



# CONSTITUTION OF VETERAN OFFICERS CLUB, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA

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*(Foster and celebrate esprit de corps among Veteran Officers and Families residing in British Columbia)*

## **Article 1 - Definitions**

As used in this constitution, unless the context otherwise clearly requires, the words in this article shall have the following meanings:

1. Act: Means the Societies Act of British Columbia.
2. Board: The Board of Directors of this club.
3. Bylaws: The bylaws of this club as altered from time to time.
4. Director: A member of this club's Board of Directors.
5. Member: A member, other than an honorary member, of this club.
6. Veteran Officer: Veteran Commissioned Officer of Defense Services.
7. Family or Families: Spouses of Veteran Officers, their children and their spouses, grand children of Veteran Officers.
8. Spouse: Spouse or Partner.
9. Military Brats or Brats/Grand Brats: Children/Grand Children of Veteran officers.
10. Club Year: The twelve-month period which begins on 1 January.

**Article 2 – Name.** The name of this organization shall be: Veteran Officers Club.

**Article 3 – Purposes.** The primary purpose of this Club is to focus on social bonding of Veteran Officers and their Families residing in British Columbia. Being a club with members of wide-ranging knowledge and talents, the overall purposes are to pursue ideals of service to the community, evolve common interest groups, actively participate in adventure activities, engage in environmental pursuits and develop leaders.

**Article 4 – Location and Span of the Club.** The location of this Club is White Rock, BC and its span is the Province of British Columbia, Canada.

**Article 5 – Object.** The Object of the Club is to foster esprit de corps among Veteran Officers and their Families residing in British Columbia. To encourage:

First. The development of acquaintance among the community of Veterans as an opportunity for service;

Second. Facilitate networking for professional growth as an opportunity to serve society;

Third. Enable Military Brats/Grand Brats to establish strong bonds with each other and establish itself as a useful cohesive group to society.

Fourth. Participate and promote adventure activities.

Fifth. Engage in projects related to environmental pursuits.

**Article 6 – Meetings.**

Section 1 — Regular and Special Meetings. Regular meetings will be held as laid down in bylaws. Special occasion meetings will be scheduled as decided by the Board.

Section 2 — Annual Meeting. An annual meeting for the election of officers shall be held as provided in the bylaws.

Section 3 — Board Meetings. Written minutes shall be provided for all board meetings. Such minutes should be available to all members within 60 days of said meeting.

**Article 7 - Exceptions to Provisions on Membership.** Rules or requirements as stated in bylaws shall supersede the rules or requirements of this constitution.

**Article 8 - Membership**

[See article 7 for exceptions to this Article.]

Section 1 — General Qualifications. This club shall be composed of Indian Defense Forces Veteran Officers and their Spouses, Brats and their Spouses and Grand Brats.

Section 2 — Kinds. This club shall have two kinds of membership, namely: active and honorary.

Section 3 — Active Membership. As given at Section 1 of this Article.

Section 4 — Honorary Membership.

(a) All honorary memberships will be approved by the Board after due process and will be operative till the end of a Club Year. Their honorary membership may be extended for a subsequent Club Year if approved by the Board.

(b) Serving and Veteran officers of Canadian Armed Forces and distinguished persons of different fields will be eligible for consideration.

(c) Honorary members will not be required to pay membership fees but may attend meetings with their families. Honorary members will not have voting rights.

## **Article 9 - Directors and Officers and Committees**

**Section 1 — Governing Body.** The governing body of this club shall be the board constituted as the bylaws may provide.

**Section 2 — Board Action Final.** The decision of the board in all club matters is final.

**Section 4 — Officers.** The club officers shall be a president, a secretary, a treasurer, all of whom shall be members of the board. The club officers shall also include a joint secretary and a joint treasurer if provided in the bylaws.

**Section 5 — Election of Officers.**

(a) **Terms of Officers and Directors.** Each officer and Director shall be elected as provided in the bylaws. Each officer shall take office on 1 January immediately following election and shall serve for the term of office for two years or until a successor has been duly elected.

(b) **Term of President.** The president shall be elected as provided in the bylaws for a period of two years. The president shall take office on 1 January and shall serve a period of two years or until a successor has been duly elected and qualified.

**Article 10 – Dues.** Every member shall pay annual dues as prescribed in the bylaws.

**Article 11 — Resignation.** The resignation of any member from this club shall be in writing or Email, addressed to the president or secretary. The resignation shall be accepted by the board and membership subscription will be refunded.

**Article 12 - Non-Political.**

(a) **Resolutions and Opinions.** This club shall neither adopt nor circulate resolutions or opinions and shall not take action dealing with world affairs or international policies of a political nature.

(b) This club shall not direct appeals to clubs, peoples, or governments, or circulate letters, speeches, or proposed plans for the solution of specific international problems of a political nature.

**Article 13 - Acceptance of Object and Compliance with Constitution and Bylaws.** On joining, a member submits to and agrees to comply with and be bound by the constitution and bylaws of this club, and on these conditions alone is entitled to the privileges of this club. Each member shall be subject to the terms of the constitution and bylaws regardless of whether such member has received copies of them.

**Article 14 – Bylaws.** This club shall adopt bylaws consistent with this constitution. Such bylaws may be amended from time to time as therein provided.

**Article 15 – Amendments.** Amending of the constitution shall be done at any regular meeting of this club, a quorum being present, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of all voting members present and voting, provided that notice of such proposed amendment shall have been mailed to each member at least ten days before such meeting. Changes to the Constitution must be consistent with the Act.