

**Title:** Membership Policy

**Location:** Operating Handbook & Board Manual

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## **POLICY STATEMENT**

The LEN helps protect the environment and build a sustainable community by doing everything we can to help our member organizations deliver on each of their own important missions. The LEN provides member organizations with shared resources, and training, outreach and collaboration opportunities so they can become stronger and work effectively together. The LEN also connects groups to the London community, assists in volunteer recruitment, and promotes environmental events, initiatives and successes. This policy outlines membership criteria and terms for members of the LEN.

## **POLICY**

Subject to the articles of incorporation, there shall be one class of members in the Corporation. Membership in the Corporation shall be available to organizations interested in furthering the Corporation's purposes and who have applied for and been accepted into membership in the Corporation by resolution of the board or in such other manner as may be determined by the board. Each member shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at all meetings of the members of the Corporation.

### **Membership Criteria:**

Members must be a non-profit organization (incorporated or unincorporated), including non-profit corporations, grassroots groups, associations, fund, foundation, or network that have the following characteristics:

- Have their main location, a branch of operations or a base of operations be within London or immediate surrounding areas
- Have its own decision making process
- Ensure any profit made is not distributed to the members
- Exist to serve an environmental benefit (or at least a strong focus on environmental programs, actions and activities)
- Complete a Member Application and be ratified by LEN Board
- Pay the membership dues as set by the Board and amended from time to time

### **Membership Transferability**

A membership may only be transferred to the Corporation.

### **Quorum at Members' Meetings**

A quorum at any meeting of the members (unless a greater number of members are required to be present by the Act) shall be 25 percent of the members entitled to vote at the meeting. If a

quorum is present at the opening of a meeting of members, the members present may proceed with the business of the meeting even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting.

### **Votes to Govern at Members' Meetings**

At any meeting of members every question shall, unless otherwise provided by the articles or by-laws or by the Act, be determined by a majority of the votes cast on the questions. In case of an equality of votes either on a show of hands or on a ballot or on the results of electronic voting, the chair of the meeting in addition to an original vote shall have a second or casting vote.

### **Termination of Membership**

A membership in the Corporation is terminated when:

- the member organization is dissolved;
- member fails to maintain any qualifications for membership described in the section on membership conditions of these by-laws;
- the member resigns by delivering a written resignation to the chair of the board of the Corporation in which case such resignation shall be effective on the date specified in the resignation;
- the member is expelled in accordance with any discipline of members section or is otherwise terminated in accordance with the articles or by-laws;
- the member's term of membership expires; or
- the Corporation is liquidated or dissolved under the Act.

Effect of Termination of Membership Subject to the articles, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the member, including any rights in the property of the Corporation, automatically cease to exist.

### **Re-application**

Any Member whose membership has expired or been canceled may reapply for membership, provided that the Board may refuse to approve the application if the person's membership was canceled pursuant to Section "Termination of Membership" of the membership policy.

### **Disputes**

Disputes regarding membership are to be resolved by the Board.

### **Liability of Members**

Members shall not, as such, be held answerable or responsible for any act, default, obligation or liability of the LEN or for any engagement, claim, payment, loss, injury, transaction, matter or thing relating to or connected with the LEN.

### **Limited Liability**

The LEN will not be responsible for the actions of Members that occur outside the context of a the LEN sanctioned activity. The LEN will not be responsible for the actions of Members that occur outside the context of a Network sanctioned activity.