

# **OTTAWA VALLEY WEAVERS' AND SPINNERS' GUILD**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **1. Name**

The name of the corporation is the Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild.

### **2. Head Office**

Until changed in accordance with the Act, the Head Office of the corporation must be in the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario.

### **3. Object**

The objects of the Guild are

3.1 to encourage its membership to achieve a high aesthetic standard and technical expertise in hand-weaving, hand-spinning and other fibre arts; and

3.2 to promote and foster the knowledge of, interest in, and appreciation of historic and contemporary fibre arts.

### **4. Operation**

The Guild is a charitable and non-profit corporation which carries out its activities without pecuniary gain to its members and any profits or other accretions to the corporation must be used in promoting its objects..

### **5. Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution or winding up of the corporation, it is specially provided that all its remaining assets, after payment of liabilities, must be distributed to one or more recognized charitable organizations in Canada, preferably of like character.

### **6. By-laws**

The by-laws of the corporation are those attached to this Constitution until repealed, amended or added to.

### **7. Seal**

The seal, an impression whereof is stamped in the margin hereof, is the seal of the corporation.

## **BY-LAW NO. 1**

A by-law relating generally to the conduct of the affairs of  
The Ottawa Valley Weavers' and Spinners' Guild  
(the "Corporation")

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

### **SECTION 1 — GENERAL**

#### **1.01 Definitions<sup>1</sup>**

In this by-law and all other by-laws of the Corporation, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a) "Act" means the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* S.C. 2009, c.23 including the Regulations made pursuant to the Act, and any statute or regulations that may be substituted, as amended from time to time;
- b) "articles" means the original or restated articles of incorporation or articles of amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganization, arrangement or revival of the Corporation;
- c) "board" means the board of directors of the Corporation and "director" means a member of the board;
- d) "by-law" means this by-law and any other by-law of the Corporation as amended and which are, from time to time, in force and effect;
- e) "meeting of members" includes an annual meeting of members or a special meeting of members;
- f) "ordinary resolution" means a resolution passed by a majority of not less

than 50% plus 1 of the votes cast on that resolution;

g) “proposal” means a proposal submitted by a member of the Corporation that meets the requirements of section 163 (Shareholder Proposals) of the Act;

h) “Regulations” means the regulations made under the Act, as amended, restated or in effect from time to time;

i) “special meeting of members” includes a meeting of any class or classes of members and a special meeting of all members entitled to vote at an annual meeting of members; and

j) “special resolution” means a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast on that resolution.

## **1.02 Interpretation**

In the interpretation of this by-law, words in the singular include the plural and vice-versa, words in one gender include all genders, and “person” includes an individual, body corporate, partnership, trust and unincorporated organization.

Other than as specified in 1.01 above, words and expressions defined in the Act have the same meanings when used in these by-laws.

## **1.03 Corporate Seal**

The Corporation may have a corporate seal in the form approved from time to time by the board. If a corporate seal is approved by the board, the secretary of the Corporation shall be the custodian of the corporate seal.

## **1.04 Execution of Documents**

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the Corporation may be signed by any two (2) of its officers or directors. In addition, the board may from time to time direct the manner in which, and the person or persons by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed. Any person authorized to sign any document may affix the corporate seal (if any) to the document. Any signing officer may certify a copy of any instrument, resolution, by-law or other document of the Corporation to be a true copy thereof.

## **1.05 Financial Year-End**

The financial year-end of the Corporation shall be determined by the board of directors.

## **1.06 Banking Arrangements**

The banking business of the Corporation shall be transacted at such bank, trust company or other firm or corporation carrying on a banking business in Canada or elsewhere as the board of directors may designate, appoint or authorize from time to time by resolution. The banking business or any part of it shall be transacted by an officer or officers of the Corporation or other persons as the board of directors may by resolution from time to time designate, direct or authorize.

## **1.07 Annual Financial Statements**

The Corporation may, instead of sending copies of the annual financial statements and other documents referred to in subsection 172(1) (Annual Financial Statements) of the Act to the members, publish a notice to its members stating that the annual financial statements and documents provided in subsection 172(1) are available at the registered office of the Corporation and any member may, on request, obtain a copy free of charge at the registered office or by prepaid mail.

## **1.08 Dispensation with annual Review Engagement**

The members of the corporation acknowledge that the Corporation is a soliciting corporation with gross annual revenues of less than \$50,000 and, by unanimous agreement, agree to dispense with the annual Review Engagement of the corporation's accounts by a Public Accountant otherwise required under the Act.

## **1.09 Review of Accounts and Annual Financial Statements**

The members, at each annual meeting, must appoint an auditor to conduct a compilation review of the accounts and annual financial statements of the Corporation and to report to the members at the next annual meeting. The auditor holds office until the next annual meeting, except that the directors may fill any casual vacancy in the office of the auditor. The auditor shall not be an officer or employee of the Corporation, unless all of the members have consented. The remuneration, if any, of the auditor shall be fixed by the board of directors.

# **SECTION 2 — MEMBERSHIP – MATTERS REQUIRING SPECIAL RESOLUTION**

## **2.01 Membership Conditions**

Subject to the articles, there shall be one class of members in the Corporation. All individual members have the same have the rights and privileges.

Membership in the Corporation shall be available only to individuals interested in furthering the Corporation's purposes and who have applied for and been accepted into membership in the Corporation by ordinary 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.

## **2.02 Notice of Meeting of Members –**

Notice of the time and place of a special meeting of members shall be given to each member entitled to vote at the meeting by the following means:

a) by mail, courier or personal delivery to each member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 21 to 60 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held; or

b) by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility to each member entitled to vote at the meeting, during a period of 21 to 35 days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.

Pursuant to subsection 197(1) (Fundamental Changes) of the Act, a special resolution of the members is required to make any amendment to the by-laws of the Corporation to change the manner of giving notice to members entitled to vote at a meeting of members.

## **2.03 Absentee Voting by Mail Ballot**

Pursuant to subsection 171(1) (Absentee Voting) of the Act, a member is entitled to vote at a special meeting of members may vote by proxy ballot gathered in a manner that permits their subsequent verification and that is returned to an member designated by the board for tallying and presentation to the board. The designated member shall preserve the privacy of the member's proxy and shall keep confidential how each member voted.

Pursuant to subsection 197(1) (Fundamental Changes) of the Act, a special resolution of the members is required to make any amendment to the by-laws of the Corporation to change this method of voting by members not in attendance at a meeting of members.

## **Section 3 — MEMBERSHIP DUES, TERMINATION AND DISCIPLINE**

### **3.01 Membership Dues**

Members shall be notified in writing of the membership dues at any time payable by them and, if any are not paid within one (1) calendar month of the membership renewal date, the members in default shall automatically cease to be members of the Corporation.

### **3.02 Termination of Membership**

A membership in the Corporation is terminated when:

- a) the member dies, or, in the case of a member that is a corporation, the corporation is dissolved;
- b) a member fails to maintain any qualifications for membership described in Section 2.01 of these bylaws;
- c) 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;
- d) the member is expelled in accordance with Section 3.03 below or is otherwise terminated in accordance with the articles or by-laws;
- e) the member's term of membership expires; or
- f) the Corporation is liquidated or dissolved under the Act.

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.

### **3.03 Discipline of Members**

The board shall have authority to suspend or expel any member from the Corporation for any one or more of the following grounds:

- a) violating any provision of the articles, by-laws, or written policies of the Corporation;
- b) carrying out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Corporation as determined by the board in its sole discretion;
- c) for any other reason that the board in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the purpose of the Corporation.

In the event that the board determines that a member should be expelled or suspended from membership in the Corporation, the president, or such other officer as may be designated by the board, shall provide twenty (20) days notice of suspension or expulsion to the member and shall provide reasons for the proposed suspension or expulsion. The member may make written submissions to the president, or such other officer as may be designated by the board, in response to the notice received within such twenty (20) day period. In the event that no written submissions are received by the president, the president, or such other officer as may be designated by the board, may proceed to notify the member that the member is suspended or expelled from membership in the Corporation. If written submissions are received in accordance with this section, the board will consider such submissions in arriving at a final decision and shall notify the member concerning such final decision within a further twenty (20) days from the date of receipt of the submissions. The board's decision shall be final and binding on the member, without any further right of appeal.

## **SECTION 4 — MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

### **4.01 Persons Entitled to be Present**

The only persons entitled to be present at a meeting of members shall be those entitled to vote at the meeting, the directors and the public accountant of the Corporation (if any) and such other persons who are entitled or required under any provision of the Act, articles or by-laws of the Corporation to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only on the invitation of the chair of the meeting or by resolution of the members.

### **4.02 Chair of the Meeting**

In the event that the chair of the board and the vice-chair of the board are absent, the members who are present and entitled to vote at the meeting shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

### **4.03 Quorum**

A quorum at any meeting of the members (unless a greater number of members are required to be present by the Act) shall be 10% 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.

### **4.04 Votes to Govern**

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.<sup>11</sup>

## **SECTION 5 — DIRECTORS**

### **5.01 Election and Term**

Subject to the articles, the members will elect the directors at the first meeting of members and at each succeeding annual meeting at which an election of directors is required, and the directors shall be elected to hold office for a term expiring not later than the close of the third annual meeting of members following the election.

## **SECTION 6 — MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS**

### **6.01 Calling of Meetings**

Meetings of the board may be called by the chair of the board, the vice-chair of the board or any two (2) directors at any time.

### **6.02 Notice of Meeting**

Notice of the time and place for the holding of a meeting of the board shall be given in the manner provided in Section 8.01 of this by-law to every director of the Corporation not less than 7 days before the time when the meeting is to be held. Notice of a meeting shall not be necessary if all of the directors are present, and none objects to the holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice of or have otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting. Notice of an adjourned meeting is not required if the time and place of the adjourned meeting is announced at the original meeting. Unless the by-law otherwise provides, no notice of meeting need specify the purpose or the business to be transacted at the meeting except that a notice of meeting of directors shall specify any matter referred to in subsection 138(2) (Limits on Authority) of the Act that is to be dealt with at the meeting.

### **6.03 Regular Meetings**

The board may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings of the board at a place and hour to be named. A copy of any resolution of the board fixing the place and time of such regular meetings of the board shall be sent to each director forthwith after being passed, but no other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting except if subsection 136(3) (Notice of Meeting) of the Act requires the purpose thereof or the business to be transacted to be specified in the notice.

### **6.04 Votes to Govern**

At all meetings of the board, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast on the question. In case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting in addition to an original vote shall have a second or casting vote.

## **6.05 Committees**

The board may from time to time appoint any committee or other advisory body, as it deems necessary or appropriate for such purposes and, subject to the Act, with such powers as the board shall see fit. Any such committee may formulate its own rules of procedure, subject to such regulations or directions as the board may from time to time make. Any committee member may be removed by resolution of the board of directors

## **SECTION 7 — OFFICERS --**

### **7.01 Description of Offices**

Unless otherwise specified by the board, which may, subject to the Act, modify, restrict or supplement such duties and powers, the offices of the Corporation, if designated and if officers are appointed, shall have the following duties and powers associated with their positions:

- a) Chair of the Board - The chair of the board shall be a director. The chair of the board, if any, shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the board of directors and of the members. The chair shall have such other duties and powers as the board may specify.
- b) Vice-Chair of the Board - The vice-chair of the board, if one is to be appointed, shall be a director. If the chair of the board is absent or is unable or refuses to act, the vice-chair of the board, if any, shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the board of directors and of the members. The vice-chair shall have such other duties and powers as the board may specify.
- c) President – If appointed, the president shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation, and shall be responsible for implementing the strategic plans and policies of the Corporation. The president shall, subject to the authority of the board, have general supervision of the affairs of the Corporation.
- d) Secretary – If appointed, the secretary shall attend and be the secretary of all meetings of the board, members and committees of the board. The secretary shall enter or cause to be entered in the Corporation's minute book, minutes of all proceedings at such meetings; the secretary shall give, or cause to be given, as and when instructed, notices to members,

directors, the public accountant and members of committees; the secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, records, documents and other instruments belonging to the Corporation.

e) Treasurer - If appointed, the treasurer shall have such powers and duties as the board may specify.

The powers and duties of all other officers of the Corporation shall be such as the terms of their engagement call for or the board or president requires of them. The board may from time to time and subject to the Act, vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any officer.

## **7.02 Vacancy in Office**

In the absence of a written agreement to the contrary, the board may remove, whether for cause or without cause, any officer of the Corporation. Unless so removed, an officer shall hold office until the earlier of:

- a) the officer's successor being appointed,
- b) the officer's resignation,
- c) such officer ceasing to be a director (if a necessary qualification of appointment) or
- d) such officer's death.

If the office of any officer of the Corporation shall be or become vacant, the directors may, by resolution, appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

## **SECTION 8 — NOTICES**

### **8.01 Method of Giving Notices**

Any notice (which term includes any communication or document) to be given (which term includes sent, delivered or served), other than notice of a meeting of members or a meeting of the board of directors, pursuant to the Act, the articles, the by-laws or otherwise to a member, director, officer or member of a committee of the board or to the public accountant shall be sufficiently given:

- a) if delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person's address as shown in the records of the Corporation or in the case of notice to a director to the latest address as shown in the last notice that was sent by the Corporation in accordance

with section 128 (Notice of directors) or 134 (Notice of change of directors); or

b) if mailed to such person at such person's recorded address by prepaid ordinary or air mail; or

c) if sent to such person by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's recorded address for that purpose; or

d) if provided in the form of an electronic document in accordance with Part 17 of the Act.

A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the recorded address as aforesaid; a notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box; and a notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch. The secretary may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any member, director, officer, public accountant (if any) or member of a committee of the board in accordance with any information believed by the secretary to be reliable. The declaration by the secretary that notice has been given pursuant to this by-law shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The signature of any director or officer of the Corporation to any notice or other document to be given by the Corporation may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

## **8.02 Invalidity of any provisions of this by-law**

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this by-law shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this by-law.

## **8.03 Omissions and Errors**

The accidental omission to give any notice to any member, director, officer, member of a committee of the board or public accountant, or the non-receipt of any notice by any such person where the Corporation has provided notice in accordance with the by-laws or any error in any notice not affecting its substance shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting to which the notice pertained or otherwise founded on such notice.

## **SECTION 9 — EFFECTIVE DATE**

### **9.01 Effective Date**

Subject to matters requiring a special resolution of the members, this by-law shall be effective when made by the board.

CERTIFIED to be By-Law No. 1 of the Corporation, as enacted by the directors of the Corporation by resolution on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013 and confirmed by the members of the Corporation by special resolution on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of June, 2013.

Dated as of the 13 day of June, 2013.

Original signed by  
Marianne Heggveit  
Past President