
Bylaws 2017

— Vancouver DPAC —

Goals of the DPAC Bylaws Revision

The revision and improvement of the Vancouver DPAC Bylaws was one of the strategic goals identified and agreed to by the DPAC Executive in late 2016.

The key goals of the DPAC bylaw revision process are to:

1. Increase Vancouver school PACs' participation and influence at DPAC.
2. Improve operational governance of DPAC.

Revision Highlights

Elections

- The twelve DPAC executives are elected by DPAC representatives at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- All four officers positions (Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary) are also voted on, from among the elected Executives, at the AGM by the DPAC representatives (not the outgoing DPAC Executive).

Code of conduct

A quote from the Code of Conduct:

Section 10.01 All Executives have a duty to put the Council's interests ahead of their own. They should not act primarily in the interests of a special group or in their own self-interest. The executive, as a group and as individuals, is responsible to the membership for everything they do.

Meetings

We are proposing a new meeting structure, following our experiences in 2016/2017. Meetings are divided into two types, each scheduled roughly once a month:

- **Executive Meetings:** Officer reports (chiefly from the Chair and Treasurer), committee reports, administrative updates, etc.
- **General Meetings:** Single topic agendas of broad interest across the district -- PAC 101 (training), VSB budget, Long Range Facility Plan updates, any topical subject that might require DPAC to take a position (such as the BC Hydro proposal in early 2017), special presentations.

Conflict resolution process

As suggested by one of our current 2016/2017 executives, we have proposed a *mandatory* conflict resolution process inspired by indigenous wisdom. Implicit in this is the recognition that Vancouver DPAC must strive to build its community, repair and renew relationships, and work for the benefit of the entire membership (all Vancouver PACs).

Notes

Some points to consider

- The proposed revision is not perfect, but it doesn't need to be to move forward. The criteria is whether the changes, on balance, further our two primary goals (strengthen role of DPAC reps from PACs and improve operational governance).
- Some sections didn't receive the full attention we intended, such as the "roles and responsibilities" section. We hope next year's DPAC will continue to work on this.
- The consequences of not making improvements to our bylaws this year are tangible and material.