

# Resolution Proposal for the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM)

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Draft Resolution for Discussion: May 2022

Proposers: CAM Board of Directors

Subject: Proposed Bylaws Change to CAM's Membership Fee Structure

## Background:

The Canadian Association of Midwives (CAM) is a membership-based Association and as such defines individual memberships and the membership structure in the adopted bylaws (2013 section 12). Individual membership at CAM establishes the membership fee and eligibility to vote at CAM's Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Surveying the Provincial and Territorial Membership Associations and the National Aboriginal Council of Midwives (NACM) found that each Association's use of the membership categories varies as the bylaw (2013) definitions are vague, causing confusion with fees and voting privileges with CAM for the individual member. CAM's Board of Directors has reviewed the individual membership structure and is proposing modifications to allow for consistent application of the individual membership structure for all Member Associations.

## Recommendations:

Whereas current bylaws (2013 section 12) read as follows:

### *12. Individual members*

- (1) A voting member in good standing of a member association is a full member of the Association.*
- (2) A non-voting member of a member association is an associate member of the Association.*
- (3) A midwife who resides in a jurisdiction where there is no member association may apply to be an associate member of the Association.*
- (4) A student member of a member association is a student member of the Association.*
- (5) A person who supports the Association's mission and vision may apply to be an allied member of the Association.*



- (6) The Directors may choose to honour any person who has made a significant contribution to midwifery by appointing that person an honorary member of the Association.*
- (7) The Directors may set the membership fees for individual members.*

The Board of Directors has reviewed the current individual membership structure and is recommending the following three modifications:

1. Remove Associate non-voting member as an individual CAM member type in the CAM bylaws and membership fee structures.
2. Adopt two levels of fees within the Full Member category:
  - a. **Midwife Professionally Active:** Midwives who are working full-time or part-time in any professional setting (ex. Clinical practice, research, education, regulation, government etc.)
  - b. **Midwife Professionally Inactive:** Midwives who are on temporary or long-term leave from any professional setting (ex. parental or sick leave, retired & long-term disability etc.)
3. Change from Allied Member to Supportive Member.

**Be it resolved that** the Canadian Association of Midwives' bylaws are updated to read as follows:

*(1) A **Full Member** is a voting member of CAM. A **Full Member** may fall into one of the two following categories:*

- *Midwife Professionally Active: Midwives who are working full or part-time in any professional setting (ex. Clinical practice, research, education, regulation, government etc.)*
- *Midwife Professionally Inactive: Midwives who are on temporary or long-term leave from any professional setting (ex. Maternity or sick leave, retired & long-term disability etc.)*

*(2) A **Student Member** of a Member Association is a **Student Member** of CAM. Student Members are non-voting members.*

*(3) A person who is not a midwife or a student midwife and wishes to support the mission and vision of CAM may apply to be a **Supportive Member**. Supportive Members are non-voting members.*

*(4) The Directors set the membership fees for individual members.*



## Expected Implications:

It is expected that the recommended bylaw changes result in:

- Individual membership categories becoming well-defined, provides clarity to the Member Associations in the application of the membership structure.
- Adopting two levels of fees within the Full Member category allows CAM to review who is eligible to vote in the AGM and charge a reduced fee to midwives who are professionally inactive.
- Changing from Allied Member to Supportive Member creates additional clarity to the membership type and provides alignment with NACM's membership structure.