

50 LOMIE EDIR BYLAW AND GUIDANCE



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50 LOMIE MEREDAJA EDIR

Article I. INTRODUCTION

- (a) 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir is a non-profit organization registered under the Manitoba Act in 2016, with the aim of providing financial and emotional support to individuals of Ethiopian descent during times of grief.
- (b) Given the profound historical, cultural, and familial bonds between Ethiopians and Eritreans, 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir warmly welcomes individuals of Eritrean descent to join the Edir. We invite those interested to embrace our bylaws and rules, fostering unity and harmony within our organization.
- (c) 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir is governed by its registered members and operates under its by-laws and operational policies.

Article II. DEFINITIONS

- (a) **50 Lomie Meredaja Edir:** a non-profit organization that provides financial and emotional support to registered members of Ethiopian / Eritrean origin during the loss of a family member.
- (b) **AGM (Annual General Meeting):** a mandatory meeting held once every year to update its members on the organization's progress.
- (c) **Beneficiaries:** designated individuals appointed by the registered member to receive the death benefit.
- (d) **Board of Executives or Board:** the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir board of executives.
- (e) **Committee/Power of Attorney:** an individual appointed through a legal proceeding to act on behalf of another individual.
- (f) **Death Benefit:** a set amount given to eligible registered and active members of the organization upon the loss of a family member.
- (g) **Dependent Child** is a child:
 - (i) Who lives under the same address with their parent/s in Manitoba,
 - (ii) Is under the maximum age and is not married or in a common law relationship.
 - (iii) Have depended on their parents for financial support since before they reached the age limit of 25.

(iv) Cannot financially support themselves due to a mental or physical condition.

(h) **Executive Committee:** a group of elected officers who manages the day-to-day operation of 50 Lomie Edir. It consists of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Public Relations.

(i) **Family:** a registered member, their spouse, children under the age of 25, and dependent parents.

(j) **Ordinary Majority:** a majority of not less than fifty percent (50%) plus one (1).

(k) **Ordinary Resolution:** a resolution passed by a majority of not less than fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the votes cast on that resolution.

(l) **Proxy:** an individual appointed to represent someone else.

(m) **Qualified Surrounding Towns:** geographic area of a registered member, which does not exceed 150 kilometers from Winnipeg, Manitoba.

(n) **Registered Member:** an individual who has fulfilled all the required guidelines to join 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.

(o) **Resignation of Membership:** a registered member voluntarily removing himself or herself from the organization.

(p) **Special Resolution:** means a resolution passed by a majority of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast on that resolution;

(q) **Team Leader and Sub Team Leader:** individuals appointed by the Executive Committee to communicate information to the general members.

(r) **Termination of Membership:** when a registered member fails to adhere to the organization's by-laws and guidelines or relocates permanently beyond the designated distance, i.e., 150 kilometers from Winnipeg.

Article III. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

Section 3.01 Purpose

(a) As the size of people of Ethiopian heritage in Winnipeg, Manitoba, grows, the need to support each other during difficult times is recognized. Funerals and related expenses are costly. Therefore, members of the Ethiopian/Eritrean heritage need to be financially supported during times of loss.

(b) To serve this purpose, a non-profit organization, 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir was established. 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir is open to people of Ethiopian/Eritrean descent who reside within 150 kilometers of Winnipeg, Manitoba, and who register and contribute according to the policies and guidelines of the organization.

Section 3.02 Objectives

- (a) Provide psychosocial and financial support for Ethiopian descents during the loss of their loved ones.
- (b) Collect funds from members to finance necessary expenses.
- (c) Pay eligible members the allowed fund as per the bylaws.
- (d) Increase membership by providing information to the community.
- (e) Educate the larger community about the collective efforts.

Article IV. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 4.01 Composition and Number of Directors

- (a) The Board shall consist of a minimum of five (5) and a maximum of seven (7) Directors elected from and by the members at an Annual General Meeting.
- (b) The Board shall consist of at least two-thirds (66%) Directors that are representatives of the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir Inc.

Section 4.02 Election of Directors

- (a) Election of the Executive Committee of 50 Lomie Edir will be held every two years at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Elected officers include President, Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relations, Auditor, and two Members at large.
- (b) Any individual may be nominated by any member for election as a Director.
- (c) The nominating member shall provide the name of its nominee to the Secretary thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- (d) At least twenty-one (21) days prior to the AGM, the Secretary shall distribute to the members, the names of nominees for election as Directors.
- (e) The election of Directors shall be by a show of hands of the members present at the AGM, unless any member requests a ballot.

Section 4.03 Term of Office

- (a) A Director shall serve a term of two (2) years from the date of their election.
- (b) Directors shall take office immediately following the close of the AGM at which they are elected.
- (c) No Director shall serve more than two (2) two-year terms consecutively.
- (d) Time contributed as an Interim Director is not considered part of the consecutive term limit.
- (e) An Interim Director may be elected for two consecutive two-year terms, following the time as an Interim Director.
- (f) After serving two consecutive terms, a Director must vacate the position for at least one (1) year before seeking re-election to another term.

Section 4.04 Qualification of a Director

- (a) No person who is less than 18 years of age shall be elected as a Director.
- (b) No person who has been found by a court in Canada or elsewhere who has the status of a bankrupt person shall be a Director.
- (c) No person who has been found by a court in Canada or elsewhere who has been convicted of an offense involving a breach of trust shall be a Director, unless approved by a majority of the Board.
- (d) No person who has been determined to be mentally incompetent by a physician registered to practice in the Province of Manitoba shall be elected as a Director.

Section 4.05 Remuneration

- (a) The Directors shall not receive any remuneration for providing their services

Section 4.06 Ceasing to Hold Office

The Director will cease to hold office when:

- (a) He or she dies.
- (b) He or she is removed from office by ordinary resolution of the members.
- (c) He or she is found to be of unsound mind.
- (d) He or she has the status of a bankrupt.
- (e) He or she sends a written resignation to the organization.

- (f) He or she is not re-elected and a successor is elected.
- (g) He or she ceases to be the appointed representative of the organization member.
- (h) He or she misses three consecutive meetings of the Board without being excused from attendance.

Section 4.07 Vacancies

- (a) Vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by an interim Director by a vote of the majority of the remaining members of the Board of Directors until the next Annual General Meeting of the members.

Section 4.08 Appointment of Officer

- (a) At the first meeting of the Board following the AGM, the Directors shall appoint from amongst themselves Officers to the offices of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- (b) The selection and appointment of the Directors to the Officer positions must occur within one (1) month following the AGM and shall be decided by an ordinary resolution of the Directors.
- (c) If the Office of any Officer of the organization becomes vacant, the Board may, by resolution, appoint a person to fill such vacancy.

Section 4.09 Responsibilities of Individual Officers

(a) President:

- (i) The President oversees the functions of the organization and ensures that all activities of the 50 Lomie Edir is in adherence to the by-laws and guidelines.

(b) Vice President:

- (i) In the event that the President is absent or is unable or refuses to act, the Vice-President shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board.
- (ii) The Vice-President shall have such other duties and powers as are specified or as may be determined by the Board from time to time.
- (iii) The Vice-President shall be an Officer of the Organization.

(c) Secretary:

- (i) Ensure that accurate minutes and records of the organization are kept.

- (ii) Ensure that any certificate required by any statute, civic, provincial, or federal is filed.
- (iii) Ensure that notice is served to members of the organization.
- (iv) The Secretary shall be the official custodian of the records of the organization
- (v) Present to the membership any communication addressed to him/her as secretary of the organization.
- (vi) Attend to all correspondence of the organization and shall exercise all duties incident to the office of Secretary.

(d) The Treasurer:

- (i) Ensure the care and custody of the funds and any securities held by the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.
- (ii) Ensure the deposit in the name of the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir in such bank or banks or with such depository or depositories as the Board may direct.
- (iii) Ensure the maintenance of proper books of account and shall report regularly to the Board on matters concerning the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenditures of the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir as well as any other matter referred to the Treasurer by the Board.
- (iv) Have such other duties and powers as are specified or as may be determined by the Board from time to time. The Treasurer shall be an Officer of the Organization.

(e) Board Members:

- (i) The board may appoint additional ex officer (non-voting) members to serve terms as agreed by the board.
- (ii) The two Members at large participate at the executive committee meetings.
- (iii) Should there be a vacancy of the elected officers; the two members at large can fill in the position(s) until the next AGM.

(f) Auditor:

- (i) The Auditor audits financial documents provided by the Treasurer and ensures alignment with the expenses in accordance with standard auditing principles and procedures.

(g) The Public Relation Officer:

(i)The Public Officer shall work to maintain positive image about 50 Lomie.

Article V. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(a) The Executive Committee has the responsibility of calling general meetings, overseeing the day-to-day operation of 50 Lomie Edir, collecting, and issuing payments, and providing advice to the general Membership.

(b) Members of 50 Lomie Edir are responsible for ensuring that the Executive Committee is following the policy guidelines.

(c) The Executive Committee has the authority to administer all funds at hand and make payments as per the guidelines.

(d) The Executive Committee has the authority to make necessary expenses to run the organization smoothly.

(e) The Executive Committee will provide detailed financial reports and future plans at the Annual General Meeting and communicate all necessary announcements regarding the organization in a timely fashion.

Article VI. MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**Section 6.01 Quorum**

(a) Fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) Members of the elected Board of Directors shall constitute quorum.

(b) Director's Vote

(i)Each Director shall have one (1) vote.

(c) Votes to Govern

(i)Subject to the bylaws, at all meetings of the Board, every question shall be decided by an ordinary majority of the votes cast on the question.

(ii)In all questions or interpretation of these by-laws, the decision of the Board shall be final unless overruled by the members at Annual General Meeting.

(iii)The President of the meeting shall not vote unless there is an equality of votes. In that event, the President may, but shall not be obligated to, cast a deciding vote.

(iv)Where the President does not exercise a casting vote on a tie, the motion shall fail.

(d) Number of Meetings

(i)The Board of Directors shall meet a minimum of four (4) times per fiscal year and minutes of the meeting will be shared to members of 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.

(ii)Meetings of the Board may be called by the President, the Vice-President or any three (3) Directors at any time.

(e) Notice of Meetings

(i)Notice of the time and place for the holding of a meeting of the Board shall be given by electronic mail to every Director of the organization not less than ten (10) days before the time when the meeting is to be held.

(ii)Any Member may waive their right to notice.

(iii)Unless the bylaw otherwise provides, no notice of meeting need specifies the purpose or the business to be transacted at the meeting.

(iv)The Board may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings of the Board at a place and hour to be named.

(v)A copy of any resolution of the Board fixing the place and time of such regular meetings of the Board shall be sent to each Director forthwith after being passed, but no other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting.

(vi)If the organization chooses to make available a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during a meeting of Board, any person entitled to attend such meeting may participate in the meeting by means of such telephonic, electronic or other communication facility in the manner provided by the Act and the Regulations.

(vii)A person participating in a meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting. Notwithstanding any other provision of this bylaw, any person participating in a meeting of Board pursuant to this section who is entitled to vote at that meeting may vote, in accordance with the Act and the Regulations, by means of any telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that the Organization has made available for that.

(f) Resolutions in Writing

- (i)** A resolution in writing, signed by all the Directors entitled to vote on that resolution at a Board meeting, shall be as valid as if it had been passed at a Board meeting.
- (ii)** A copy of every such resolution in writing shall be kept with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board or committee of Directors.

Article VII. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

- (a)** The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is a gathering held to discuss and receive information about the operations of 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.
- (b)** At the AGM, members receive yearly reports on the organization's activities, including financial and operational status.
- (c)** The general members also have the power to approve or disapprove proposed ideas, review bylaws, make changes and modify the guidelines as needed.
- (d)** Additionally, the AGM elects new Executive Committee Members.
- (e)** The AGM will take place once per calendar year, in the month of April.
- (f)** The quorum for a general membership meeting is 50%+1 of the registered members.
- (g)** The Executive Committee will call a general membership meeting, as needed particularly if issues that require members' votes arise.
- (h)** If one third (1/3) of the membership requests a general meeting, the general meeting shall be called. Decisions will be made by consensus; however, if a vote is required, a simple majority (50%+1) will suffice to determine a decision.
- (i)** If a registered member is absent from a meeting, a fee of 100 CAD will be imposed. The registered member must provide a justifiable reason with supporting documents to explain their absence from the meetings, such as being out of the country or at work. Failure to follow these guidelines may put their membership at risk.

Article VIII. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

- (a)** The Board may at any time call a Special General Meeting at such time and place and for such purposes as the Board determines necessary.
- (b)** Notice of Meeting

- (i) Notice of an Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting of the members shall be published on the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir web site.
- (ii) Notice shall also be provided to members by post, or electronically. The notice must be provided at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the meeting.
 - (c) Content of Notice
- (i) Notice of the time and place of each meeting of members shall be provided not less than twenty-one (21) days before the date of the meeting, to each Director, to the auditor, if any, and to each member who at the close of business on the record date for notice, if any, is entered in the register as a member.
- (ii) Notice of a meeting of members called for any purpose other than consideration of the financial statement and auditor's report, election of Directors and re-appointment of the incumbent auditor shall state the nature of such business in sufficient detail to permit the members to form a reasoned judgment thereon and shall state the text of any special resolution to be submitted to the meeting.
- (iii) Any person entitled to notice may in any manner waive notice of or otherwise consent to a meeting of members.

Article IX. TEAM ALLOCATION AND ASSIGNMENT

- (a) The Executive Committee will organize Teams who will be responsible for communicating with the general membership.
- (b) Each Team will be connected to a member of the Executive Committee.
- (c) The team leader (who is also a member of the Executive Committee) will be responsible for organizing a set of sub-groups under their team, collecting contribution fees, calling general meetings, and sharing news of a member's passing.

Article X. FISCAL YEAR

- (a) The fiscal year of the Organization shall terminate on the 31st day of March in each year or at such other time as the Directors may from time to time determine by resolution.

Article XI. AUDITORS

- (a) The Members shall at each annual meeting appoint an auditor to audit the accounts of the Organization to hold office until the next annual meeting if the Directors may fill any casual

vacancy in the office of auditor by appointing such accountants authorized to practice in the Province of Manitoba, as directed by the Members.

(b) The duties of the auditors shall be to examine the Treasurer's accounts and books every twelve (12) months, certify to their correctness, and prepare a statement for presentation to the Board of Directors for the fiscal year.

Article XII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(a) A Director or Officer who is a party to or who is a Director of or has a material interest in any person who is a party to a material contract or proposed material contract with the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir shall disclose in writing to the 50 Lomie Merdaja Edir or request to have entered in the minutes of meetings of the Board, the nature and extent of their interest at the time, and in the manner provided by the Bylaw.

(b) Any Director or Officer so interested shall not vote upon any resolution to approve the contract, except as otherwise provided in the Bylaw, and shall retire from and not participate in discussion upon such issue(s) so as to be seen as not being present to influence the decision making process.

(c) A Director or Officer shall be obliged to make a declaration of interest in respect of any contract or proposed contract, failing which the protection of those sections shall not apply; they shall refrain from voting in respect of any such contract.

Article XIII. MEMBERSHIP

Section 13.01 Requirements

(a) To join 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir:

- (i)** Be of Ethiopian / Eritrean origin.
- (ii)** Be at least 18 years old.
- (iii)** Live within 150 kilometers of Winnipeg, Manitoba.
- (iv)** Submit a completed application form with the registration fee to the Executive Committee.
- (v)** Accept the bylaws and other rules and regulations of 50 Lomie Edir.
- (vi)** Members must list all qualified family Members residing in the same residence at the time of registration.

- (vii) Once a family Member reaches the age of 25 and chooses to become a registered Member themselves, they must complete their own separate application form and pay the required registration fee.
- (viii) If a family Member covered under a registered Member moves to their own new residence with a different address, they must complete a separate application form and pay the required registration fee.
- (ix) A registered Member can register their family Member to join 50 Lomie Edir, as long as the person who is being registered is aware of and approves the registration. The newly registered person must be the one to appoint the beneficiary in the event of their passing, and this must be verified by the Executive Committee prior to registration.

Article XIV. MEMBERS' AUTHORITY

- (a) Elect the Board of Directors;
- (b) Change the By-laws;
- (c) Approve the dissolution of the Organization;
- (d) Conduct other business of the Annual General Meeting, including but not limited to reviewing the audited financial statements and appointing the auditor.

Article XV. MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS

- (a) Have three (3) vote to select Board Members at any 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.
- (b) Be eligible for nomination, election to, and service on the Board.

Article XVI. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- (a) A Member of 50 Lomie Edir must read, understand, and accept the policies and guidelines.
- (b) A Member of 50 Lomie Edir must pay registration fees, complete registration forms, and make timely contributions.
- (c) If there are multiple registered family members who have lost a common family member (such as a parent or sibling), the registered family member who was not a recipient of the death benefit will not be required to contribute the required contribution of \$50.00 towards their family.

- (d) The registered member must confirm the relationship between their family members and the deceased to waive the \$50.00 contribution fee for the family member's death.
- (e) The waiver of the \$50.00 contribution fee will only apply to maternal and paternal grandparents, biological parents, and biological siblings who are dependent on the registered member.
- (f) Registered family members must reside in the same residence in Winnipeg, Manitoba (or within 150 kms from Winnipeg as per section 3.1) at the time of death.
- (g) If a member has left Winnipeg, Manitoba for more than six consecutive months and has not communicated the reason for their departure, they may not be entitled to any benefit payout, and their membership may be terminated.
- (h) The active registered member is responsible for keeping their contributions and documentation up to date to receive all benefits.
- (i) If a member of the registered family is residing outside of Winnipeg, Manitoba at the time of death, they must have followed the required guidelines for providing written communication prior to their departure. Failure to do so will result in disqualification of benefit payment.

Article XVII. MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FEE

- (a) As of the current date, the membership registration fee for new members is CAD 250, irrespective of the size of the applicant's family.
- (b) This amount is subject to change at any time, pending a decision by the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Article XVIII. MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- (a) All registered members must pay an annual contribution fee of \$120.00 CAD, due within three months of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held in April.
- (b) This amount is subject to change at any time, pending a decision by the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- (c) If a member fails to pay by July 31 of the fiscal year, they will incur a penalty fee of \$100.00 CAD, and their membership will become inactive, making them ineligible for benefits in case of death.

- (d) If a registered Member fails to fulfill their responsibilities, the Executive Committee will terminate their membership after a written notification to the member.
- (e) The Executive Committee Team Leader or Sub Team Leader will contact the member and provide all necessary information.
- (f) If a registered member fails to contribute or attend mandatory meetings, their assigned Team Leader or a member of the Executive Committee will inform them of their default.
- (g) If a registered member does not rectify their default, the Executive Committee will send a final communication requesting settlement by email, text message, or mail.
- (h) If the issue is not resolved within 15 days of the last communication, the Executive Committee will vote on termination of the member's membership.

Article XIX. GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- (a) General contributions refer to payments collected from all registered members to provide to the registered member's loss of family member
- (b) If the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir account does not have enough funds to cover a payment to a registered member who has lost a family member, all registered members may be required to contribute an additional amount of \$50.00.
- (c) General contributions can be made in the event AGM decides to do so to raise funds to meet Edir's obligation.

Article XX. ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION IN THE EVENT OF MULTIPLE DEATHS

- (a) In a situation of multiple death, additional payment of CAD 50 is to be made within seven days of a member's passing.
- (b) If a member has not paid the additional CAD 50 within seven days, there will be a penalty applied.
- (c) All outstanding fees, including NSF and bank fees, will be added to the amount owing.
- (d) If fees are still not paid within 14 days, the member will be considered in default and will not qualify for benefits unless the member has plausible justification for the delay.
- (e) The Executive Committee will send a letter requesting payment within 14 days, including a CAD 100 penalty fee.

(f) If the registered member neglects verbal and written advice from the Executive Committee for 21 days from the first day of default, their membership will be terminated.

Article XXI. MEMBERSHIP TERMINATION

(a) The Board may expel a member from the Edir if the member:

- (i) Failed to abide by the Bylaws;
 - (ii) Misused the Edir's name;
 - (iii) Carried out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Organization, as determined by the Board in its sole discretion; or
 - (iv) For any other reason that the Board, in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the mission and vision of the organization.
- (b) In the event that the Board determines that a member's membership should be terminated:
- (i) Board shall provide twenty (20) days' notice of said required replacement or termination to the member and shall provide reasons of the proposed termination.
 - (ii) The member will be granted an additional twenty (20) days to make a written submission to the Board in response to the notice.
- (c) In the event that the Board receives no written submissions, the Board may proceed to notify the member that its Membership is terminated.
- (d) If written submissions are received in accordance with this section, the Board will consider such submissions in arriving at a final decision and shall notify the member concerning such final decision within a further twenty (20) days from the date of receipt of the submissions.
- (e) The Board's decisions shall be final and binding on the member, without any further right of appeal.
- (f) The Member's voluntary withdrawal.

Article XXII. RESIGNATION OF MEMBERSHIP

(a) Any member may resign from the Edir by providing written notice of such to the Board but upon such withdrawal, the member shall not be entitled to a refund or any portions of the fees that such member has paid.

- (b) A member, on the opinion of the Board, discontinuing the provision of residing in Manitoba for more than six months
- (c) The member's term of membership expires and is not payed all required fee.
- (d) The dissolution of the member; or
- (e) The liquidation or dissolution of the organization under the Act.

Article XXIII. RE-REGISTRATION

- (g) If a former member who has voluntarily left 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir or has been terminated by the Executive Committee wants to re-register, they must follow the membership requirements and receive approval from the Executive Committee.
- (h) After approval, the member must pay a re-registration fee of CAD 250 and clear any outstanding balances since their termination date.
- (i) Once all fees are paid, the member must complete a new membership form to become rejoin the Edir.

Article XXIV. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CHANGES

- (a) Registered members must provide the Executive Committee with updated residential addresses, telephone numbers, and email addresses in writing.
- (b) If a registered member's family status changes or if family members move outside of Winnipeg and its vicinity, they must submit a new completed form immediately.
- (c) If a registered member's child is of eligible age for benefits and is a full-time student, the Executive Committee will require confirmation of enrollment and residence at the same address as the member in case of their death.
- (d) If a registered member's child is attending school in another province, the parent must provide information to ensure eligibility for benefits.
- (e) If a registered member fails to provide necessary information, it could affect their eligibility for benefits in the event of a family member's death.
- (f) If a registered member chooses to end their membership, 50 Lomie Edir will not refund their registration fee or any other contributions made.

Article XXV. DEPENDENTS

(a) To be recognized as a dependent of a registered member, an individual must meet one of the following criteria:

- (i)** The person is the registered member's spouse.
- (ii)** The person is the registered member's child who is under the age of twenty-five and residing in the same residence as their parent.
- (iii)** The person is the registered member's parent or grandparent, without a personal income source, and living in the same residence as their child.

(b) Members child/children "dependent children" is a child who:

- (i)** Lives under the same address with their parent/s in Manitoba, who is under twenty-five-years-old and is not married or in a common law relationship.
- (ii)** Have depended on their parents for financial support since before they reached the age limit of twenty-five.
- (iii)** Cannot financially support themselves due to a mental or physical condition.

(c) When a registered member's child reaches the age of twenty-five and no longer being a dependent:

- (i)** They can join the Edir without being required to pay the registration fee.
- (ii)** However, they must fulfill all the requirements to fully enjoy the benefits of membership. The 50 Lomie Edir strongly encourages parents to motivate their independent children to become part of the Edir community.

(d) If a registered member's parent or grandparent, who had been dependent on their child, starts earning their own income through employment or welfare:

- (i)** They will no longer be considered a dependent.
- (ii)** Should they choose to become a registered member of the Edir, they must complete the application form, pay the registration fee, and fulfill all membership obligations.

Article XXVI. BENEFICIARY

(a) When a person registers to be a member of 50 Lomie Edir, he or she is required to complete a registration form and specify who the assigned beneficiary will be in the event of their passing.

(b) The Executive Committee is responsible to fulfill the wish of the registered deceased member and make the payment according to the documents provided during registration.

Article XXVII. APPOINTMENT OF AN INDIVIDUAL TO ACT ON BEHALF

(a) A member who wishes to appoint an individual to act on their behalf must ensure that the individual they are appointing will fulfill the expected role, as per the guidelines of 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.

(b) If a registered member asks an appointed individual to make the contribution payment, they must provide the appointed person's full name, current contact phone number, and ID number when making the payment.

(c) The appointed person must know the registered member's needs if their wishes are included in the decision-making process.

(d) When a registered member appoints an individual to act on their behalf, it means that the registered member accepts the liability/responsibility of any/all decisions that have been made on their behalf.

Article XXVIII. APPOINTED REPRESENTATIVE

(a) An "Appointed Friend" is a person designated by a registered member of 50 Lomie Edir to act on their behalf in making payments and sharing information.

(b) This individual will have a limited role, such as making contribution payments and passing along information about 50 Lomie Edir meetings.

(c) Unless the "Appointed Friend" provides a legal document to the Executive Committee, they will not be allowed to collect payouts or make any changes on behalf of a deceased registered member or registered family member.

Article XXIX. GUIDELINES FOR MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Section 29.01 Payment Method

(a) When contributing to 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir, members must adhere to the following guidelines:

(i) All membership contributions must be made using one of the following methods:

(ii) eTransfer to :50 Lomie Meredaja Edir, Account No. 0744-5215680, TD Bank, Branch No. 6780

(b) If a member makes the payment at the bank, it is their responsibility to submit the receipt.

(i) The receipt must be included in a text message to the assigned Team Leader, depicting the full name and phone number of the registered member.

(c) If payment is made via e-Transfer,

(i) The member must include a clear message in the message box that includes the name and phone number of the registered member.

(ii) Members must ensure that their full name, current phone number, and ID card number are correctly included when making a payment using one of the accepted methods.

(d) If a member appoints a family member or friend to make a payment on their behalf but fails to ensure that the information of the registered member is included or properly depicted, the payment will be voided.

Section 29.02 Payment Time Period

(a) When a registered member is deceased:

(i) All registered members must be immediately informed of the sad news.

(ii) Team leaders, sub-team leaders, or any other registered member who has been informed of the sad news should inform the Executive Committee of the situation and provide as much detail as possible.

(b) Under this circumstance, the following rules apply:

(i) The Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring that all registered members are informed of the passing of a registered member.

(ii) All registered members are expected to provide emotional and financial support to the registered member.

(iii) The Executive Committee expects registered members to make the payment when asked or directed by the Executive Committee.

Article XXX. PAYMENT OF BENEFIT TO MEMBERS

(a) In the event of the passing of a qualifying member of 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir or their qualifying dependent, 50 Lomie Edir will provide a one-time payment of \$20,000.00 (twenty thousand dollars Canadian) to the registered member or the designated beneficiary.

Article XXXI. ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFIT PAYMENT

- (a)** Benefits will only be paid when the registered member is in good standing in accordance with the guidelines stated in this bylaw.
- (b)** Additionally, the following conditions must be met:
 - (i)** The qualifying family members of the registered member residing at the same residential address are alive.
 - (ii)** The spouse of the registered member is alive.
 - (iii)** A child residing at the same residential address of the registered member and has been supported by the registered member is deceased.
 - (iv)** The parents of the registered member (e.g. father, mother, grandparent(s), aunt, or uncle) who reside at the same residential address of the registered member in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and its vicinity (150 kilometers) are deceased.
 - (v)** The registered member has no arrears.
- (c)** If a registered member's family member passes away, and there are multiple registered members in the family, only one family member will be assigned to receive the benefit CAD 20 thousand Canadian dollar.
- (d)** The registered family member confirms with the Executive Committee the place of residence of the deceased individual with proof that the deceased individual lived at the same residence at the time of death.
- (e)** If a registered member or qualified family member is away on vacation out of the City of Winnipeg, and their vacation has not exceeded six months, the beneficiary is eligible to receive the death benefit by providing proof of death.
- (f)** The Executive Committee has the right to request additional documentation, including a stamped visa or a seal on the travel documents of the deceased. Such supporting documents must be provided to the Executive Committee before the approval of death benefits.
- (g)** If there is a dispute between family members who are also Members of 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir as to who will receive the death benefit, the Executive Committee will require documentation indicating the individual who sponsored the deceased to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

- (h) If immediate family member(s) visit and temporarily reside in a registered member's home and pass away, 50 Lomie Edir will consider supporting this registered member.
- (i) The support will be considered on a case-by-case basis subject to the proof presented to the Executive Committee.
- (j) This coverage will only be considered if the burial takes place in Winnipeg, MB.

Article XXXII. WHEN A REGISTERED MEMBER IS DECEASED - DECLARATION OF INFORMATION

- (a) When a registered member or registered family member is deceased, the registered member, beneficiary, or family member must notify the Executive Committee with the Full Name of the deceased, Date of Death, Date of Birth, current residential address at the time of death, and a current phone number of a family member or a designated person for contact purposes.
- (b) If a registered member passes away while they are outside of Winnipeg temporarily (i.e., away on vacation; medical treatment), a written documentation must be provided to the Executive Committee indicating the registered member has passed, with proof of the date of death and place of death.

Article XXXIII. UNFORESEEN DEATH OF A VISITOR AT A REGISTERED MEMBER'S RESIDENCE

- (a) In the event that a visitor(s) of a 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir member unexpectedly passes away while visiting Winnipeg, Manitoba, or qualified surrounding towns within a 150-kilometer radius from Winnipeg, Manitoba, the 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir will extend assistance through a benefit payment according to the following guidelines:
 - (i) The deceased individual must have been residing in the home of the registered member during their visit.
 - (ii) If the registered member is making arrangements for the funeral of the deceased to take place in Winnipeg, Manitoba, or if they plan to transport the remains to the desired burial location or country (e.g., sending the deceased to Ethiopia / Eritrea, etc.), they will be eligible for the benefit.

- (iii) The death benefit payment for the registered member in this situation will amount to 7 thousand Canadian Dollar.
- (iv) It is the responsibility of the registered member to contact the 50 Lomie Executive Committee to provide justification and evidence regarding the unforeseen circumstances surrounding the incident.
- (v) The Executive Committee retains the right to approve or decline the payout of the death benefit based on the information provided.

Article XXXIV. EMERGENCY FUND AND PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT

- (a) If the number of registered members increases, contributions may be adjusted accordingly. Members at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) must approve the adjustment (increase/decrease).
- (b) The 50 Lomie Edir intends to keep an emergency fund in its account equivalent to, but not exceeding, five bereavement payments, i.e., CAD 100, 000.
- (c) If the collected amount exceeds 100 thousand Canadian Dollar, the Executive Committee will notify the general members to discuss future goals and plans for payment collection. If the general members approve of the funds exceeding the allowable amount of 100 thousand Canadian Dollar, the Executive Committee will proceed with a vote and implement the members' decision.
- (d) As 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir continues to flourish, both in membership and in financial stability, we will enhance our services for the betterment of our members. This commitment entails increasing benefit payments and introducing new services as required.
- (e) However, any modifications to our services will be subject to approval by our members through votes held during the Annual General Meetings (AGMs).

Article XXXV. PROPERTY

- (a) Any acquisition of property or equipment must receive approval from the general members and be officially registered as the property of 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir.

Article XXXVI. WEBSITE AND PUBLICATION

- (a) The website for 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir is www.50lomie.com.

- (b) Any requested advertisements and/or marketing matters must be discussed and approved by the Executive Committee prior to publishing the requested posting(s).
- (c) The Executive Committee must also approve any changes to the website or postings.
- (d) Documentation, logos, and email addresses of 50 Lomie Edir can only be used for the organization's use.
- (e) The 50 Lomie Edir Executive Committee uses applications such as Viber, WhatsApp, Emo, Telegram, etc. If a member misuse or post personal items on the group platform, he or she could be penalized, including up to termination of their membership.

Article XXXVII. AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

Section 37.01 Amendment of Articles

- (a) The articles of the Organization may only be amended if the amendment is sanctioned by a special resolution of the members.
- (b) Any amendment to the articles is effective on the date shown in the certificate of amendment.

Section 37.02 Amendment of Bylaws

- (a) 50 Lomie Meredaja Edir members may by special resolution, make, amend or repeal any bylaws that regulate the activities or affairs of the organization.
- (b) Any such bylaw amendment or repeal shall be effective from the date of the special resolution of the members approving such bylaw amendment or repeal.

Article XXXVIII. DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

Section 38.01 Dissolution

- (a) The organization may be dissolved by special resolution at a duly called annual general meeting or special meetings of the members.

Section 38.02 Outstanding Liabilities

- (a) Upon dissolution, all outstanding liabilities are to be paid.

Section 38.03 Disbursement of Assets

- (a) Should there be any assets, after the liabilities have been paid, they shall be given to a charity of the members' choosing in accordance with the Bylaw.

Article XXXIX. EFFECTIVE DATE

- (a) This bylaw shall be enacted by the Board of Directors and shall be effective on the date on which is it approved by special resolution of the Membership.

