resolution.

  
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Chair

  
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Vice - Chair