

BY-LAW NO. 2

Be the General By-laws of HASKAP BERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO INC.

(Approved February 28, 2024, AGM)

1. NAME

1.1 Haskap Berry Growers Association of Ontario Inc. (Here-in-after known as HBGAO, the Association, or the Corporation)

The Fruit that is to be governed by these by-laws bears the scientific name, *Lonicera caerulea*. (Here-in-after referred to as "Haskap or Haskaps").

2. TERMINOLOGY

In this by-law and all other by-laws of the Corporation, unless the context otherwise requires:

"**Act**" means the Ontario Ministry of the Attorney General "*Corporations Act*" (*and the regulations made under it*) and any statute or regulations that may be substituted, as amended from time to time at the discretion of the Minister, specifically for Not-for-Profit corporations.

"**Articles**" means the original or restated articles of incorporation or articles of amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganization, arrangement or revival of the Corporation.

"**Board**" means the board of directors of the Corporation and "**Director**" means a Member of the Board.

"**By-law**" means this by-law and any other by-law of the Corporation as amended and which are, from time to time, in force and effect.

"**Meeting of members**" includes an annual meeting of members or a special meeting of members.

"**Special meeting of members**" includes a meeting of any class or classes of members and a special meeting of all members entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting of members.

"**Ordinary resolution**" means a resolution passed by a majority of not less than 50% plus 1 of the votes cast on that resolution.

"**Proposal**" means a proposal submitted by a member of the Corporation.

"**Regulations**" means the regulations made under the Act, as amended, restated or in effect from time to time.

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

Interpretation

Interpretations are intended to comply with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA)

In the interpretation of this by-law, words in the singular include the plural and vice-versa, words in one gender include all genders, and "person" includes an individual, body corporate, partnership, trust and unincorporated organization.

Other than as specified above, words and expressions have the same meanings when used in these by-laws

3. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

- 3.1** The principal purpose of this Association is to support Ontario Haskap Growers.
- 3.2** Develop the Haskap industry in Ontario primarily through “on-field” management research via financial support from government agencies (and other interested partners).
- 3.3** Develop, collect, and disseminate relevant “farm specific” information on Haskap Management to all members of the Incorporation.
- 3.4** Link with Universities and Government Agencies in “basic research” that will enhance the viability of the Ontario Haskap industry.
- 3.5** Promote Haskap products to the Ontario public via leadership in “Sales and Marketing” through member education and public promotion.
- 3.6** Link individual HBGAO members to each other, both in their specific regions and across Ontario as a whole.
- 3.7** Link with the Haskap Canada Association, and all other “regional” Haskap grower associations, in order to foster cooperation and communication for the betterment of this industry.

4. MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Active Voting Member

- 4.1.1** Is defined as an individual involved in, by direct or indirect ownership (farm family, partnership or corporation), with a minimum three hundred (**300**) Haskap bushes planted in the Province of Ontario, with the end goal of selling Haskap fruit &/or value added product.
- 4.1.2** Such individuals must have their membership paid in full by January 31 of each year for eligibility to vote at the AGM. The HBGAO Voting Membership fee is set at \$100.00.
- 4.1.3** A voting member is eligible to run for a position on the Board of Directors and eligible to assist on a Committee(s).
- 4.1.4** A voting member is bound by these bylaws.

4.2 Non-Voting Member (No voting rights)

- 4.2.1** Is defined as an individual residing in Ontario, with LESS than **300** Haskap bushes, or who are only interested in selling Haskap fruit/products. The HBGAO Non-voting Membership fee is set at \$75.00.
- 4.2.2** A non-voting member is eligible to assist on a committee(s).

4.2.3 A non-voting member is bound by these By-laws.

4.3 Associate Member (NO voting rights)

4.3.1 Is defined as an individual, partnership, firm, business directly or indirectly involved, or interested in the research, management, or the promotion of Haskap, (as a plant or as an industry) and is eligible to be an Associate member, as decided by the Board of Directors. The HBGAO Associate Membership fee is set at \$25.00.

4.3.2 An associate member is eligible to assist on a committee(s)

4.4 Membership fees

4.4.1 Membership fees paid to HBGAO are due upon initial registration and thereafter on January 02 of each year.

4.4.2 The Board of Directors determines the annual dues, which are applied annually. Membership can be transferred on request to a family member or business partner during that year.

4.4.3 HBGAO will be charged a standard provincial rate by Haskap Canada Association that will recognize all HBGAO members as being part of a Provincial organization.

4.4.4 Membership fees will not be prorated.

4.5 Membership Application

4.5.1 Applications for membership must be submitted on prescribed forms.

4.6 Member in Good Standing

4.6.1 Is defined as a member who has met its financial obligations to the Association and who has not been suspended from active membership.

4.7 Financial Liability

4.7.1 The financial liability of members shall be the amount due in respect of membership fees and any other fees or services due to the Association.

4.8 Rights and Privileges

4.8.1 Only members in good standing can enjoy the rights and privileges of membership.

4.9 Fees and Date of Membership

4.9.1 Membership coincides with the calendar year of January 01 to December 31.

4.9.2 Membership fees are due on or before January 02. Cheques submitted must be dated January 02. Members not having paid their fees by January 31 shall be removed from the membership.

4.9.3 Members dropped from the rolls under the provisions of Section **4.9.2** shall be reinstated upon payment of their full fees in arrears for the current calendar year.

4.10 Voting

4.10.1 Only active voting members in good standing may vote or propose amendments to these By-laws.

4.10.2 Even when all other conditions have been waived, the right to vote is contingent upon the voting member's name appearing on the membership rolls at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.

4.10.3 A voting member shall have a single vote.

4.11 Proxy Voting :

4.11.1 No proxy voting is allowed in any HBGAO meeting.

4.12 Eligibility to Hold Office

4.12.1 To be eligible to hold office, the voting member must reside in Canada, own a minimum of **300** Haskap bushes in the Province of Ontario, be 18 years of age or older, and is a member in good standing at the time of election.

4.12.2 It may also be any individual who is deemed an asset to the HBGAO and its industry, despite not owning a 300 plant Haskap orchard. This person can be appointed by the Board of Directors at any time, with the term ending at the following AGM.

4.13 Honorary HBGAO Associate

4.13.1 The Board of Directors may name individuals associated with educational facilities, governments, private industry and similar organizations as “Honorary Associates” in recognition of their work in the Haskap Berry industry.

4.13.2 Honorary Members pay No dues, and have NO voting rights, but receive all installments of The HASKAP BERRY BULLETIN and invitations to attend HBGAO educational events by waiving all entrance fees for these individuals.

5. SUSPENSION, EXPULSION, INFRACTIONS AND PENALTIES

5.1 Membership Suspension or Expulsion

5.1.1 The Board of Directors with Quorum may decide to suspend a member's privilege for a specific period, until the requirements as stated by the Board of Directors are fulfilled.

5.1.2 When the Board of Directors decides to expel a member, the vote must be carried by a 100% consensus.

5.2 Suspended Registrations

5.2.1 The Board of Directors may suspend any registration, with reasons, (with 15 days notice). Any such suspension shall remain in effect until rescinded by the Board of Directors.

5.2.2 At least five (5) days in advance of removal, the individual must be provided an opportunity to address the decision-makers in writing, orally, or by another electronic means.

5.3 Expulsion

5.3.1 Expulsion means loss of membership privileges for an indefinite or limited period of time as set by Board of Directors.

5.4 Suspension/Expulsion by the Board of Directors

5.4.1 The Board of Directors shall be empowered to suspend or expel any member who contravenes or fails to observe these By-laws in accordance with these By-laws.

5.4.2 Suspended or expelled individuals have sixty (60) days in which to appeal to the Board of Directors for reinstatement. At its next meeting, the Board of Directors shall

reinstate the individual if so voted by a majority of the directors. Anyone failing in such an appeal may submit his request for reinstatement to the next Annual General Meeting, which requires ratification by a minimum of two-thirds of the attending members that are eligible to vote.

5.5 Responsibility

5.5.1 Suspended or expelled members shall have no claim to Association property or assets.

5.6 Expulsion or Suspension of a Director or Executive Director

5.6.1 Any Director or Executive Director who fails to uphold their duties may be removed by a majority vote of the remaining Board of Directors. Following their removal the Board may recruit and replace such a member immediately.

5.6.2 Any Director or Executive Director, who misses three (3) consecutive meetings without prior notice to the chair, may be at risk of being removed from their position.

5.6.3 Any Director or Executive Director, who misses half of yearly meetings, may be removed from office by a majority vote from the remaining board members. This position will be filled at the next Annual General Meeting.

5.6.4 All Directors or Executive Directors of HBGAO affirms their commitment to the Objectives of HBGO, reflected in its Bylaws and other HBGAO policies. It is expected that members in good standing will work collaboratively to strengthen the Association and industry, and will not engage in any activities that put HBGAO in financial or structural jeopardy, will not engage in any activity that would undermine the stated Objectives of this organization, nor engage in any activities that will bring discredit to HBGAO.

5.6.5 Any Director or Executive Director deemed in conflict with the above statement may be removed from office by a majority vote of the remaining Directors. Following their removal the Board may recruit and replace such a member immediately.

6. OFFICES

6.1. The head offices of the Association shall be located in Ontario at a location specified by the Board of Directors.

7. FISCAL YEAR

7.1 The Association's fiscal year end shall be December 31 of each year.

8. DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, AND COMMITTEES

8.1 Structure

8.1.1 HBGAO business shall be conducted by a Board of Directors comprised of a five (5) person Executive, that will include CHAIRPERSON, VICE-CHAIRPERSON, Secretary, Treasurer, Director of Media. They will be supported by a maximum of four (4) Directors at Large. Directors at Large may be any voting member in good standing who may be interested in becoming a future executive board member. They may also be a non-voting member who the Board of Directors requests to act as an advisor.

8.1.2 No member shall hold more than one Executive HBGAO office at a time for a two (2) year period.

8.1.3 Upon completion of the two (2) year term, Directors can be re-elected to any position, repeatedly.

8.1.4 The outgoing Chairperson may sit with full privileges as an ex-officio director until that outgoing person is replaced.

8.1.5 Board of Directors positions will be elected for a two (2) year term as a “rolling Board”.

8.1.6 The elected Board of Directors will decide who will form the Executive for each two (2) year term.

8.1.7 The Past-Chair Person may act as an advisor to the Board of Directors, upon invitation of the sitting board, for up to two (2) years. Upon Invitation they may attend all Board meetings. Past Presidents do not have voting rights.

8.1.8 Any member of the Board of Directors may be appointed to serve as either the HBGAO “representative Director” or as the “representative Silent Observer” to Haskap Canada Association.

8.1.9 Directors do not have to be “Members”, but can be appointed by the Board of Directors to fill a vacant position for a period ending with the next AGM.

8.1.10 An elected or appointed Director is not legally in that position until that person has signed a standard form letter stating their name, their mailing address, the full name of the organization, and the date of the election or appointment.

8.2 Election of Offices by the Board of Directors

8.2.1 At the Annual General Meeting, the voting members shall elect the directors from among all voting members in good standing.

8.2.2 Ontario is divided into Southern Counties and Northern Districts. As of 2019, growers are spread about evenly between the two Zones. Both Zones must be represented on the Board of Directors. Therefore:

- Southern Zone must be represented by at least three (3) active voting members.
- Northern Zone must be represented by at least three (3) active voting members.

- The remaining three (3) Board positions are available to any active voting members.

8.2.3 Definitions and Roles

8.2.4 Chairperson– Executive member who will serve two (2) years as the HBGAO Chairperson

- *Vice-Chairperson* – Executive member who will serve two (2) years as the HBGAO Vice-Chairperson. This person will work in collaboration with the Director of Media.
- *Secretary* - If this position is filled by a paid employee (administrator), the Secretary of the board will oversee the duties of this position for two (2) years. The Board of Directors may appoint a secretary who does not need to be a member of HBGAO.
- *Treasurer*- If this position is filled by a paid employee, the Treasurer of the board will oversee the duties of this position for two (2) years. The Board of Directors may appoint a treasurer who does not have to be a member of the HBGAO.
- *Director of Media* – Is responsible for a website, plus traditional and social media exchanges, working under the authorization of the Vice President.
- *Directors at Large* - A maximum of Four (4) will accept tasks assigned to them by the Executive. These positions can be considered in-training experience for future Executive positions.

8.3 Communication- Board of Directors

8.3.1 A copy of the minutes of every Board meeting shall be distributed to all Board Members, by the Secretary, within ten (10) days following the meeting.

8.4 Vacancies

8.4.1 Vacancies on the Executive Board of Directors caused by the resignation, dismissal, or death of a Director must be filled by a voting member in good standing to be elected during the next board meeting.

8.4.2. The Position can be filled from one of the existing Board of Directors without office. This individual might also be a member or even a non-member. The replacement Director will fulfill the remaining obligation of that position's term and is eligible for re-election at the next Annual General meeting.

8.4.3 If the Vacancy is an individual from the Board of Directors that does not hold an Executive office, the Board of Directors shall decide at the next Board of Directors the best approach to take to fill the position before recruitment commences.

8.5. Chairperson

- 8.5.1** Presides over the HBGAO and Board.
- 8.5.2** Supervises general HBGAO business.
- 8.5.3** Conduct acts and duties in accordance with the functions of a President.
- 8.5.4** Accepts to be responsible for the recruitment of new producers.
- 8.5.5** Ensures that the members adhere to the HBGAO By-laws and Objectives.
- 8.5.6** Shall or may sit as a member of all committees.
- 8.5.7** Collaborates with the Secretary, Treasurer and other parties to organize meetings and prepare agendas.
- 8.5.8** Works with the Treasurer to ensure audits are conducted.
- 8.5.9** Works with the Vice-President on media issues.

8.6 Vice-Chairperson

- 8.6.1** Is elected in the same manner as the President and shall perform the functions of the President, and/or Secretary, Treasurer, in their absence or as requested.
- 8.6.2** Works with Director of Media and is responsible for website content.
- 8.6.3** Acquires photos for the web site and from membership.
- 8.6.4** Organizes a yearly Board meeting at the Annual General meeting, discusses site requests and meet objectives set.
- 8.6.5** Works in conjunction with the graphic designer /Director of Media.
- 8.6.6** Provides website reports or updates at meetings.
- 8.6.7** Recruits new producers.

8.7 Secretary

- 8.7.1** Records and manages minutes of board meetings and sends copies to membership.
- 8.7.2** Signs Board minutes to attest to their accuracy and ensures effective management of the Association's records.

8.7.3 Takes minutes during all board meetings, and for other meeting when requested.

8.7.4 Recruits new producers.

8.7.5 Facilitates surveys and voting.

8.7.6 Files yearly documentation to Government such as Annual Returns, changes to By-laws, the Association's Business address, and any changes of the Board of Directors such as the names, positions and contact information.

8.7.7 Forwards HBGAO Bylaw changes to the Haskap Canada Association for their review, and to ensure they are not in conflict with Haskap Canada Association's Objectives.

8.8 Treasurer

8.8.1 Deposits all monies received by the Association.

8.8.2 Maintains the Association's account books or other items generally included.

8.8.3 Produces periodically, a detailed financial statement and reports on other transactions in accordance with instructions from the Board of Directors.

8.8.4 Works in collaboration with the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson to complete Annual Corporate filings.

8.8.5 Completes Association payables in a timely manner.

8.8.6 Prepares the budget with the assistance of the board.

8.8.7 Presents the budget and financial statements at meetings.

8.8.8 Updates new member and paid member information.

8.8.9 Recruits new producers.

8.8.10 Maintains an accurate, updated list of voting members in good standing referred to as the "voting members".

8.8.11 Submits appropriate funds to the Haskap Canada Association by February 15 of each year.

8.8.12 The Treasurer must supply MEMBERS with financial statements and "auditor's Reports" whenever a member asks for them.

8.8.13 The Treasurer must send all MEMBERS the financial statements (or summary of them) at least 5 days prior to the AGM.

8.9 Director of Media

8.9.1 Oversees Web-site production section.

8.9.2 Directs members to targeted agricultural programs (such as Ontario Environmental Farm Plan program, Canada GAP) and provides other contact information as required.

8.9.3 Collaborates with members on industry needs, including research, & funding.

8.9.4 Collects data on Membership production information, reports to Membership and Board, through a yearly survey/ enrolment. The board may use a 3rd party consultant for data collection.

8.9.5 Reports to Board and membership communications that are conducted with independent growers regarding farm research and other type of research projects.

8.9.6 Recruits new producers.

8.9.7 Chairs yearly educational symposium(s).

8.9.8 Ensures summer symposium rotates between the North & South Zones of the province, unless the Board votes on a change of location.

8.9.9 Manages a list of "Frequently Asked Questions" and appropriate responses for all social media outreach by HBGAO.

8.10 Director at Large (4)

8.10.1 Assists or leads tasks as requested by the board.

8.10.2 Recruits new producers.

8.10.3 Fills vacancies that occur in the Executive ranks from time to time.

8.11 Special Committees

8.11.1 The Board may request Association members to help with special committees that must be chaired by a Director.

8.11.2 Committee decisions deemed worthy by the Chair must be submitted to the Board of Directors for approval. These include but are not limited to contacts, financial requirements and commitments.

8.11.3 Appointed Committee Chair, must provide a report at the next Board meeting and present the results of the committee meeting.

8.12 Representatives

8.12.1 The Board of Directors may appoint a representative of the HBGAO to attend agricultural industry association meetings, gatherings, and/or also conferences, as is deemed by the Board of Directors.

8.12.2 The Board of Directors will appoint one of their number to serve as the HBGAO “Representative Director” to Haskap Canada Association. This person will have the authority to vote for the HBGAO at all HCA meetings, except when the HCA requires that all Directors must first consult their regional Executive. This person will provide verbal reports to regular executive meetings and a written report of annual HCA activities to the HBGAO AGM.

8.12.3 The Board of Directors will appoint one of their number to serve as the “Silent Observer” to Haskap Canada Association. This person may listen to and comment on issues discussed at all HCA meetings, but does not have the authority to vote (UNLESS the official HBGAO “Representative Director” is unable to attend the HCA meeting). The “Silent Observer” is considered to be in training to be the eventual replacement of the “Representative Director” for HBGAO on the HCA Board of Directors.

8.13 Cheque Signing

8.13.1 ALL cheques issued by the HBGAO must be signed by two (2) of the following Executive directors – Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson Secretary, Treasurer.

8.13.2 Expenditures over \$1000 will need the majority approval of the Board of Directors.

8.13.3 A modern technical system for cheque co-signing may be arranged at a bank.

8.14 Remuneration of Directors

8.14.1 Directors shall receive no remuneration for serving on the Board of Directors.

8.14.2 Directors will be reimbursed for costs incurred in carrying out approved HBGAO business, in as much as the HBGO’s income will allow.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

9.1 Responsibilities

9.1.1 All incoming and outgoing communications can be viewed by Voting Board Directors.

9.1.2 On the first meeting after the AGM, Board of Directors members will meet to decide, and vote on which director(s) will be responsible for specific communication files.

9.1.3 Outgoing communications will be responded to by the appropriate Director.

9.2 Procedures

9.2.1 Pre-formatted letters will be written by Executive Board of Directors. These Pre-formatted letters will be used to respond to most of the inquiries. They will be reviewed yearly by the Executive, for possible changes. As Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on Website are populated, pre-formatted letters may be deleted.

10. AUDITOR

10.1 The association shall appoint one (1) or more Auditors at each Annual General Meeting (AGM). The auditor(s) may be a voting member at large and does NOT need to be an outside accounting firm.

10.2 The Auditing Individual(s) shall examine the financial statements of HBGAO and its supporting documents; confirm the accuracy of the statements of receipt and expenditures, and the assets and liabilities for the fiscal year and then reported at the next AGM.

10.3 An audit is required from a Certified Public Accountant if HBGAO receives More than \$10,000 in a financial year from a government, non-member individuals, or organizations... UNLESS the HBGAO pass an "extraordinary resolution" at an AGM (annually) that says that HBGAO doesn't need to do an audit and a review engagement (see ONCA regulations). At least 80% of members must agree in writing.

11. MEETINGS

11.1 Annual General Meeting, (AGM)

11.1.1 The HBGAO AGM meeting

(to be held annually, in February) shall be held either in-person, digital, phone, or by hybrid means, and members can vote the same way, or as specified by the meeting Chair, who will decide how to record votes.

11.1.2 Meeting notices must be sent to each voting member to their last email address on record at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled meeting and/or by a notice in the HBGAO official website no earlier than 50 days before a meeting.

11.1.3 For general meetings held by email or teleconference, the board of directors may choose to send by email, to each member in good standing, a ballot and an agenda of the resolutions requiring a decision.

11.1.4 A location need not be identified for online Board of Members meetings, but communications must include login and voting instructions.

11.1.5 All meetings must allow for two-way communications. (Meetings cannot be held by E-mail.) Participants must be able to speak, listen to, or live chat each other at the same time.

11.1.6 Meetings must allow for virtual access to records for members who all have the right to ask to see them.

11.1.7 Quorum is required and shall be established by the number of ballots returned by email to the indicated address within ten (10) days of receipt. A majority vote is sufficient to carry a decision.

11.1.8 All original documents shall be maintained at the HBGAO Head Office, or at a location appointed by the Board of Directors.

11.1.9 At its last board meeting, prior to the Annual General Meeting, the Directors shall, appoint a special AGM committee that will certify the results for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

11.1.10 The Secretary shall be responsible for the preparation and custody of Minutes of meetings of the HBGAO and of meetings of the Board of Directors.

11.1.11 Archived and current documents will be supported by electronic versions readily available on the HBGAO website, and in compliance with government requirements.

11.2 Board of Directors Meetings

11.2.1 Electronic Board meetings shall be held at least every second month, except in Summer where there is a three month absence for work purposes. The date of the next meeting should be set at the end of each Board meeting.

11.2.2 Electronic Board meetings can be held with shorter notice or without any notice subject to approval by Directors. In such instances, the minutes shall reflect the decision(s).

11.2.3 Board or Director Meetings may be held by Electronic, teleconference or in-person. Quorum as provided under section 11.4.2. is required

11.2.4 If Board meetings are held via electronic conference, verbal vote confirmation is acceptable. A majority vote is sufficient to carry a decision. Original documents shall be maintained at the head office by the authorized person. The directors shall, at the last board meeting prior to the Annual General Meeting, appoint a supervisory committee that will certify the results for presentation at the Annual General Meeting.

11.3 Committee Meetings

11.3.1 Calls to Committee meetings may be e-mailed, phoned or group messaged to committee members at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting.

11.3.2 Electronic Committee Meetings can be held with shorter notice, subject to approval by all members. In such instances, the minutes shall reflect the decision(s).

11.3.3 The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson will be informed of Committee meetings, and given the option to participate in the meeting or teleconference.

11.4 Quorum

11.4.1 The quorum for the AGM or any General Meetings shall be no less than THREE (3) voting members present at the meeting. Members may also be present via hybrid teleconference.

11.4.2 The quorum for Board of Director meetings shall be no less than THREE (3) board members in attendance.

11.4.3 The Chairperson will vote as a regular Director. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson does NOT use a tie-breaking vote. The motion is automatically voted down in case of a tied vote.

11.5. AGM Voting

11.5.1 Voting at the AGM meeting will be conducted by the raising of hands of the voting members present. Teleconference Members will vote by voice.

11.5.2 Motions must receive a majority of 50% plus 1 to be accepted and carried.

11.5.3 The Chairperson will vote at the same time as all other members. In the event of a tie the Chairperson does NOT get a tie-breaking vote, and the motion is thereby voted down.

12. AGENDAS

12.1 The agenda for Board and Annual General Meetings shall follow the following pattern:

1. Roll call
2. Determining if a quorum has been met
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Approval of the minutes from previous meeting
5. Business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting
6. Correspondence
7. Reports from Directors and Committee(s)
8. Old business

9. New business (Nominations of positions if AGM)
10. Amendments to bylaws, at AGM
11. Set date for next meeting (Except AGM)
12. Adjournment

12.2 Robert's Rules of Order shall serve as a guide during all meetings.

13. AUDITOR'S REPORT AND YEARLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT

13.1 Documentation

13.1.1 The books, accounts and records of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be audited at least once each year by a duly qualified accountant (CPA), or by two members of the HBGO, who are elected for that purpose at the Annual General Meeting.

13.1.2 The books and records of the HBGAO may be inspected by any Voting member of the Association at the Annual Meeting, or at any other time. Reasonable notice must be given to arrange a time satisfactory to the Director or Directors who have the responsibility for the books and records. Each member of the Board shall at all times have access to such books and records. Ideally, electronic books will be developed, should provincial regulations permit.

13.2 Submission Dates

13.2.1 A complete and proper statement of the standing of the books for the previous year shall be submitted by such auditing individuals at the Annual Meeting of the HBGAO.

14. AMENDMENTS

14.1 These By-laws may be amended during the Annual General Meeting by a two-thirds vote of attending voting members.

14.2 Proposed amendments must be signed by two members in good standing, submitted to the Board of Directors at least forty five (45) days prior to the AGM, and distributed to all members at the same time as the call to meeting which is thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. Otherwise, the proposal cannot be tabled at the Annual General Meeting.

14.3 The wording of the By-law amendment may be changed at the time of the meeting.

14.4 Haskap Canada must receive by-law amendments in order to review the purposes and to ensure that HBGAO's changes are not in conflict with HCA By-laws and objectives.

15. DISSOLUTION

15.1 As a public benefit organization, but not a charity, the assets of HBGAO Inc upon dissolution would go to one of the following...

- * a public benefit organization with a purpose similar to HBGAO Inc
- * a registered charity
- * a government agency
- * a municipality

HEAD OFFICE OF RECORD (FEBRUARY 28, 2024)

450 Ethel Street, Haileybury, City of Temiskaming Shores, Ontario, POJ 1K0