

**QUEER ONTARIO
(QO)**

BY-LAWS

Original Bylaws Approved May 18, 2011

1st Set of Revisions Approved November 5, 2011

2nd Set of Revisions Approved April 18, 2012

**A by-law relating generally to the transaction of the affairs of "QUEER ONTARIO"
("the Corporation"), a Corporation without share capital (Ontario Corporation Number: N/A)
incorporated under the Ontario Corporations Act ("the Act").**

BE IT ENACTED as a by-law of the Corporation as follows:

PART I: NAME

101 Name

(1) The name of the *incorporated* body shall be QUEER ONTARIO, hereinafter referred to as "QUEER ONTARIO (QO)."

PART II: OBJECTS

201 Objects of QUEER ONTARIO

(1) The objects of QUEER ONTARIO shall be:

- (a) To engage in advocacy, lobbying and political action efforts to address legal and social justice issues affecting Ontario's sexually diverse and gender-diverse communities, from this point forward referred to in this document as 'queer', with a commitment to equity outreach in its membership and activities; and
- (b) To create a network of queer liberationists across Ontario as individuals or local chapters; and
- (c) To collaborate with other anti-oppression groups to support mutual social justice goals while respecting mutual autonomy; and
- (d) To host a virtual think tank that promotes a queer liberationist discourse via the QUEER ONTARIO website or other suitable online location; and
- (e) To preserve the legacy of QUEER ONTARIO's predecessor, the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario (CLGRO), as an archive on the QUEER ONTARIO website or other suitable online location.

202 No monetary gain to members

(1) QUEER ONTARIO shall be operated without purpose of monetary gain to any of the members.

(2) However, one or more member(s) or director(s) may be employed by or provide services to QUEER ONTARIO for a fixed remuneration under the provisions of part XIII of these by-laws.

(3) Any surplus or profits of QUEER ONTARIO shall be used solely for the purposes of QUEER ONTARIO and the promotion of its purposes.

PART III: PHYSICAL LOCATION

301 Contact Locations

(1) The head office of QUEER ONTARIO shall be located in the province of Ontario at such a place as determined from time to time by the Board of Directors of QUEER ONTARIO.

(2) QUEER ONTARIO will function, for the most part, as a virtual entity, without a physical location.

Therefore, it will have various means of virtual contacts via social media, as well as a mailing address via post office (PO) box number.

(3) Meetings will usually take place physically in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) in the province of Ontario with efforts to connect with members across the province through social media or hosting meetings outside the GTA within Ontario from time to time as determined by the QUEER ONTARIO Steering Committee.

PART IV: SEAL

401 Seal

(1) The seal of QUEER ONTARIO shall be in the form of a circle, inside of which shall be the QUEER ONTARIO logo.

PART V: MEMBERSHIP

501 Individual membership

(1) Individual membership is divided into three categories—Participating membership, Supporting membership and Electronic or e-membership.

(2) Individual membership may be granted to any person who supports the objects of QUEER ONTARIO as set out in part II of these by-laws and pays an annual membership fee as set by the Steering Committee and valid for one year from the date of payment; and

(3) dependent upon the category of membership, may allow the person to access relevant mailings, to participate in the consensus decision-making process at all meetings and to vote at the Annual General Meeting and other General Assembly meetings, but does not entitle such person to vote at Steering Committee meetings unless elected to the Steering Committee.

(4) Participating membership:

(a) may be granted to any person living in Ontario who:

- i. has filled out the official QUEER ONTARIO registration form; and
- ii. has contributed six (6) hours to the research, writing, planning, or execution of one or more QUEER ONTARIO initiative(s) per year; or
- iii. has participated in person or by other means in at least three (3) QUEER ONTARIO meetings per year, which need not be monthly meetings and need not be consecutive; or
- iv. has engaged in a combination of (ii) and (iii) for a total of six (6) hours.

(b) entitles a person to:

- i. participate in the consensus decision-making process at all meetings; and
- ii. vote at the Annual General Meeting and other General Assembly meetings; and
- iii. run for a position on the Steering Committee.

(5) Electronic membership or e-membership:

- (a) may be granted to any person who:
 - i. follows or subscribes to QUEER ONTARIO's QO-News, social and/or electronic media.

- (b) entitles a person to:
 - i. attend all meetings and participate in discussion;
 - ii. but not engage in decision-making or voting

(6) The membership year for QUEER ONTARIO members begins the day of each Annual General Meeting and concludes the day before the following Annual General Meeting.

(7) Sixty (60) days before each Annual General Meeting, all QUEER ONTARIO members will be contacted by the secretary/membership coordinator to renew their membership by completing or updating their official registration form.

(8) Members who wish to vote at the Annual General Meeting or any other General Meetings in the coming year will be required to submit their updated registration forms 30 or more days before the Annual General Meeting. Members who do not submit their registration forms 30 days before the Annual General Meeting will be considered to be e-members or non-voting members.

502 Organizational membership

(1) Organizational membership is divided into two categories: Participating organizational membership and Supporting organizational membership.

(2) Participating organizational membership:

(a) may be granted to any Ontario-focused organization that:

- i. has the primary purpose of meeting the needs of sexually diverse and gender diverse communities, from this point forward referred to in this document as 'queer'; and/or
- ii. has the primary purpose of working towards social justice objectives; and
- iii. supports the objects of QUEER ONTARIO as set out in part II of these by-laws; and
- iv. pays an annual membership fee valid for one year from the date of payment at a rate determined by the Steering Committee.

(b) entitles an organization to:

- i. receive all minutes of General Assembly and Steering Committee meetings; and
- ii. access all relevant mailings; and
- iii. be involved in the consensus decision-making process at all meetings; and
- iv. vote at all General Assembly meetings and the Annual General Meeting (one vote per organization).

(3) Supporting organizational membership:

(a) may be granted to any other organization:

- i. with a primary purpose which may or may not be that of meeting the needs of queer communities

- and/or of working towards social justice objectives;
- ii. but which supports the aims of the objects of QUEER ONTARIO as set out in part II of these bylaws; and
- iii. pays the annual membership fee as determined by the Steering Committee.

(b) entitles an organization to:

- i. access to relevant mailings; and
- ii. participate in the consensus decision-making process at all meetings and conferences;
- iii. but does not entitle such organization to vote at Steering Committee meetings.

504 Membership in good standing

(1) "Member(s) in good standing" means organization(s) or individual(s) not in arrears in respect of the applicable membership fee.

505 Discipline and/or Removal

(1) Upon receipt and investigation of a written complaint by a participating member of Queer Ontario, the Steering Committee may recommend suspension or involuntary removal of a Queer Ontario member or members, including participating members or electronic members, as well as members of the steering committee and coordinators, for any of the following reasons:

- (a) conduct or behaviour at Queer Ontario meetings, gatherings or events that has a negative impact on the integrity of the organization;
- (b) conflict of interest violations;
- (c) conviction of charges of illegal behaviour connected to Queer Ontario activities, events, projects, initiatives or facilities;
- (d) malfeasance;
- (e) conduct or behaviour at Queer Ontario meetings, gatherings or events that has a negative impact on the safety and security of Queer Ontario members and guests;
- (f) conduct or behaviour at Queer Ontario meetings, gatherings or events, or on behalf of Queer Ontario at external meetings, gatherings or events, that contravenes Queer Ontario policies on discrimination or harassment;
- (g) other conduct that violates the bylaws or established policies and procedures of Queer Ontario.

(2) Suspension of a Queer Ontario member for a period of not more than six months, regardless of the member's status, position or responsibility, may be enacted by the Steering Committee at a special meeting held for that purpose.

(3) A member may appeal their suspension to the general membership at a special meeting held for that purpose, adherent to requirements of a Special General Meeting as noted in the Queer Ontario bylaws.

(4) If a consensus on the matter cannot be reached by the membership at this meeting, dismissal or

confirmation of suspension of the member in question may be enacted by a two-thirds majority vote of the members participating, providing quorum is achieved.

(5) Involuntary removal of a Queer Ontario member, regardless of the member's status, position or responsibility, may be enacted through a consensus decision by the general Queer Ontario membership at a special meeting held for that purpose, adherent to requirements of a Special General Meeting as noted in the Queer Ontario bylaws.

(6) If a consensus cannot be reached by the membership at this meeting, involuntary removal of the member in question may be enacted by a two-thirds majority vote of the members participating, providing quorum is achieved.

PART VI: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

601 General assembly and Steering Committee/Board of Directors

(1) QUEER ONTARIO shall consist of a General Assembly and a Steering Committee/Board of Directors.

PART VII: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

701 Composition and authority

(1) The General Assembly shall consist of all organizational, individual, and supporting members.

(2) The General Assembly is responsible for adoption of amendments to the letters patent and by-laws and for approval of all statutory and other matters that must be dealt with at each Annual General Meeting or at other General Meetings.

(3) In all other matters, the General Assembly is a consultative body for the Steering Committee and may make recommendations as to QUEER ONTARIO's policy, strategies, and programs.

(4) The General Assembly shall be entitled to elect annually up to four members-at-large to the Steering Committee, in accordance with by-law 803.

702 General assembly meetings

(1) There shall be at least one meeting of the General Assembly annually, which shall be the Annual General Meeting.

(2) The Annual General Meeting shall be held not more than six months after fiscal year end.

(3) Special General Meetings shall be held:

- (a) as required by statute, to amend the letters patent or by-laws of the group; or
- (b) as otherwise determined by the Steering Committee; or
- (c) upon the submission of a request for a special General Meeting, in writing, by
 - i. 60% of the individual participating members in good standing, or
 - ii. 15% of the organizational members in good standing and 40% of the

individual participating members in good standing.

704 Meeting notice and agenda

- (1) The Annual General Meeting and any special General Assembly meeting shall be called by the chair or secretary or at the request of the Steering Committee/Board of Directors by giving at least 30 days notice of the date, time, place, and agenda.
- (2) Such notice shall be sent to all organizational, individual, and supporting members as required by the Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act.
- (3) The following items shall be included in the agenda for the Annual General Meeting:
 - i. adoption of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and any intervening special General Meeting;
 - ii. adoption of annual & financial report of the Steering Committee/Board of Directors;
 - iii. special resolutions for which advance notice has been given to the Steering Committee/Board of Directors;
 - iv. business from members for which advance notice has been given to the Steering Committee/Board of Directors;
 - v. election of the Steering Committee/Board of Directors;
 - vi. election of the members-at-large to the Steering Committee/Board of Directors; and
 - vii. an opportunity for non-binding general discussion relevant to the affairs and operations of QUEER ONTARIO.
- (4) Items cannot be considered for decision or vote at any General Assembly meeting unless notice of motion has been filed with the secretary and provided to all organizational, individual, and supporting members at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting.

705 Special Agenda Item Requirements

- (1) As indicated in by-law 704, the following items cannot be considered at a General Assembly meeting unless notice of motion has been filed with the secretary and provided to all organizational, individual, and supporting members at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting:
 - (a) amendments to the letters patent or by-laws;
 - (b) election of members to the Steering Committee/Board of Directors
 - (c) removal from office of a member of the Steering Committee/Board of Directors;
 - (d) dissolution of QUEER ONTARIO.
- (2) Amendments to the letters patent or by-laws may be passed by simple majority vote.
- (3) Election of members to the Steering Committee/Board of Directors may be conducted via secret ballot using a preferential voting system as determined by the Steering Committee.
- (4) Removal from office of a member of the Steering Committee/Board of Directors may be conducted via secret ballot, requiring approval from 60% of those participating members in attendance.
- (5) The requirements for dissolution of QUEER ONTARIO are specified in Part XVI – Dissolution.

706 Facilitator(s) for General Assembly meetings

(1) The members present at any General Assembly meeting shall approve the facilitator(s) for the meeting.

(2) Such facilitator(s) need not be member(s) of the Steering Committee/Board of Directors.

707 Quorum

(1) Except in the case of a General Assembly meeting at which a motion is put to dissolve QUEER ONTARIO (see by-law 1601), the quorum for any General Assembly meeting shall be ten participating members in good standing present at the meeting.

708 Voting at General Assembly meetings

(2) The provisions of by-law 1003 shall govern voting at any Annual General Meeting or special General Assembly meeting.

PART VIII: STEERING COMMITTEE/BOARD OF DIRECTORS

801 Composition and authority

(1) The Board of Directors, from this point forward known as the Steering Committee, shall consist of the chairs of each of the standing committees, four members-at-large elected by the General Assembly to represent the individual members – as specified in bylaw 803 – and the Coordinators.

(2) Each member of the Steering Committee, including the Coordinators, may serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms, each term lasting a maximum of two years. To correctly begin the rotation process on the Steering Committee, at the first Annual General Meeting not fewer than 50% of the members of the Steering Committee must elect to serve a term of one year.

(3) The Steering Committee will from time to time develop and implement policies and procedures regarding the administration and conduct of the organization, its committees, its projects and initiatives and its members. The general membership will be notified of these policies and procedures via e-mail and via the Queer Ontario website as they are implemented.

(4) The Steering Committee establishes, interprets, and implements all QUEER ONTARIO policies, strategies, programs, and activities.

(5) Except as otherwise provided by the applicable statute(s), the letters patent, and these by-laws, the Steering Committee is the only body of QUEER ONTARIO whose decisions in respect of policies, strategies, programs, and activities are binding on QUEER ONTARIO.

802 Committee Chairs

(1) Each standing committee may designate up to two co-chairs who will handle the business relevant to their respective committees as well as represent them on the Steering Committee.

(2) One chair from each committee shall have voting status on the Steering Committee.

803 Members-at-large

(1) The General Assembly may elect up to four individual members-at-large to the Steering Committee all of whom must be participating members in good standing of QUEER ONTARIO.

(2) Two of these at-large positions shall be specifically earmarked for participating members residing outside of Toronto. Each of these members-at-large shall have voting status on the Steering Committee.

(3) 'Residing outside of Toronto' means living outside of the boundaries of the City of Toronto, post-amalgamation, at the time of election.

804 Coordinators

(1) The Coordinators shall have voting status on the Steering Committee.

805 Meetings

(1) Steering Committee meetings shall be held as often as is necessary to achieve the efficient administration and management of QUEER ONTARIO.

(2) There shall not be fewer than two meetings of the Steering Committee annually. The dates and locations of the meetings may be set by the Annual General Meeting, the Steering Committee, or the coordinators.

806 Notice of meetings

(1) The chair or secretary shall send, or arrange to have sent, to each member of the Steering Committee, at least 14 days prior to the date of any Steering Committee meeting, a notice of the meeting giving the dates, times, location, and proposed agenda.

807 Facilitator(s) for Steering Committee meetings

(1) Either the vice-chair, treasurer or secretary may preside at any meeting in the absence of the chair.

(2) Should none of the Coordinators be available, the members present at any Steering Committee meeting shall approve the facilitator(s) for the meeting. Such facilitator(s) need not be director(s) or member(s) of the Steering Committee.

808 Quorum

(1) The quorum for any Steering Committee meeting shall be more than 50% of the Steering Committee members.

809 Declaration of conflict of interest

(1) Any person having voting status at a Steering Committee meeting who has a conflict of interest, or the appearance thereof, must declare that conflict of interest and refrain from voting on that item at any meeting of the Steering Committee.

810 Vacancies

(1) If fewer than three Coordinators are elected at any Annual General Meeting or if any vacancy should

occur among the Steering Committee members between Annual General Meetings, the Steering Committee shall fill such vacancies by a majority vote of the members of the Steering Committee.

(2) Any Coordinator so elected shall serve until the next election.

811 Policy and procedure manual

(1) The Steering Committee shall maintain a policy and procedure manual and, as policies and procedures are adopted by the committee, they shall be reported in the manual.

812 Resignation from the Steering Committee

(1) A member resigning from the steering committee must give two weeks' notice to the members of the steering committee before doing so. In the event that a resigning member is also the chair of a standing committee, the co-chair of that committee will succeed the resigning member on the steering committee.

(2) If no one holds the position of the standing committee co-chair, the standing committee will select a chair from among their number and that person shall also serve on the steering committee.

(3) If the members of the standing committee agree by consensus, the resigning chair may take the role of co-chair for that standing committee.

PART IX: COORDINATORS/EXECUTIVE

901 Composition and authority

(1) At the first Annual General Meeting, after the election of the members-at-large to the Steering Committee, the voting members of Queer Ontario will elect four executive positions, known as the Coordinators, from among the participating members of the organization: Chair (two-year term); Vice-Chair (one-year term); Secretary (two-year term); Treasurer (one-year term).

(2) At each subsequent Annual General Meeting, the voting members of Queer Ontario will elect one of the two Members-At- Large and two of these four executive positions from among the participating members of the organization on a rotating basis, each for a two-year term.

(3) In the event that a standing committee chair is elected as a coordinator, the co-chair of that committee will succeed the elected coordinator on the steering committee.

(4) If no one holds the position of the standing committee co-chair, the standing committee will select a chair from among their number and that person shall also serve on the steering committee.

(5) These Coordinators are responsible for:

- (a) managing and administering the business and affairs of QUEER ONTARIO under the direction of the Steering Committee;
- (b) representing, or ensuring the representation of, QUEER ONTARIO in official presentations, delegations, and other matters; and
- (c) making emergency decisions concerning policies, strategies, programs, and activities of QUEER ONTARIO between Steering Committee meetings, subject in all cases to review and ratification by the Steering Committee at the next meeting.

902 Chair

(1) The Chair shall:

- (a) chair all Steering Committee meetings and General Meetings unless another facilitator is designated;
- (b) be a voting member of the Steering Committee, though only voting to break a tie in those situations where voting is required;
- (c) be responsible for overseeing the administration and management of the affairs of QUEER ONTARIO
- (d) ensure that all decisions of the General Assembly, Steering Committee, and coordinators are properly implemented;
- (e) be a spokesperson for QUEER ONTARIO.

903 Vice Chair

(1) The Vice-chair shall:

- (a) be a voting member of the Steering Committee;
- (b) act in the capacity of chair in those instances when the chair is unavailable, in which case 902 (a) and 902 (b) apply;
- (c) be responsible for overseeing the administration and management of the affairs of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (d) ensure that all decisions of the General Assembly, Steering Committee and coordinators are properly implemented;
- (e) be a spokesperson for QUEER ONTARIO.

904 Membership Coordinator/Secretary

(1) The Membership Coordinator/Secretary shall:

- (a) be a voting member of the Steering Committee;
- (b) be responsible for ensuring the circulation of notices, agenda, and minutes of General Assembly and Steering Committee meetings;
- (c) ensure that minutes are prepared and that minute books are properly maintained for meetings of the General Assembly, Steering Committee, and coordinators;
- (d) maintain, or arrange for, proper custody of the seal of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (e) maintain, or arrange for the proper maintenance of, a register of the members of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (f) notify the minister responsible for administering the act of incorporation on all amendments to the letters patent and by-laws and make all other required reports to the minister; and
- (g) be a spokesperson for QUEER ONTARIO.

905 Financial Coordinator/Treasurer

(1) The Financial Coordinator/Treasurer shall:

- (a) be a voting member of the Steering Committee;
- (b) be responsible for the care and custody of the funds and other assets of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (c) keep, or arrange for the proper keeping of, records of all dues paid by members of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (d) deposit, or arrange for the secure deposit of, all monies received in a chartered bank or other similar

financial institution and ensure the making of payments for all approved expenses incurred by QUEER ONTARIO;

- (e) maintain, or arrange for the proper maintenance of, full and accurate books of the accounts and of all financial transactions of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (f) report, or arrange for a report to be made, to each regular meeting of the Steering Committee on the financial accounts of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (g) present, or arrange for the presentation of, a financial report at the Annual General Meeting which shall include a budget for the next financial year; and
- (h) arrange for an annual review of the books of QUEER ONTARIO;
- (i) be a spokesperson for QUEER ONTARIO.

PART X: GENERAL MEETINGS

1001 Participation at meetings

(1) All meetings of QUEER ONTARIO are open to organizational member representatives, supporting member representatives, and individual members, as well as to other interested individuals.

(1) All such individuals present at a meeting may participate in the discussions, and Participating and Supporting members may engage in any decision-making process where consensus is used to arrive at the decision.

1002 Reaching decisions by consensus

(1) Consensus is the primary decision-making process used by QUEER ONTARIO at all meetings. Consensus is a decision-making process that aspires to be inclusive and cooperative, where everyone has an opportunity to disagree and work toward a compromise that incorporates various perspectives.

(2) Consensus decision-making is based on mutual respect and a genuine concern for equitable group processes, aiming to meet the interests and understanding of all members.

(3) Decisions reached by consensus combine an adroit facilitation process operating in light of the best information available in order to arrive at a decision that all members can “live with.”

(4) Where full consensus cannot be reached, participating members should be apprised of a range of dissenting positions that can be taken.

(5) QUEER ONTARIO shall make available (online or in print form) specific resources that members can consult about consensus decision-making process.

1003 Voting

(1) To be eligible to vote on any matter brought before any meeting other than a conference, an organization or individual must be a participating member in good standing, and must have become so more than 30 days prior to the date of the meeting.

(2) Voting at any meeting shall take place, by ballot or by show of hands, under any of the following circumstances:

(a) when required by statute, for the purpose of legal agreements or in accordance with any provision of

the letters patent or these by-laws, or when unable to reach a consensus;

(b) for the election of the board of directors and the members-at-large to the Steering Committee where there are more candidates than positions to be filled; or

(c) at the discretion of the Chair.

(3) No member or director or organization shall cast more than one vote on any motion.

(4) At General Assembly meetings all QUEER ONTARIO organizational and individual participating members in good standing who also meet the provisions of by-law 1003(a) may vote. At Steering Committee meetings, only Steering Committee members may vote.

(5) After any balloted vote, ballots will be kept confidentially for 14 days by the Secretary or designate, and then destroyed.

PART XI: COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

1101 Committees and working groups

(1) The Steering Committee with approval from the general membership shall establish and dissolve such standing and ad-hoc committees and working groups as they deem to be appropriate.

(2) Any such committees or working groups shall carry out their responsibilities in conjunction with the Steering Committee, the directors, or such other individual(s) as the Steering Committee may determine.

PART XII: CONFERENCES

1201 Conferences

(1) The Steering Committee may, from time to time, call for provincial conferences to bring together queer individuals and their supporters in a spirit of unity and cooperation.

(2) Conferences play a consultative role for QUEER ONTARIO and may make recommendations to the Steering Committee.

(3) Anyone officially registered at a conference may vote on all motions.

(4) A conference may be held at the same time as an Annual General Meeting.

PART XIII: FINANCIAL MATTERS

1301 Fiscal year

(1) The QUEER ONTARIO fiscal year shall be from April 1 to March 31.

1302 Financial report

(1) A statement of the accounts of the past fiscal year, together with a budget for the current fiscal year, shall be presented by or on behalf of the treasurer for approval at each Annual General Meeting of QUEER ONTARIO.

1303 Membership fees

(1) The annual fees for organizational, individual, and supporting membership shall be determined from time to time by the Steering Committee and shall be forwarded for ratification by the General Assembly at an annual or special General Meeting.

(2) Note that any or all annual membership fees for individuals or organizations may be set to zero by the Steering Committee, and that membership fees may be adjusted or waived on a case-by-case basis if the annual membership fee is greater than zero.

1304 No remuneration for members

(1) No voting member of the Steering Committee or director shall receive remuneration for duties performed on behalf of QUEER ONTARIO unless such individual has been hired for a paid staff position in accordance with by-law 202, but such person may receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred while performing such duties.

(2) Except for any individual holding a paid staff position or who has been retained as a consultant to provide services related to the mandate of the committee or working group, no member of QUEER ONTARIO shall receive remuneration for serving on any committee or working group but such member may receive reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred while carrying out duties or responsibilities essential to serving in such capacity.

1305 Limits on expenditures

(1) All expenditures of funds that are not included in the budget for the current fiscal year shall ordinarily require approval of the QUEER ONTARIO Steering Committee.

(2) In emergency or other extraordinary situations where a QUEER ONTARIO response or action is immediately needed (such as in respect of a crisis or similar event in the queer communities or in respect of a legislative or governmental initiative affecting the queer communities), the Coordinators may approve the expenditure of unbudgeted funds sufficient to appropriately respond or act within the financial ability of QUEER ONTARIO to do so.

(3) Any such emergency expenditure of funds shall be reported to the next QUEER ONTARIO Steering Committee Meeting.

1306 Inspection of accounts

(1) The financial accounts of QUEER ONTARIO shall be made available for inspection by members upon reasonable request.

1307 Banking provisions

(1) The coordinators shall establish such bank accounts as are necessary.

1308 Signing authority

(1) Signing officers shall consist of the treasurer and not fewer than two other QUEER ONTARIO Steering Committee members authorized by the QUEER ONTARIO Steering Committee, provided that any two such members must sign all cheques and other negotiable or transferrable instruments.

1309 Borrowing powers

(1) Subject to any statute, the letters patent, or any provision(s) of a specific or general nature embodied in a resolution of an Annual General Meeting or the Steering Committee, the Steering Committee may authorize the coordinators...

- (a) to borrow money from a financial institution in the name of QUEER ONTARIO and limit or increase the amount to be borrowed;
- (b) to issue debentures or other securities of QUEER ONTARIO and pledge or sell such debentures or other securities for such sums and at such prices as may be deemed expedient;
- (c) to secure any debentures or other securities or money borrowed, or other debt, or any other obligation of QUEER ONTARIO by charging, mortgaging, hypothecating, or pledging all or any of the real or personal, movable and immovable property of QUEER ONTARIO, including book debts, rights, powers, franchises, and undertakings;

...provided that

(d) any money borrowed pursuant to (a) or any debentures or securities issued pursuant to (b) may only be used for current operating expenses of QUEER ONTARIO unless secured pursuant to (c).

1310 Other

(1) Subject to any statute, the letters patent, or any provision(s) of a specific or general nature embodied in a resolution of an Annual General Meeting or the Steering Committee, the Steering Committee may authorize the directors:

- (a) to accumulate part of the funds of QUEER ONTARIO and income therefrom;
- (b) to invest funds of QUEER ONTARIO in such manner as the Steering Committee may determine;
- (c) to solicit and receive donations, bequests, legacies and grants, and to enter into agreements, contracts and undertakings incidental thereto;
- (d) to acquire, by purchase, contract, donation, legacy, gift, grant, bequest or otherwise, any personal property and to enter into and carry out any agreements, contracts or undertakings incidental thereto, and to sell, dispose of and convey the same, or any part thereof, as may be considered appropriate;
- (e) to acquire real property by purchase, lease, devise, gift, or otherwise, and to hold such real property or interest therein necessary for the actual use and occupation of QUEER ONTARIO or for the carrying on of its objects and purpose and, when no longer so necessary, to sell, dispose of and convey the same or any part thereof;
- (f) to procure, equip and maintain such offices and other facilities and to incur such reasonable expenses as may be necessary; and
- (g) to demand and compel payment of all sums of money and claims to any real or personal property in which QUEER ONTARIO may have an interest.

PART XIV: EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS

1401 Execution of documents

(1) Contracts and documents made in the name of QUEER ONTARIO shall be binding on QUEER ONTARIO when signed by no less than two of the signing officers, provided that in the case of contracts the prior approval of the Steering Committee and general membership has been obtained.

PART XV: AMALGAMATION

1501 Amalgamation of organizations

(2) Any amalgamation of QUEER ONTARIO with any other organization or incorporated body is prohibited and, accordingly, any discontinuation of QUEER ONTARIO as an organizational entity shall occur only as the result of its dissolution as provided in part XVI of these by-laws or in accordance with the provisions of the applicable act governing incorporation.

PART XVI: DISSOLUTION

1601 Motion of dissolution

(1) A motion to dissolve QUEER ONTARIO requires a two-thirds majority of votes cast by participating members in good standing present at a special General Assembly meeting called for such purpose, provided that the quorum for any such meeting shall be...

- (a) at least one quarter of participating members in good standing who sit on the standing committees; or
- (b) at least ten individual participating members in good standing;

... provided that

(c) in each such case participating membership is in good standing and must have become so more than 30 days prior to the date of the special General Assembly meeting.

1602 Liquidation of assets

(1) A motion to liquidate the assets of QUEER ONTARIO shall be considered to be included in the general motion of dissolution or amalgamation.

1603 Disposition of property on dissolution

(1) Upon the dissolution of QUEER ONTARIO and the payment of all debts and liabilities, the directors shall distribute or dispose of all the remaining property of QUEER ONTARIO to one or more community or charitable organizations having as objects the rights, interests or welfare of the queer communities.

PART XVII: AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS

(1) These by-laws may be amended by approval of a motion by two thirds of the votes cast at any General Assembly Meeting called for that purpose.