# WASCANA SOLAR CO-OPERATIVE LTD. BY-LAWS

I, JOSH CAMPBELL of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan, President of Wascana Solar Co-operative Ltd. certify that these are the by-laws of the Co-operative as approved by the members on June 21, 2018.

Campbell

President

March 21, 2019

Date

I, DONNA NELSON of Regina in the Province of Saskatchewan, Secretary of Wascana Solar Co-operative Ltd. certify that these are the by-laws of the Co-operative as approved by the members on June 21, 2018.

Helson

March 21, 2019 Date

Secretary

## Section One

# DEFINITIONS

## **Definitions**

**1.01** The following definitions apply in these by-laws:

"Act" means The Co-operatives Act, 1996.

"articles" are the articles of the Co-operative and has the same meaning as in the Act;

"board" means the board of directors of the Co-operative;

"by-laws" means the by-laws of the Co-operative and all amendments in force and effect;

"Co-operative" means Wascana Solar Co-operative Ltd.;

"entity" means a body corporate, a trust, a partnership, a fund or an unincorporated organization;

"meeting of members" means an annual meeting of members or a special meeting of members;

"member" means a person with a membership interest in the Co-operative who has complied with bylaw 6.01 and the articles;

"ordinary resolution" has the same meaning as in the Act, but for clarity means a majority vote of persons present at a meeting who are entitled to vote;

"patronage dividend" means an amount that is allocated by the Co-operative to its members based on the business done with the Co-operative;

"patronage loan" means a patronage return given in the form of a loan by a member to the Cooperative;

"person" means an individual or an entity, and includes a legal representative;

"recorded address" means, in the case of a member, the address (postal or electronic) of the member as recorded in the members' register; and in the case of a director, officer, auditor or member of a committee of the board, the latest address (postal or electronic) of such persons as recorded in the records of the Co-operative;

"special resolution" has the same meaning as in the Act, but for clarity means at least a 2/3rds vote of persons present at a meeting who are entitled to vote;

"surplus" means, for any financial year of the Co-operative, the amount that remains after deducting from revenue all operating expenses, allocations to the general reserve, and allocations to Class A and Class B Shares.

#### **Section Two**

#### GENERAL

#### **Financial Year**

**2.01** The Co-operative's financial year end is December 31.

Signing Authorities and Policies of the Board

**2.02** The president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer of the Co-operative have signing authority. The board may by ordinary resolution designate another person(s) as having signing authority or the right to vote on behalf of the Cooperative. The board must record any resolution under this section in the board's minutes. The board may adopt policies related to purchasing, borrowing, confidentiality, and execution of instruments that must be complied with at all times.

## **Information Available to Members**

2.03 Subject to section 29 of the Act:

(a) Members are entitled to view or copy information or documents respecting the Co-operative's business unless, in the opinion of the board, such information should be kept confidential.

(b) The board may decide whether it will disclose or make available to inspection an account, record or document of the Co-operative. The board may decide the extent of the disclosure and the time, place, conditions or rules of disclosure.

#### **Amendments to By-laws**

**2.04** The by-laws may be amended by the directors. The amendment must then be ratified by ordinary resolution at the next meeting of members.

## Section Three

## DIRECTORS

#### Number of Directors

**3.01** After the first annual meeting of members, the board may, by ordinary resolution, establish the number of directors within the minimum and maximum stated in the articles. The resolution must be recorded in the board's minutes. Once the number of directors is set, the number must not be reduced to meet quorum.

#### <u>Quorum</u>

**3.02** The quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the board is a majority of the number of directors.

#### **Director Qualifications**

**3.03** A person cannot be a director if that person:

- (a) is less than 18 years of age;
- (b) is of unsound mind and has been so found by a court of law;
- (c) is not an individual; or
- (d) is bankrupt.

# **Directors Must be Members**

**3.04** A director must be a member of the Co-operative or a representative of an entity that is a member of the Co-operative and must have purchased and paid for at least one Class B Preferred Share.

# Election and Term

# 3.05 Directors are elected by members

(a) Directors are to be elected by secret ballot at the first meeting of members and at each

subsequent annual meeting of members except where special provisions have been made for an entity to appoint representatives to the Board of Directors. The candidates for director who receive the highest number of votes cast are declared elected until all vacancies are filled.

# First and subsequent meeting of members

(b) The members must elect a minimum of five (5) directors at the first meeting of members. The two (2) candidates who receive the most votes are elected to three-year terms. The two (2) candidates who receive the next highest number of votes are elected to two-year terms. The rest of the candidates are elected to one-year terms. At each subsequent annual meeting, directors elected to replace those whose term of office has expired shall hold office for three years.

# **Nominating Candidates for Director**

**3.06** Candidates for director may be nominated either by a nominating committee appointed by the board, if any, before the meeting of members, or at the time of the meeting of members by any member present. Members may declare their own candidacy.

# Tie Votes

**3.07** In the case of a tie among candidates on the first ballot, those candidates' names must be submitted to a second ballot organized by the chairperson of the meeting. The same rule applies to subsequent ballots that must be held in the event of a tie.

# **Ceasing to Hold Office**

**3.08** A director ceases to hold office when the director:

- (a) dies or resigns;
- (b) ceases to be a member by withdrawal or termination of membership;
- (c) is removed from office by the members at a special meeting under by-law 3.09;
- (d) per by-law 3.03, is disqualified from being a director; or
- (e) is absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the board, unless in the opinion of the other directors one or more of the absences were justified.

# **Removal of Directors by Members**

**3.09** Subject to the Act, the members may, by ordinary resolution at a special meeting, remove any director from office. The vacancy created by such removal may be filled by ordinary resolution of the members present at the same special meeting or, if not so filled, may be filled by the directors in accordance with the Act.

# **Vacancies**

# **3.10** Vacancy where the board can meet quorum

(a) If the board can meet quorum and a vacancy on the board arises, the directors may either fill the vacancy by ordinary resolution or continue to run the board without filling the vacancy. This subsection does not apply if the vacancy resulted from either the board's decision to increase the number of directors under by-law 3.01 or from a failure of the members to elect the required number of directors.

# Vacancy where board cannot meet quorum

(b) If the board cannot meet quorum, or if the vacancy resulted from a failure of the members to

elect the required number of directors, the board must call a special meeting of members to fill the vacancy. If the board fails to call the special meeting or if there are no directors, any member may call the special meeting.

## Limited term of the replacement director

(c) A person who fills a vacancy will serve until the next annual meeting.

# Exercise of Authority

## 3.11 <u>Resolutions</u>

(a) The board or a committee of the board may exercise the powers of the Co-operative, including the borrowing of money, and the provision of security for such borrowing, by passing ordinary resolutions (majority vote) at their meetings. In the event of a tie, the ordinary resolution fails.

#### <u>Vacancies</u>

(b) In the case of a vacancy, the remaining directors of the board or committee of the board may exercise the powers of the Co-operative so long as there is a quorum at their meetings.

## **Resolutions in Writing**

**3.12** An ordinary or special resolution of the board must be in writing and the decision must be recorded in the minutes of the Co-operative.

## Meetings by Telephone or Other Electronic Means

**3.13** Directors may participate in committee or board meetings by telephone, electronic or other means. All participants, however, must be able to communicate adequately with each other. Directors participating in such meetings are deemed to be present at the meetings.

# Time and Place of Meetings

**3.14** Board meetings must be held in Saskatchewan at a time and place of the board's choosing.

# Notice of Meeting

**3.15** Notice of the time, place and purpose of each board meeting must be given to each director not less than three (3) days before the meeting. A director may waive the three-day notice period.

#### **Regular Meeting**

**3.16** The board may set a day, time and place for regular meetings of the board. A notice to that effect must be given to each director. Subject to the Act, no other notice is required.

#### **Chairperson**

**3.17** The chairperson of any meeting of the board is the president or vice-president. Another director may be appointed chairperson by the directors at the meeting.

#### **Conflict of Interest & Remuneration**

**3.18** A director or officer who has a conflict of interest must declare their conflict of interest in accordance with that section. The following rules apply:

(a) All officers, directors or committee members must carry out their duties honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the Co-operative rather than in their own best interest.

(b) Directors and officers serve without payment of any kind. However, they may be paid for travel

or other expenses while doing business for the Co-operative. The board must authorize these expenses. Directors and officers cannot receive compensation for lost income while doing business for the Co-operative.

(c) When a director has or may have a conflict of interest:

• The director should declare the conflict of interest at the board meeting considering the matter.

• If a director does not declare a conflict of interest, but another director is aware of one, the other director can bring it up at a meeting.

• The board then decides whether there is a conflict of interest.

• If there is a conflict of interest, the director cannot vote on the matter and must not be present while the matter is discussed.

#### **Section Four**

#### **COMMITTEES AND OFFICERS**

#### **Committees of Directors**

**4.01** The board may appoint committees of directors (minimum of three (3) directors per committee) whose members hold office at the will of the board. The board must determine the functions and duties of each committee. However, the committee may set out its own procedure in accordance with the Act.

#### **Officers**

**4.02** The officers of the Co-operative include the president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and any other officers as determined by the board. The board may specify the duties, powers, term, and remuneration of the officers to manage the business and affairs of the Co-operative.

#### **Section Five**

#### DUTY OF CARE AND INDEMNITY OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

## **Duty of Care of Directors and Officers**

**5.01** Directors and officers of the Co-operative must:

(a) act honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Co-operative;

(b) exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances; and

(c) not disclose confidential information about the affairs of the Co-operative, its members or employees.

#### **Indemnity**

**5.02** Subject to the Act, the Co-operative must indemnify directors and officers, former directors and officers, and persons who undertake or have undertaken any liability on behalf of the Co-operative, and their heirs and legal representatives, against all costs, charges and expenses, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgement, reasonably incurred by them in any proceeding to which they are made a party by reason of being or having been directors or officers of the Co-operative, if:

(a) they acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of the Co-operative; and

(b) in the case of a criminal or administrative action or proceeding that is enforced by a monetary

penalty, they had reasonable grounds for believing that their conduct was lawful.

#### **Dissent**

**5.03** Directors are deemed to have consented to any resolution passed or action taken at a meeting of the board or a committee of the board unless they record their dissent.

#### **Section Six**

#### MEMBERSHIP SHARES, MEMBERSHIPS AND TRANSFERS

#### **Membership Qualifications**

**6.01** (i) No person can become a member of the Co-operative unless that person:

- (a) if an individual, is at least 18 years of age;
- (b) has submitted a written application for membership that has been approved by the board or a person authorized by the board to approve membership applications; and
- (c) has purchased and paid for one Class A Common Share. The par value and issue price for each Class A Common Share shall be fixed at \$100.
- (ii) No corporation can become a member of the Co-operative without the approval of the Directors of the Co-operative.
- (iii) A member may hold more than one (1) Class B Preferred Share but no member may hold more than one (1) Class A Common Share of the Co-operative.

#### Joint Membership

**6.02** Two or more persons may apply to the board of directors for joint membership in the cooperative. Parties to the joint membership shall have one vote and shall determine which party to the membership shall cast that vote. Only one party to the joint membership may hold office as a director at any one time. Each party to a joint membership shall have the right of joint survivorship.

#### Class A Common (Membership) Share Certificate

**6.03** The Co-operative is not required to issue formal certificates for Class A Common Shares (also referred to herein as "membership shares"). The Co-operative must, if requested by a member, provide a receipt for the purchase of membership shares.

#### Transfer of Shares or Memberships

**6.04** Transfer of a membership, membership share, or Class B Preferred Share is invalid unless it is completed in accordance with the Articles.

#### Lien for Indebtedness

6.05 If a member owes a debt to the Co-operative, the Co-operative has and may enforce a lien on:

- (a) the member's shares in the Co-operative;
- (b) any interest of the member in the property of the Co-operative; and
- (c) any sum payable by the Co-operative to the member.

#### Withdrawal of Membership

**6.06** A member may withdraw their membership in the Co-operative by giving the Co-operative thirty (30) days notice of their intention to withdraw. The board or a person authorized by the board may, in

writing, accept the member's withdrawal on shorter notice. A member may dispose of their share(s) by donating those share(s) to any person or approved corporation as per 6.01 Membership Qualification, but shall not be permitted to sell their share(s) to any other person, and shall not dispose of the same by any other means unless such disposition is approved by the directors. At the discretion of the Board, the Co-operative may buy a share, including purchasing a member's share upon withdrawal, at any time.

# Automatic Withdrawal – Death or Dissolution

**6.07** An individual's membership in the Co-operative is deemed to be withdrawn on their date of death. By ordinary resolution, the board may deem a body corporate's membership in the Co-operative to be withdrawn if that body corporate has commenced dissolution proceedings or is dissolved by its corporate regulator.

# <u>Conditions upon which a co-operative shall purchase a member's shares or repay a member's loans</u> <u>upon withdrawal</u>

**6.08** The Co-operative shall pay all amounts held to the credit of a member within the time period of one (1) year of the Board's acceptance of the member's application to withdraw.

## Termination of Membership for Cause

**6.09** The board may by special resolution at a meeting of the board terminate the membership of a member for cause.

# Meaning of "for Cause"

6.10 For the purpose of by-law 6.07, "for cause" means:

(a) the failure of the member to meet any contractual or debt obligation owing to the Cooperative; or

(b) the conduct of the member that is detrimental to the welfare of the Co-operative.

# Notice of the Board Meeting to Terminate

**6.11** The member must be given at least seven (7) days' written notice of the board meeting under by-law 6.09 and the notice must include a statement of the grounds for termination. Notice must be given in a manner that enables the Cooperative to prove delivery. The member is entitled to appear at the board meeting and must be given an opportunity to be heard, including through an agent or counsel.

# Notice of Termination Following Decision of the Board

**6.12** The Co-operative must give written notice to the person whose membership is terminated within seven (7) days of the board resolution. Notice must be given in a manner that enables the Co-operative to prove delivery.

# **Right of Appeal**

**6.13** Within fourteen (14) days of receiving the notice of termination under by-law 6.12, the person whose membership was terminated may file a written notice of appeal with the Co-operative. The appeal must be heard at the next meeting of members. Where the member makes the appeal, a two-thirds majority shall be required to rescind the order.

# <u>Conditions upon which a co-operative shall purchase a member's shares or repay a member's loans</u> <u>upon termination</u>

**6.14** The Co-operative shall pay all amounts held to the credit of a member within the time period of one (1) year of the Board's acceptance of the member's termination. A member may dispose of their

share(s) by selling or donating those share(s) to any person or approved corporation as per 6.01 Membership Qualification. If the member does not dispose of any shares owned to another acceptable person or entity within one year of the member's withdrawal, the Co-operative shall purchase all shares owned by the member and provide compensation for value of owned share(s).

## **Section Seven**

## ALLOCATION OF GENERAL RESERVE, SHAREHOLDER REVENUE, AND SURPLUS

## Minimum Reserve

**7.01** The general reserve of the Co-operative must accumulate to a minimum of 1% of the total assets of the Co-operative as reported in the year-end financial statements. No allocation of revenue or patronage dividend under section 7.02 or 7.03 of these Bylaws, is payable to members if the general reserve is or would, as a result of a payment, fall below the minimum percentage of assets.

# **Allocation of Surplus**

**7.02** As soon as practicable following each fiscal year-end of the Co-operative the directors shall, in accordance with sound business judgment and generally accepted Canadian accounting principles consistently applied from year to year, determine:

a) the profit earned by the Co-operative in that fiscal year;

b) the amount, if any, to be allocated from such profit to the general reserve in addition to any amount required to be so allocated under section 7.01; and

c) the amount, if any, to be allocated from such profit to payment of a patronage divided under section 7.03 of these Bylaws.

# **Distribution of Patronage Dividend**

7.03 The directors shall distribute to the holders of Class B Preferred Shares as a patronage dividend any surplus remaining after provision for the allocations referred to in subsections 7.02(b) and (c) of these Bylaws. For the purpose of determining the manner of distribution of patronage dividends under this section 7.03, the directors acknowledge that at any particular time the holder of each Class B Preferred Share owns and makes available to the Co-operative in respect of each such Share that fraction of the productive capacity of all solar power generating facilities operated from time to time by the Cooperative which that Share bears to all of the Class B Preferred Shares issued and outstanding at that time. Accordingly, where any sum is made available by the directors for the payment of a patronage dividend under the provisions of section 7.02(d), the directors shall allocate such patronage dividend among the Class B Preferred Shareholders in proportion to the number of Class B Preferred Shares owned by each of them, such allocation reflecting the proportion in which each such Shareholder does business with the Co-operative within the meaning and purpose of Subsection 35(4) of the Act, or any successor provisions. For the purpose of making the foregoing calculation the directors may consider any Class B Preferred Share issued between the date the patronage dividend is declared and the date the preceding patronage dividend was declared to count for only that fraction of a whole Share that corresponds to the portion of the intervening period after the Share was issued.

# **Section Eight**

# **MEETINGS OF MEMBERS**

# Annual Meetings

8.01 The directors of the Co-operative must hold an annual meeting of members in each financial

year of the Cooperative. The annual meeting is held for the purpose of considering the directors' annual report, the financial statements, the appointment of auditors, the election of directors, and other business as permitted by the Act.

## **Special Meetings**

**8.02** A special meeting may be called by the board at any time, or by 10% of the members who sign and send a written requisition to the board.

## **Meetings of Members**

**8.03** Meetings of members are held in Saskatchewan at a place determined by the Board.

## **Place of Meetings Electronic Meeting**

**8.04** Where the Co-operative has adequate facilities and at the discretion of the Board, members may participate in meetings of members by telephone or electronic means. All participants, however, must be able to communicate adequately with each other. Members participating in such meetings are deemed to be present, including for the purpose of quorum.

## Notice of Meetings

**8.05** Notice in writing of the time, place, and purpose of each meeting of members must be given to the members between ten (10) and fifty (50) days in advance of the meeting.

## **Chairperson (and Secretary)**

**8.06** The chairperson of the meeting of members is the president or, in the president's absence, the vice-president. By Chairperson (and Secretary) ordinary resolution, another person may be appointed chairperson. Where the secretary is not present, the chairperson may appoint another person to be secretary for the meeting.

# Persons Entitled to be Present

**8.07** Only members and the Co-operative's auditors are entitled to be present at a meeting of members. The chairperson may invite other attendees.

#### <u>Quorum</u>

**8.08** Quorum at a meeting of members is the Quorum lesser of either the majority of members or the number of directors plus five (5).

# Voting at the Meeting

**8.09** A person that is on the members' register at the time notice of a meeting is sent is entitled to vote. Voting is governed by these rules:

(a) votes are counted on a one-member, one-vote basis;

(b) votes, other than on special resolutions, are passed by a majority of members present who are entitled to vote;

(c) an ordinary resolution or motion fails in case of a tie vote;

(d) votes are decided by show of hands and the results, other than votes taken by secret ballot, are reported in minutes of the meeting; and

(e) a member entitled to vote at the meeting may demand a ballot vote before or after a vote takes place.

## Voting by Mail-In or Electronic Ballot

**8.10** Where the Co-operative has adequate facilities and at the discretion of the Board, voting (including the election of directors) may take place in advance of the members meeting by mail-in or electronic ballot. A person that is on the members' register at the time notice of a meeting is sent is entitled to vote by mail-in or electronic ballot. Voting is governed by these rules:

(a) votes are counted on a one-member, one-vote basis;

(b) votes, other than on special resolutions, are passed by a majority of members who are entitled to vote and have actually voted within the time period set by the board;

(c) an ordinary resolution fails in case of a tie vote; and

(d) votes are counted on the day of the members' meeting and the results are reported at that meeting.

#### **Section Nine**

## NOTICES IN WRITING

#### Method of Giving Notices in Writing

**9.01** Where written notices are required to be given to members, officers, directors or committee members, those notices must be sent to the person's recorded address. Additional notices can be sent or published using any type of media as determined by the board. Notice can be waived by the recipient in accordance with the Act.

## **Undelivered Notices**

**9.02** If a notice in writing to a member is returned undelivered on three (3) consecutive occasions, the Co-operative does not need to give further notice until the member provides a new recorded address.

#### Section 10

#### DISSOLUTION

# Distribution of the Assets upon Dissolution

**10.1** Upon the dissolution of the Co-operative, assets shall be converted to cash and any surplus will be allocated, first to repay any debts of the Co-operative, second to the redemption or repurchase of any Class B Preferred Shares of the Cooperative held by members in accordance with the provisions for redemption or repurchase stated therein, and third to repurchase at par any Class A Common Shares held by members. Unallocated surplus shall be donated to a non-profit organization according to the Special Resolution to Dissolve the Co-operative.