

**Discussion document:**

**GOHWP Executive Board By-law Amendment 1**

Purpose: The executive board feels that the existing board structure is too large for focused engagement on tasks, and it is difficult to organise meetings where all nine members are in attendance. Further the staggered nature of the board member terms means there is a lack of continuity in board work and reduced effectiveness of the board. There is a need to simplify the structure of the GOHWP board by:

- a) reducing the size of the board, and
- b) facilitating continuity by moving all positions to two year terms

Summary of Proposed Changes:

Current structure: (total nine board members)	Proposed new structure: (total six board members)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Chair (one year term)</li><li>- Vice Chair (one year term)</li><li>- Student rep (one year term)</li><li>- six board members (two year terms, with three elected each year)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Chair (two year term)</li><li>- five board members (two year terms)</li></ul>

- 1) Reduce the board size to six
- 2) Vice-Chair and Student Rep positions discontinued
- 3) All roles become two year terms

Implications of amendment:

- No election will be held in October 2019. Instead those in positions with one year terms will be automatically extended for a second year (Chair, vice-chair, student rep)
- Board member positions will no longer be staggered
- Elections will be held every two years

**GOHWP Executive Board By-law Amendment 2**

Purpose: There have been numerous instances across different boards of lack of involvement of elected executive board members, and the by-laws in their existing form do not provide opportunity for recourse related to this.

Summary of Proposed Changes:

Addition of the following text to the by-laws: "In the event the Board member fails to meet their agreed upon duties, they could potentially face being removed from the board. This may consist of, but is not limited to, the following:

- 1) Failure to attend three consecutive meetings
- 2) Failure to respond to emails after missing a meeting
- 3) Failure to respond to emails checking in on status for a period of more than three months

If these behaviors occur, this lack of response will be considered an implied resignation of their position. Such consideration must be agreed by 2/3 of the current board. In this case, the board would proceed without them following the protocol for board member resignation outlined in the by-laws."

Implications of amendment:

- Three existing board members will be assumed resigned

For information: "The adoption of, and amendments to, the by-laws must be formally presented to members electronically, and members must be given a minimum of two weeks to review the by-laws before voting for their approval. A two-thirds vote of members that participated in the vote is needed to adopt and/or amend the by-laws. When adopted and/or amended, the by-laws will be posted electronically in a place where all members can view them. All amendments to the by-laws will take effect immediately."

Voting:

Please vote for the following amendments here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CYZ67N3>.

- Bylaw Amendment 1a: to reduce the size of the GOHWP executive board
- Bylaw Amendment 1b: to move all board member role to two-year terms
- Bylaw Amendment 2: to add wording to enable removal of non-participating board members

**Voting is open and will close on 14 October 2019.**