

Comunn Gàidhlig Thorontò / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

Article 1

This Society shall be known as “The Gaelic Society of Toronto – Comunn Gaidhlig Thorontò”, hereinafter called the Society.

Article 2

The objects of the Society shall be as follows:

1. The cultivation of friendly intercourse among the descendants of the various branches of the Keltic race in Canada and more particularly among the descendants of the Gael resident in the City of Toronto. And to promote and perpetuate a patriotic interest in their lands of origin.
2. The cultivation of love for the costumes, culture, amusements, sports and music of the Scottish Gael.
3. To take such steps as may be feasible whereby a knowledge of the Gaelic language and literature, and related languages and literature, Keltic antiquities, history, folklore, music and traditions may be disseminated; and historical, literary and scientific research in the Keltic field shall be encouraged.
4. The providing of a medium whereby scholarly papers or essays on Keltic subjects shall be procured for the Society, and honourable recognition shall be bestowed for the same.
5. The collecting of facts and statistic relating to the settlements of Scottish Gaels in Canada, and the publication of the same.
6. The establishing of a library to consist of books, manuscripts, pictures, lantern slides, films, records. etc., relating to the Gael, his life, language, literature, music, culture, surroundings, etc.
7. The promotion of means whereby the community of interests of the Scottish Gael, personal and national, may be advanced in Toronto, Canada, Scotland or elsewhere.
8. To give information, and such assistance as may be possible to fellow-countrymen seeking a home in Canada, and to provide assistance, when deemed advisable, for members of the Society who may be in distress.
9. To encourage the formation of kindred societies in Canada and their federation for the promotion of such objects as they may hold in common.
10. To keep in view the acquiring or erection of a building in Toronto which will serve as the

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

Society's home or headquarters.

Article 3

The motto of the Society shall be “Clanna nan Gaidheal ri Guailleann a Chéile” - “Sons of the Gael; Shoulder to Shoulder.”

Article 4

The pledge of the Society shall be “ Gloir do Dhia; Urram do'n Rìgh (Bhanrìgh); Ceartas do'n t-Sluagh; Lean gu dluth ri cliu do Shinnsear.” - “Glory to God; Honour to the King (Queen); Justice to the People; Cleave closely to the renown of your Ancestors.”

Article 5

MEMBERSHIP

1. Subject to Section 3 of this article, membership in the Society shall be available to all persons interested in and desirous of furthering the aims and purposes of the Society.
2. The membership shall be classified as follows: (A) Active, (B) Life, (C) Honorary
3. No person shall be elected to membership who has not been previously recommended for election by the Executive Council.
4. An applicant for membership (Active or Life) shall sign an application form (see Schedule A) which shall bear the endorsement of two active members. On presentation at any meeting of the Society (including ceilidhs), or at any meeting of the Executive Council, the application, accompanied by the fee appropriate to the class of membership for which the application is made, shall be referred to the Executive Council for consideration. If the application is approved by the Executive Council a vote shall be taken at the next regular meeting of the Society. A majority of at least one third of the total number of members voting shall be necessary for election. Unless a secret ballot be demanded by at least five of the members present, voting shall be by show of hands. The newly elected member shall be given forthwith, either personally or by mail, a Membership Card which shall entitle him to full privileges as a member of the Society until such time as the annual fee is again due and payable. (See Article, 5 Sec. 12) As soon as possible after their election, new members shall be presented at a regular meeting of the Society (or ceilidh) by way of introduction to the other members present. Should the Executive Council fail to approve the application, no vote shall be taken, nor shall a renewal of the application be received for a period of at least three years. As soon as possible after the Executive Council has rejected an application for membership, the Secretary shall notify the applicant concerning the failure of his application and shall remit to him the fee which accompanied the

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

application. No application for membership shall be considered by the Executive Council unless said application is accompanied by the proper fee.

5. Life membership in the Society shall be in every respect the same as Active membership except that only one fee as set according to Article 6, shall be payable at the time of application.
6. The Society may, on the recommendation of the Executive Council, confer Honorary Life Membership free, with full Active members privileges on any person of eminent distinction in the Keltic field, or who has rendered service of outstanding value to the Society.
7. For the encouragement of Gaelic learning, the Society, on the recommendation of the Executive Council, may confer a Diploma of Fellowship upon any person who has given evidence of Keltic scholarship.
8. The right to discuss matters of business at meetings of the Society and to vote thereon, and to hold office in the Society shall be vested only in Active and Life Honorary Members in good standing. A member in good standing shall be deemed to be a member not in arrears of payment of the membership fee which is due and payable in advance at the time of the first meeting of the Society which is held in the Fall of the year.

Article 6

At the Annual Meeting, scheduled for the month of October, the Society, upon recommendation of the Executive Council, shall set the membership fee for the various classes of membership for the next ensuing year. Fees shall be payable in advance and a statement of the amount due shall be sent to each member with the notice of the first meeting of the Society held in the Fall of the year.

Article 7

Membership in the Society (including payment of fees) shall not confer on any member an individual proprietary right in the funds, securities, assets or property whatsoever of the Society, which funds, securities, assets or property shall be vested in the Society as a corporate body, and as in trust on behalf of the objects for which the Society exists, or kindred objects, to be dealt with in the event of the dissolution of the Society as hereinafter provided for. (See Article 28.)

Article 8

Meetings

1. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of October, the regular

Comunn Gàidhlig Thorontò / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

meetings once a month from October to May; and special meetings at such other times as shall be determined by the Executive Council.

2. The financial year of the Society shall begin on the 1st day of October and end on the 30th day of the September following. The books, accounts and financial statement of the Treasurer, Trustees, Committees, and other subsidiary Groups or Bodies functioning under the auspice of the Society shall be ready for audit not later than one week prior to the date of the Annual Meeting of the Society.

Article 8(A)

No member shall hold the office of Chief, First Chieftain or Second Chieftain without having served a minimum two years on Executive Council.

Article 9

The Officers of the Society shall be a Chief, a Past Chief, First and Second Chieftains, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary and a Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

Article 10

It shall be the duty of the Chief to preside at all meetings, ceilidhs and functions of the Society and at all meetings of the Executive Council; to decide all questions of order, and to deliver at least one address during the term of office. The chief shall be, ex officio, a member of all standing committees.

Article 11

In the absence of the Chief, the duties of the Chief shall devolve upon the Chieftains in order of seniority, and in the absence of all of them, the members present shall elect a Chairman pro tem.

Article 12

It shall be the duty of the Secretary to be present at all meetings of the Society, including ceilidhs, and at all meetings of the Executive Council; to keep a correct minute of each such meetings, and to enter the same in a Minute Book to be kept for the purpose. The Secretary shall prepare from the minutes of the Executive Council any reports which should go forward to the Society for consideration. Such reports shall contain the recommendations of the Executive Council and such other information as may be required by, or which may be of general interest to the Society. Copies of all reports from individuals or subsidiary bodies (including the Executive Council) shall be appended to the minutes of the meeting at which

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

such reports were adopted, and copies of the Annual Reports (including financial statements) of the Officers or subsidiary bodies of the Society shall be appended to the minutes of the Annual Meeting. Memoranda concerning functions held by, or in the name of the Society and news items concerning the Society's affairs may be inserted in the Minute Book for their historical value. The Secretary shall attend to the correspondence and general business of the Society, and shall countersign all orders to the Treasurer for payment of accounts. (See Article 19, Sec.1, a.). The Secretary may act for the Treasurer to receive monies due to the Society, but such monies shall be handed to the Treasurer as soon as possible after receipt thereof. The Secretary shall keep a record of membership of the Society and issue notices calling the meetings of the Society and of the Executive Council. On retirement, the Secretary shall pass on to the successor in office all books, papers, records and correspondence in his care and custody. (For other duties see Articles 5, 6, 15, 19, 25, 28 and 30.)

Article 13

The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in the performance of the duties as outlined in Article 12 and in the absence of the latter shall act as Secretary. The Assistant Secretary shall also perform such other secretarial duties as may be assigned by the Executive Committee.

Article 14

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a correct account of all monies to or by the Treasurer but the Treasurer shall pay no money belonging to the Society except upon an order authorizing such payment which has been regularly drawn according to this Constitution. (see Article 19, Sec. 1, a). The Treasurer shall compile annually a list of the names and addresses of all members who are entitled to discuss business at meetings of the Society. (See Article 5, Sec. 12.) This list shall be started at the first meeting of the Society in the Fall of each year, and additions thereto shall be made as and when annual membership fees have been paid. The Treasurer shall send a copy of said list to the Secretary as soon as possible after the above mentioned meeting and shall report promptly to the Secretary any additions which have been made to the list throughout the year. On retirement, the Treasurer shall pass on to the elected successor in office all books, papers, records and correspondence.

Article 15

The nomination of Officers shall be made at the regular monthly meeting directly preceding the Annual Meeting of the Society. All other nominations shall be made at the Annual Meeting, at which time the election of Officers, Office Bearers, Auditors, Trustees, Standing Committees etc., and three members of Executive Council shall take place unless otherwise provided for in this Constitution. (See Articles 9, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25 and 26.) In order to ensure proper direction and management of the affairs of the Society, the members

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

of the Executive Council shall have the power to act as a Nominating Committee to bring forward at the proper time, a list or slate of Officers, Office Bearers, Committees or Groups who would be willing, if elected, to serve the Society; but nothing in this Article shall interfere with the right of any member in good standing to nominate at the proper time any other member for the position of Officer, Office Bearer, or member of a Group or Committee, provided that the person so nominated is eligible to hold office and has given his consent to serve. The Executive Council shall appoint one of its members (preferably a Past Chief), to act as a Returning Officer to receive nominations and conduct the election. If an election must be decided by voting, such voting shall be by ballot. A supply of ballots shall be provided by the Secretary, and the Returning Officer shall appoint two disinterested members of the Society to distribute, collect and count the ballots. When there are only two candidates for one office or position, the one receiving a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. When there are more than two candidates, balloting shall continue until one candidate has received a majority of the votes cast. If successive balloting is necessary, the name of the candidate receiving the fewest votes shall be dropped before another vote is taken.

Immediately following the elections, the newly elected Officers of the Society shall be installed in their respective offices by one of the Past Chiefs of the Society.

All Officers, Office Bearers, Auditors, Trustees, Standing Committees and the Executive Council, as elected at the Annual Meeting, shall hold office for one year, and thereafter until their successors have been appointed or elected.

Article 16

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, an Honorary Patron, an Honorary Chief, an Honorary Secretary and two Honorary Chaplains shall be elected and such other offices shall be filled as may from time to time be created by the Society.

Article 17

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, two Auditors shall be elected who shall audit the books and accounts of the Society and of all its subsidiary bodies, groups or committees, check and examine the assets of the Society in the hands of the Trustees, and report on the same at the next Annual Meeting following their election.

Article 18

The management of the affairs of the Society shall be entrusted to an Executive Council consisting of the Officers of the Society (See Article 9.) together with the Chairman of the Historical Committee, the Chairman of the Building Committee, the Chairman of the Sports Committee, the Chairman of the Ladies' Committee, the Chairman of the Trustees and three other members of the Society, who shall be elected thereto at the Annual Meeting of the

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

Society. Seven members of said Council shall be required to form a quorum.

The Executive Council shall conduct all details pertaining to the general business of the Society not otherwise provided for by this Constitution, and it shall have power to make sundry disbursements from the General Fund when deemed by it to be for the good and welfare of the Society so to do; and shall discharge debts against the Society properly incurred and vouched for, and shall report thereon to the Society as may be considered by it, or as may be required by special resolution of the Society. All matters of general policy and matters which, according to this Constitution, must be decided by the Society as a whole, (See Article 31.) may be considered by the Executive Council first, in which case the Council's recommendation shall be reported to the Society for final action thereon. (For other duties see Articles 5, 6, 8, 13, 15, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and By-law 6.)

The meetings of the Executive Councils shall be called by the Secretary on the instruction of the Chief, or of the Chieftains, or on a requisition signed by three members of the Executive Council.

Article 19

1. The revenue of the Society shall be divided into three distinct and separate Funds as Follow: General, Reserve and Social.

a. The GF, to be made up of monies derived from the annual fees paid by members of the Society, special collections, receipts of the ordinary and social meetings of the Society and from other sources not otherwise disposed of by this Constitution or excepted by resolution of the Society. This fund shall be disbursed for the current needs of the Society and, except as provided for by Article 18, shall be under the control of the Finance Committee, consisting of the Chief, First Chieftain and the Secretary, whose duty it shall be to attest all accounts before being paid. The Treasurer of the Society shall disburse no money from the General Fund except upon an order signed by at least two members of the Finance Committee, one of whom shall be the Secretary, or upon resolution of the Executive Council. When this fund has reached an amount over and above the current needs of the Society, the surplus shall be handed over to the Board of Trustees for safekeeping or investment. On the hands of the Trustees, such surpluses received from the Society together with any interest accrued thereon, shall form the Reserve which shall always be available, if deemed necessary, for the general needs of the Society or for grants to any of its subsidiary bodies.

b. The SF shall be made up of surplus balances from the general revenues of the Ladies' Committee, (such as proceeds from bazaars, suppers, concerts or other entertainments, arranged by the Committee and held under the auspices and name of the Gaelic Society of Toronto by and with the consent of the executive Council.), grants from the General Fund, donations from friends of the fund and contributions from other sources. This fund shall be kept in a separate account, subject to audit, and drawn upon by cheque signed by the

Comunn Gàidhlig Thorontò / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

Chairman and Treasurer of the Ladies' Committee on the authority of said Committee. When this fund has reached an amount over and above the current needs of the Committee, the surplus shall be handed over to the Board of Trustees for safekeeping or investment. On the hands of the Trustees, such surpluses received from the Society together with any interest accrued thereon, shall form the Ladies' Trust Fund. These two funds shall be devoted exclusively to the purposes of the Ladies' Committee (See Article 23.) unless, as hereinafter provided for, either or Board of Trustees funds shall be merged into the General Fund of the Society.

2. All monies payable to, or belonging to any of the above Funds or to any other Funds which may be created by the Society, shall be deposited in a Chartered Bank, Savings or Trust Company in the name of the Gaelic Society of Toronto and shall be disbursed in the manner stated above.

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Article, it is to be distinctly understood that all funds (cash or securities) in the hands of any subsidiary body or committee of the Society (including the Board of Trustees) are the property of the Gaelic Society of Toronto as a corporate body and may be merged into the General Fund should the Society so decide.

Should conditions arise, on account of which it shall be deemed advisable by two thirds of the members present at any regular meeting of the Society to merge one or more of the above mentioned Funds into the General Fund of the Society, the following procedure shall be taken, viz. Notice of the proposal to merge said Fund or Funds into the General Fund shall be sent to each member of the Society in good standing at his or her last known address; and at the meeting following sending of such notice, a vote by ballot shall be taken on the proposal. If Two thirds of the votes cast are in favour the proposal to merge, such merging of said Fund or Funds into the General Fund shall immediately become effective.

Any other group or committee of the Society, not connected with any of the above mentioned Funds, may arrange to arrange to finance a project or undertaking in any manner approved by the Executive Council but on completion of such project or undertaking, any surplus balance accumulated shall be handed over to the Treasurer of the Society for inclusion in the General Fund, unless said group or committee has expressed its desire to have said surplus apportioned to one or more of the other Funds mentioned in Section 1 of this Article.

Article 20

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, a committee of five members shall be elected, who shall form the Historical Committee of the Society, it shall be the duty of the HC to promote the objects set forth in Section 3, 4, 5, and 6 of Article 2. This Committee shall have charge of (1) the presentation of papers or essays at meetings or ceilidhs of the Society on subjects relating to the Gael, his language, literature, history, folklore, music tradition and culture, (2) the collecting, filing and cataloguing of papers read before the Society, (3) the publication of

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

papers read before the Society, proceedings and transactions of the Society and other material made available to the Society when such publication is deemed advisable, (4) the publication of a Society magazine or paper which shall function as a medium for the dissemination of information of interest to the members and (5) the organization and conduct of classes for the study of the Gaelic language. This Committee shall also have charge of the Society's library and shall appoint one of its number to act as Librarian.

Article 21

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, a committee of five members shall be elected, who shall form the Building Committee of the Society. It shall be the duty of the Building Committee to promote the object set forth in Section 10 of Article 2. This Committee shall use all possible diligence in accumulating a Building Fund, and shall report its transactions to the Society annually or as often as the Executive Council may require.

Article 22

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, a committee of 5 members shall be elected, who, together with the Chief, shall form a Standing Executive Committee on Scottish Sports. (Sports Committee.) It shall be the duty of this Committee to promote the object set forth in Section 2 of Article 2.

It shall be the special duty of the Sports Committee to arrange for the holding of Caledonian Games or Scottish Sports annually (should conditions be favourable), on behalf of and in the name of the Gaelic Society of Toronto. It shall, in conjunction with the Executive Council, fix the time and place for said Sports. It shall have power to offer such prizes and rewards, in money and kind, as it may deem desirable, to appoint judges, and to provide the clerical and field staff necessary for the efficient performance of the duties of the day. It shall have the power to prepare and publish in advance Rules and Regulations which shall govern the sports, and which shall be binding on judges and competitors, and to incur liabilities and disburse monies for the purposes herein stated. The Committee with the approval of the Executive Council, shall appoint a Custodian of the cups and trophies belonging to Society, and it shall be the duty of this Officer to arrange for their safekeeping, to record the names and addresses of the holders, to call them in prior to the Annual Sports, and to arrange for suitable shields or inscriptions to be placed thereon. The Chairman shall also be responsible for the safekeeping of any dies or equipment which the Society may purchase in connection with the making of medals for presentation to winning competitors and for the safekeeping of any surplus medals.

This Committee, in short, is hereby vested with full power to make all arrangements necessary to give effect to the objects generally set forth in this Article of the Constitution of the Society. Further, this Committee shall have power to associate others with it in its work, and from such increased number to form a General Committee and Sub-committees, of which

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

it shall always remain the Executive and Directing Committee.

Article 23

The Ladies' Committee shall be composed of all the lady members of the Society in good standing who indicate their desire to help in the work of the Committee. In addition to the promotion in general of the objects and aims of the Society, as set forth in Article 2 of this Constitution, this Committee shall have as one of its main objectives the direction and development of the social life of the Society. As it is most desirable that this should be on a very high level, as measured by standards of dignity and propriety, and as the members of the Committee are well qualified to make a worth-while contribution in that direction, it shall be the duty of the Committee to make every effort to improve the social atmosphere prevailing at all meetings, ceilidhs and functions thereby enhancing the Society's good name. It shall be the duty of this Committee to take an interest in the personal welfare of all members of the Society, and to report to the Officers any information concerning case of distress, sickness or death which may come to their attention. The Ladies' Committee shall have charge of the distribution of fruit, flowers or other favours when the occasion warrants such action, and shall be responsible for the sending of floral tributes upon the death of any person closely connected with the Society. They shall arrange for the visitation of the sick, aged or shut-ins, and for the relief of those in distress when the undertaking of such relief has been approved by the Executive Council or by the Society. This Committee shall make a special effort to interest the Junior members of the Society in the objects and aims of the Society which have an appeal to children. They shall arrange suitable entertainment for such members and shall encourage their participation in the programs of the Society. The Ladies' Committee shall have charge of the serving of refreshment at meetings, ceilidhs or other gatherings of the Society, but the cost of such refreshments, other than voluntary contributions, shall be paid by the Treasurer from the General Fund.

The Committee may arrange, with the approval of the Executive Council, to hold bazaars, suppers, concerts, etc., for the purpose of raising funds with which to carry on non-remunerative projects.

Article 24

At the time of the annual elections, the Chairmen of the Committees referred to in Articles 20, 21, 22 and 23, shall be named by the Society, and such Chairmen shall, by virtue of their office, become members of the Executive Council. Each Committee shall arrange the time and place of its own meetings, and each shall elect its own Secretary and Treasurer. The Officers of each Committee shall hold office for one year and thereafter until their successors have been appointed or elected. A special committee or committees may be appointed at any regular meeting of the Society or by the Executive Council. All projects undertaken by any subsidiary body or committee of the Society must be carried on under the name of the Gaelic Society of Toronto. All committees shall, through their Chairmen, submit interim reports of

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

their activities when request so to do by the Executive Council or by the Society, and shall make reports concerning their finances once a year to the Society at the time of the Annual Meeting.

Article 25

At the Annual Meeting of the Society, three members shall be elected who shall constitute a Board of Trustees. At the time of election one of the three shall be named by the Society to act as Chairman of the Board. Said Chairman shall, by virtue of his office, become a member of the Executive Council and shall be Keeper of the Seal of the Society.

These Trustees and their successors in office shall be and are hereby declared to be the Directors of the Corporation of "The Gaelic Society of Toronto", and shall act as representatives of the Society in connection with all legal business transacted in the name of and on behalf of the Society. If, as and when the Board of Trustees is called upon to act as representatives of the Society as a corporate body in connection with any real estate transaction such as a lease, offer, sale, mortgage, deed, etc., such representative action for the Society by the Trustees shall be taken only upon receipt by them of an order signed by the Chief and Secretary of the Society, which order has been authorized by resolution of the Society passed at one of its regular meetings or at a special meeting held to consider such matters.

The Board of Trustees shall have custody of all legal documents, securities and monies which have been entrusted to them for safekeeping or investment by the Society or by any of its subsidiary bodies or committees. They shall rent a Safety Deposit Box for the safekeeping of legal documents, securities and other valuables, and access to such Box shall be arranged to be given by the owners thereof to at least two of the Trustees who must be present at the time of access. The Trustees shall keep an accurate record of the contents of said Box, which inventory shall include the serial numbers of all securities. The Trustees shall deposit all monies whatsoever coming to them, including interest accrued on investments, in a Chartered Bank, Savings or Trust Company to be designated by the Executive Council.

The Board Of Trustees shall have charge of the investment of surplus monies accumulated by the Society and by any and all of its subsidiary bodies or committees. Such surpluses may, if necessary, be pooled into one sum for purpose of investment, but the Board Of Trustees shall keep and accurate record of all receipts and disbursements in separate accounts, one for each Fund held in trust, viz., General Trust Fund, Historical Trust Fund, Building Trust Fund, Sports Trust Fund, and Ladies' Trust Fund, Bank interest and dividends from investments shall be credited on a pro rata basis to the various Funds in the same proportion which the corpus of each Fund bears to the whole principal amount which is held in trust. The Board Of Trustees shall report to the Society at its Annual Meeting and at such other times as may be required by the Society, the amount of money and/or the market value of the securities standing in the name of each Fund which is held in trust by them and such other information

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

as may reasonably be required of them as Trustees. Such report, when presented at the Annual Meeting of Society, shall be verified by the Auditors who shall make a personal inspection of the Assets held in trust. The Board Of Trustees shall have power, without reference to the Society or to the Executive Council, to invest any monies in their custody in accordance with the provisions of The Trustees Act (R.S.O. 1937, c. 165) to sell any securities which are held in trust and to invest the proceeds in other securities which in their opinion are more desirable, or to deposit such proceeds in a Chartered Bank, Savings or Trust Company for safekeeping.

When funds held in trust by the Trustees are required to be used in carrying out any of the objects or aims of the Society or any of its subsidiary bodies or committees, payment of such funds shall be made only upon receipt by said Trustees of an order signed by the Chief and the Secretary of the Society, which order has been authorized by the resolution of the Society passed at one of its regular meetings or at a special meeting held to consider such matters. The order authorizing the payment of such funds shall state to whom and/or to which body payment shall be made and for what purpose said funds are to be used. All cheques issued by the Board Of Trustees shall be signed by the Chairman and by each of the other two trustees.

If, in order to carry out the wishes of the Society with respect to the transfer of funds, it should be necessary to sell any or all of the securities held in trust, the Board Of Trustees shall and are hereby empowered to effect such sale; or, if the use of the funds required by the Society or by any of its subsidiary bodies or committees be for a comparatively short time with prospect of early repayment, the Board Of Trustees may and are hereby empowered to arrange a loan from one of the Chartered Banks and to pledge as collateral any or all of the securities held by the Trustees for the Society or subsidiary body or committee.

Notwithstanding anything contained in the Article or in any other Article of this Constitution, it is to distinctly understood that all monies and/or securities held in trust by the BOARD OF TRUSTEES are the property of The Gaelic society of Toronto as a corporate body, even though such monies and securities may have been divided into the several separate funds mentioned above. It is further to be understood that the Trustees are empowered to act only as the agents or representatives of the Society, and have as individuals no right of possession or ownership of the assets which have been entrusted to their care.

In the event of the death of one of the Trustees, the two remaining Trustees shall carry on the duties of the Board Of Trustees until such time as another Trustee has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Such appointment shall be made by the Executive Council at its first meeting following said death.

Article 26

The Executive Council, should it deem such necessary, may supervise the activities of the

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto Constitution and By-Laws

several Officers, Office Bearers, Auditors, Board Of Trustees, Committees, etc., so that the work entrusted by the Society to the above mentioned individual and groups may be correlated and made to conform with the general aims and wishes of the Society as set forth in this Constitution or as expressed by resolution of the Society. If, in the opinion of the Executive Council, any Officer, Office Bearer or member of a Group or Committee fails, for any reason such as absence, incapacity or neglect, to perform satisfactorily the duties which have been assigned to him or her, said Council shall make provision for the proper discharge of those duties and shall report such action to the Society at its next regular meeting. Vacancies occurring during the year following the Annual Elections shall be filled as soon as possible by the Executive Council, excepting that, should the office of Chief become vacant, a new Chief shall be elected by the Society at its next regular meeting.

Article 27

In conducting the work of the Society and its proceedings, the use of the Gaelic language shall be encouraged and shall always be in order, as well as the use of the English language.

Article 28

Should conditions arise on account of which it shall be deemed advisable by three fourths of the members present at any Annual Meeting of the Society to dissolve the Society, the following procedure shall be taken, viz., Notice of the intention to dissolve shall be sent to every member of the Society in good standing, in all classes of membership by letter, with a clear statement of the cause or causes for which dissolution is being proposed and of the specific disposition proposed to be made of the funds, securities, assets or property belonging to the Society. Should three fourths of the membership who shall respond to this letter express themselves as being favourable to the proposal, the question shall be brought before the Society at the next Annual Meeting for final action, but it is hereby provided that on no account whatsoever shall the funds of the Society be diverted from the support, as far as may be possible, of objects kindred to and in harmony with the objects aimed at by this Society, and for the promoting of which it was founded and incorporated. For this purpose a trust shall be formed to take over and administer the estate of the Society under conditions to be approved by three fourth of the members present at the meeting dealing with this subject.

Article 29

The Constitution and By-laws of this Society may be altered or amended at any regular meeting of the Society by a two thirds vote of the members present who vote. Notice of such amendment shall be given at a previous regular meeting and the said notice shall specify the meeting at which the said alteration or amendment shall be moved. Any proposed amendment to the Constitution and By-laws containing notations of all alterations or amendments of which due notice has been given may be varied when submitted for consideration, but only in so far as such variation shall be within the scope and purpose of the

Comunn Gàidhlig Thoronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto
Constitution and By-Laws

proposed amendment thereby affected.

Article 30

The Secretary of the Society shall keep a "Master Constitution and By-laws Book" in which shall be recorded any and all alterations or amendments which have been made in the manner prescribed in Article 29 above. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to give to each new member of the Society a copy of the Constitution and By-laws containing notations of all alterations or amendments which have been made subsequent to the date of the adoption by the Society of the Constitution and By-laws in its latest revised form. (December 1, 1948.) Members whose copies of the Constitution and By-laws are not up to date, may apply to the Secretary for information concerning any alteration or amendments which have been made by the Society and which are recorded in the above mentioned "Master Constitution and By-laws Book".

Article 31

Notwithstanding anything contained in any of the foregoing Articles, and notwithstanding the fact that certain executive power is conferred on the Officers, Executive Council, Board Of Trustees and the various Standing Committees by this Constitution, it is to be understood that the Society may give direction, when it deems fit, to any or all of Officers, Office Bearers Subsidiary Bodies or Groups, so that, as far as possible, the will of the Society shall at all times prevail in the conduct of the Society's business by said individuals or groups.

With respect to the following matters, final decision shall be made only by the Society itself.

- (1) Election to membership in the Society. (See Article 5, Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10)
- (2) Conferring Diplomas of Fellowship. (See Article 5, Section 11)
- (3) Setting of the membership fees. (See Article 6.)
- (4) Election of Officers, Office Bearers, Standing Committees and Board Of Trustees. (See Article 15.)
- (5) Matters of general policy. (See Article 18.)
- (6) Merging of Funds. (See Article 19.)
- (7) Board Of Trustees (See Article 25.)
- (8) Transaction involving real property. (See Article 25.)
- (9) Filling vacancy in office of Chief. (See Article 26)
- (10) Dissolution of the Society. (See Article 28)
- (11) Alterations or amendments to the Constitution and By-laws. (See Article 29)
- (12) Expulsion from membership in the society (See By-law 5.)

**Comunn Gàidhlig Toronto / The Gaelic Society of Toronto
Constitution and By-Laws**

By-laws

1. (a) All proceedings at the meetings of the Society shall be conducted with due regard to Canadian Parliamentary Rules, which the presiding officer shall rigidly enforce.

(b) The presiding officer shall preserve order, and shall decide questions of order without debate