



**Revised Rules and By-laws
(approved 16 February, 2011)**

1. The Society shall be called the *Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society*.
- 2.(i) The Objectives of the Society shall be to encourage the collection and preservation of all documents, papers and other objects of interest which may serve to throw light upon and illustrate the history of this country; to read, at the meetings of the Society, papers on historical subjects relevant to Nova Scotia; to publish, as far as the funds of the Society will allow, all such documents and papers as it may be deemed desirable to publish; and to promote an understanding of Nova Scotia's history and cultural development.
2.(ii) It is hereby ordained and declared that the corporation shall be carried on without the purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions to the corporation shall be used in promoting its objects.
3. The membership shall consist of individual, family, student, life, honorary and institutional members. Individual, family, student, and institutional members shall pay annual dues as set from time to time by the Executive and Council and confirmed by the membership. The sums received for life membership shall be invested and the interest only used for ordinary purposes. Honorary members shall be elected by the unanimous vote of a meeting of the Society and shall be exempt from paying dues.
4. (i) Any person who subscribes to the objectives of the Society and who pays the prescribed dues may be proposed for membership at any regular or special meeting of the Society and shall be elected by a majority vote of the members present. Any member whose dues remain unpaid for two years may be struck from the roll. Each member shall receive free of charge on an annual basis the current copy of the *Journal of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society*. Family members shall receive one copy per family.
4. (ii) The Society may, from time to time, elect Fellows, by a unanimous vote of a meeting of the Society. Each nomination for a fellowship will be made in writing and signed by six or more members, and presented directly to a regular or special meeting of the Society. Fellows shall continue to pay dues. The honour shall be awarded in recognition of service in forwarding the objectives of the Society or its committees. The total number of Fellows shall not exceed fifteen. Fellows may be designated "FRNSHS."
5. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held monthly from September to May inclusive, the date, hour and place to be fixed by the Officers. Special meetings may be convened by the President, or, in the President's absence, by a Vice-President, or upon application of any five

members. All meetings are open to the public.

6. (i) The Executive: The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in May, at which time there shall be chosen the President, three Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary, Membership Secretary, Assistant Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall constitute the Officers of the Society. There shall also be a Council of six members who shall not be eligible to serve more than three years in succession. The foregoing, with the immediate Past President, shall constitute the Executive. A majority of the Executive shall constitute a quorum. No member shall be elected or shall serve as President of the Society for more than three years in succession. The duties of the Officers and Council shall be the same as those performed generally in other societies.

6. (ii) Nominating Committee: A regular meeting preceding the annual meeting shall elect a Nominating Committee of three members, none of whom shall be members of an existing Executive. The Nominating Committee shall report to the annual meeting and shall endeavour to offer in nomination a list of names for the positions to be filled. Failing this, or in addition to it, nominations shall be taken from the floor of the annual meeting. Elections may be conducted by secret ballot upon a vote of a majority of members attending the annual meeting.

6. (iii) Rotation of Councillors: Two Councillors shall be elected each year, but no retiring councillor who has served a full three year term may be elected until one year shall have elapsed. This shall not be construed as debarring a retiring Councillor from election as president, vice-president, recording secretary, membership secretary, assistant secretary or treasurer. Councillors who resign before completing a full three year term shall be replaced for the remainder of their term to ensure the even rotation of Councillors.

7. All communications deemed worthy of preservation shall be kept on file by the Society. Typed copies of all papers read before the Society may be lodged with the Recording Secretary and may become part of the Society's archives.

8. Twelve members shall constitute a quorum for all purposes at regular meetings, except at the annual meeting or when the Rules and By-laws are amended, when twenty shall form a quorum.

9. No By-law shall be altered at any meeting unless the subject has either been discussed at the previous meeting, or reported on by a committee appointed for that purpose.

10. The fiscal year shall be from the 1 April to the 31 March of the following year. An auditor shall be appointed at the Annual Meeting.

11. The Editorial Committee shall be appointed by the Executive.