

Amendment 1

Addition of 2nd Vice President Description

Motion

Moved that Article 7.9 be amended to include a description for 2nd Vice President and that the underlying descriptions be renumbered accordingly:

7.9.1.X The 2nd Vice President shall perform all necessary duties of the 1st Vice President during any absence and accept and exercise such other duties and powers as may be designated by the Local Executive Committee or the President.

Rationale

This amendment is purely housekeeping in nature as the 2nd Vice President role exists but was missed from the duties of Officers descriptions previously.

Amendment 2

Article 9.1 E-Transfer / Online Banking

Motion

Moved that Article 9.1 be amended by adding “electronic funds transfer, Interac e-transfer,” after “pre-authorized payments,”:

9.1 All funds of the Local shall be used only for legitimate trade union purposes. Accounting for revenue and disbursements shall be done in a proper and business-like manner. Except for reasonable amounts in petty cash accounts, all expenditures shall be by cheque and shall be properly supported by vouchers. Where local bylaws permit, and where proper supporting documentation is available, local expenditures may be made by pre-authorized payments, **electronic funds transfer, Interac e-transfer** or by online banking. The signing officers of the Local shall be any two of the President, 1st Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Rationale

This amendment modernizes the payment methods, It makes clear that e-transfer is allowed, but not as an informal workaround around cheque signing.

Amendment 3

Increase Donation Limit from \$500 to \$1,000

Motion

Moved that Article 9.5 be amended by deleting “\$500” and replacing it with “\$1,000”:

9.5 Donations, up to ~~\$500~~**\$1,000.00**, may be motioned and approved by the LEC unless there is a scheduled General Membership meeting prior to the donation deadline. Donations approved by the LEC will be recorded and become part of the Treasurer’s report to be presented at the next General Meeting.

Rationale

This amendment increases the LEC’s donation approval authority from \$500 to \$1,000, while preserving membership oversight through Treasurer reporting. Recent strike actions have shown a need to increase spending on Donations and lead by example. Hardship funds being limited to donations and being a critical resource for a local membership on strike will need additional funding province wide where possible to make such donations.

Amendment 4

Increase Local Expenditure Limit from \$500 to \$1,000

Motion

Moved that Article 9.6 be amended by deleting “\$500.00” and replacing it with “\$1,000.00”:

9.6 The President in consultation with the Treasurer may spend up to ~~\$500.00~~**\$1,000.00** on Local expenditures. Expenditures will be recorded and become part of the Treasurer’s report to be presented at the next General Meeting.

Rationale

This amendment increases the existing operational spending authority from \$500 to \$1,000, while maintaining accountability through documentation, Treasurer reporting. This amendment is intended to address growing inflation in which \$500 may no longer be enough for the smooth and expedient operation of the local.

Amendment 5

Add Annual Discretionary General Fund Spending Authority up to \$5,000

Motion

Moved that Article 9 of the Local 351 Bylaws be amended by adding the following new article after Article 9.7.

[NEW] 9.X The Local may establish an Annual Discretionary General Fund of up to \$5,000.00 as a separate line item in the annual budget presented under Article 9.3. Once approved by the membership, expenditures from this fund may be authorized by motion of the Local Executive Committee and shall be subject to the financial controls and record-keeping requirements in Article 9.1.

Unspent amounts shall not carry forward as discretionary spending authority unless re-approved by the membership as part of a subsequent annual budget.

Rationale

This amendment allows the membership to approve a defined annual discretionary fund in advance through the Local budget. It gives the LEC flexibility to respond to Local needs between GMMs while preserving member control because the fund must be budgeted and approved annually.

Amendment 6

Article 9.X Investments

Motion

To remove line from 9.8 to its own article:

9.X The Local account and investments will be held by a local credit union where possible.

Rationale

This is purely housekeeping. Edits to prior version have resulted in this line being included under honorariums where it should be included on its own.

Amendment 7

Article 9.8 Honorariums

Motion

To remove the financial honorariums from the bylaws and replace with expense reimbursements:

9.8 Reimbursement of Expenses

No member of the Local Executive shall be financially disadvantaged as a result of carrying out their duties and responsibilities on behalf of the Local.

The Local shall budget for and reimburse reasonable and necessary expenses incurred by Executive members in the performance of their official duties, in accordance with the policies, procedures, and expense guidelines of OPSEU/SEFPO and any applicable Local policies. Such expenses may include, but are not limited to, travel, accommodation, meals, childcare, dependent care, lost wages, and other costs reasonably incurred while conducting Local business.

All claims for reimbursement shall be submitted in the manner prescribed by OPSEU/SEFPO and supported by appropriate documentation where required.

Rationale

The removal of honorariums ensures that all Local Executive members are treated equally and equally reimbursed for expenses. The Local has gained much experience and more knowledge of OPSEU policies over the years and is more aware of other options available to access coverage of time off for Executive members.

Amendment 8

Article 9.9.5 First Time Observer

Motion

To add the following under Article 9.9:

9.9.5 To encourage member engagement within the Local, one (1) observer position for OPSEU/SEFPO Regional Meetings and Convention shall be reserved for a member who has not previously attended the respective event as a delegate, alternate or observer.

The first-time observer shall be elected in the same manner as all other observers and shall possess all rights and responsibilities of an observer.

Should no eligible first-time observer seek election, or should the reserved position remain vacant, the position shall be filled through the regular observer election process.

Rationale

Reserving an observer position for a first-time attendee promotes equitable access to union education, networking, and democratic participation opportunities by ensuring these experiences are not limited to members who have previously had the opportunity to attend. It also supports member development and succession planning by encouraging new activists to build the knowledge, confidence, and leadership skills necessary to become future leaders within the Local and the broader union. While L351 has worked to do this, inclusion of this in our bylaws solidifies the intent of the Local in promoting fairness and inclusivity by creating this pathway for members.