

# GILLAMS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## CONSTITUTION

### ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this society shall be ***Gillams Historical Society***.

### ARTICLE II: Purpose

The purpose of this society shall be to bring together those people interested in history, and especially in the history of Gillams, Newfoundland and Labrador. Understanding the history of our community is basic to our democratic way of life, gives us a better understanding of our province and nation, and promotes a better appreciation of our Canadian heritage.

The society's major function will be to discover and collect any material which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the area: its exploration, settlement, development, and activities in peace and in war; its progress in population, wealth, education, arts, science, agriculture, manufactures, trade, and transportation. It will collect printed material such as histories, genealogies, biographies, descriptions, gazetteers, directories, newspapers, pamphlets, catalogues, circulars, handbills, programs, and posters; manuscript material such as letters, diaries, journals, memoranda, reminiscences, rosters, service records, account books, charts, surveys, and field books; and museum material such as pictures, photographs, paintings, portraits, scenes, aboriginal relics, and material objects illustrative of life, conditions, events, and activities of the past and the present.

The society will provide for the preservation of such material and for its accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who wish to examine or study it, to co-operate with officials in insuring the preservation and accessibility of the records and archives of Gilams, its institutions, and to undertake the preservation of historic buildings, monuments, and markers.

The society will disseminate historical information and arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material; by holding meetings with pageants, addresses, lectures, papers, and discussion; by marking historic buildings, sites, and trails; and by using the media of radio, television and the Internet to awaken public interest.

The society will co-operate with the provincial Department of Culture and Heritage, the Museum Association of Newfoundland and Labrador and the Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Archives to collect and preserve materials of province-wide significance so that these materials can be made available to students and scholars.

### ARTICLE III: Membership

Membership shall be of five classes:

1. Individual active members: Any person interested in the purposes of the society shall be eligible.
2. Institutional members: Any organization, board, school, or library interested in the history of Gillams and the North Shore of the Bay of Islands shall be eligible.
3. Contributing and sustaining members:  
A person, group or firm offering special support to the objectives of the society shall be eligible.
4. Honorary members: Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person whose activities have contributed to the objectives of the society. Honorary members shall be elected by a three-fourths vote of members present at an annual meeting, upon nomination by the board of directors.
5. Life members: [individual only].

### ARTICLE IV: Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the society shall be held during the Month of March.

### ARTICLE V: Officers and Board of Directors

- Section 1: The officers shall be a president, a vice-president, and a secretary, who shall be elected for a term of one year; and a treasurer, and three directors, who shall be elected for a term of three years.
- Section 2: The officers and directors shall constitute the board of directors.

## ARTICLE VI: Election of Officers and Board of Directors

- Section 1: All officers and directors shall be elected by a plurality of votes cast by secret ballot at the annual meeting.
- Section 2: Not less than two months prior to the annual meeting, the secretary of the society shall send to each member of the board of directors a blank upon which such member may nominate one person for each office open to election. Nominations shall be returned not less than one month before the annual meeting.
- Section 3: Nominations may also be made by any member of the society at any time prior to balloting at the annual meeting. A candidate for election shall be an individual active member.
- Section 4: A person who has been elected to the board of directors for two consecutive terms, or elected as president or vice-president for three consecutive terms, shall not be nominated to the same office unless one year elapses between the end of his last term and the beginning of the term for which he is nominated.
- Section 5: Officers and directors shall be installed at the close of the annual meeting at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and installed. In the event of resignation or incapacity of any officer except the president, or any director, the vacancy may be filled by a vote of the members of the society for the unexpired term of office.

## ARTICLE VII: Amendment

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the total membership, provided notice was given at the previous meeting. Or it may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose, with previous notice and a two-thirds vote. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing.