

## **Canadian Applied Literature Association Constitution**

(Written in 1990, name changed 2000, amended 2006, amended 2011)

### **1. Name:**

The Canadian Applied Literature Association/ CALA (formerly known as the Association for Bibliotherapy and Applied Literature / Association de bibliothérapie et littérature appliqué / ABAL and previous to this as ABC: the Association for Bibliotherapy in Canada).

### **2. Purpose:**

This is a not-for-profit, multidisciplinary association of professional workers from various relevant fields who have joined together:

- a) To promote the study and use of literature, in all its forms, as it applies to human well-being.
- b) To work for the establishment and publication of a professional journal.
- c) To raise funds for the above purposes.

### **3. Relevant Fields:**

Anthropology; Education; Library and Information Science; Literature & Language Studies; Medicine; Nursing; Psychology; Psychotherapy, Psychiatry & Counselling Disciplines; Publishing & Authorship; Social Work; Religious Studies; and any other field(s) that from time to time shall be approved by the executive and membership.

### **4. Membership:**

- a) Anyone practising or possessing credentials in the above fields.
- b) Associate membership (non-voting) is available to any interested party not covered in 4a.

### **5. Fees:**

Fees are set from time to time by the Executive.

**6. Executive:**

The Executive consists of the following officers; all are elected by mailed or e-mailed membership ballot as appropriate.

- a) The President, who, following the end of the term of the first President, shall usually assume a one-year term as President by virtue of having been elected Vice-President.
- b) The Vice-President: a one-year term.
- c) The Past President: a one-year term.
- d) The Secretary/Treasurer: a one-year term.
- e) Two elected members at large, each serving two-year terms, except in the first election when one member will serve a one-year term to produce overlap in these offices for subsequent two-year terms.
- f) Should any office become vacant due to unforeseen circumstances, the Executive is empowered to fill the position until the next Annual General Meeting.
- g) The President is responsible for assigning duties to the Vice-President and Past President.

**7. Meetings:**

- a) There shall be an annual general meeting.
- b) There shall be an annual conference.

**8. Committees:**

Committees may be established by the Executive from time to time, as required.

**9. Amendment of Constitution:**

Ten members may propose amendments by submitting a signed proposal to the Executive. Such amendments, having been circulated with four week's minimum notice to members, will be voted on at the AGM. A majority of two-thirds of those present shall constitute a majority required for passage of such amendments.

**10. General Statement:**

CALA does not provide any financial gain for any of its members, save scholarship support from time to time to selected students to attend conferences or meetings. Any profits or other accretions from the organization shall be used to promote its objectives as stated in part 2 above.