

Resolutions Instruction Sheet

Section 8 of Policy 15 of THE UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL provides the following process to presenting proposed resolutions for Sobor:¹

8. The following procedure will be used for bringing forward resolutions:

8.1 A Resolutions Committee will be struck by the Consistory at least eighteen months prior to the Sobor. The Committee will be chaired by a member of the Consistory and will consist of members of the Consistory and others. The Committee will be as representative of the Church as a whole as feasible in terms of age, gender, diocese, and location. The optimum number of members on the Committee is 10-12.

*(Note: At its meetings several years ago, the Consistory Board decided to combine the Resolutions Committee with the standing By-Laws Committee and the Policy and Procedures Committee [**By-Laws Committee**]. The By-Laws Committee currently consists of nine members.)*

8.2 The Resolutions Committee [**By-Laws Committee**] will present a preliminary draft of proposed resolutions for discussion by the Consistory at its fall meeting (currently November) prior to the Sobor.

*(Note: A background paper with attached discussion papers proposing certain bylaw amendments and policy changes which could be the subject of Sobor resolutions was presented to the 2019 Fall meeting of the Consistory Board which took place in December 2019. This material has now been forwarded to the Governance Review Committee. However, given the experience resulting from addressing issues that arose because of the Coronavirus, it has become apparent that additional or revised By-Law amendments may be necessary and prudent. Any new resolutions coming from parishes must be submitted by **February 11, 2022**. In view of the timelines currently in place due to all the circumstances, a discussion of the resolutions will take place at a special meeting of the Consistory between **February 11 and March 7, 2022**.)*

8.3 Following the adoption of the preliminary draft of proposed resolutions by the Consistory, the preliminary draft of proposed resolutions will be sent before the end of February to all priests and parish executives of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada for discussion, amendment, additions, deletions, and prioritization. With the blessing of the Metropolitan, priests and parish executives will convene special meetings of their parishes for this purpose. All parishes will be instructed to submit their comments and any new resolutions to the Resolutions Committee [**By-Laws Committee**] by March 31. All parishes will be advised that this will be their primary opportunity to submit proposed resolutions and ensure their consideration at the Sobor.

¹ **NOTE: The timelines laid out in policy will not apply due to circumstances all too well known by everyone. Please ignore those timelines and follow the ones set out in the accompanying letter and highlighted in bold in the italicized notes in this document.**

*(Note: The By-Laws Committee held a preliminary discussion of its proposed resolutions as they pertain to amending the UOCC By-Laws in early February 2020. The By-Laws Committee presented the preliminary draft to the Consistory Board for discussion and approval by teleconference at the end of February 2020. These were approved by the Consistory Board. They will be circulated to the parishes in due course. Comments and observations respecting the Consistory Board's proposed resolutions will be entertained if submitted by **April 4, 2022**, parishes must keep in mind that under Paragraph 21.02 of the UOCC By-Laws, any **resolutions proposing bylaw amendments must be submitted to the Presidium of the Consistory by no later than February 11, 2022.**)*

8.4 The Resolutions Committee [**By-Laws Committee**] will meet following March 31 to study all the submissions and present a coherent list of proposed resolutions to the Consistory at its spring meeting (usually in May).

*(Note: Under Paragraph 12.05 of the UOCC By-Laws, a list, but not the text, of proposed resolutions must be published by **March 11, 2022.**)*

8.5 Following the approval of the proposed resolutions by the Consistory, the resolutions will be sent to all delegates to the Sobor for their further consideration.

*(Note: Under Paragraph 21.03 of the UOCC By-Laws, resolutions proposing bylaw amendments in the form of a notice of motion must be published on or before **April 12, 2021.**)*

8.6 At the Sobor, the resolutions will again be presented to all delegates as soon as feasible following the opening of the Sobor. The presentation of the resolutions will be made by members of the Resolutions Committee or by persons designated by the Resolutions Committee.

8.7 The delegates will then be divided into as many discussion groups as there are groups of resolutions. The discussion groups will be representative insofar as possible of all dioceses, all areas of the country, all sizes of parishes, clergy, and membership (age, gender). Each group will discuss each of the major areas under the guidance of a facilitator/recorder and with the assistance of experts in each area (e.g., chairs of Consistory committees). Even though all the membership will have had an opportunity to discuss this material at the parish level, this will be the one opportunity for working out differences that may exist, for example, among various parts of the country, large/small parishes, etc. It is intended that these differences be worked out at this point in order that the final discussion/debate on the floor not be unduly drawn out.

8.8 Ideally, voting on the resolutions will take place on the day following their presentation to the Sobor. Comments/questions from the floor will be limited to two minutes per person. A person may address each resolution only once. Concerted effort will be made to alternate between speakers speaking in favour of and against a given resolution. How long each resolution will be discussed, will be at the discretion of the Resolutions Committee.

8.9 Resolutions which have been moved, seconded, and submitted in writing from the floor will be discussed following the voting on the resolutions which were submitted through the process

outlined above. There will be a definite time limit (e.g., one hour) established by the Resolutions Committee for the discussion of resolutions from the floor.

8.10 Voting will be by a show of hands (with the official delegate voting card) or by standing or, on the request of at least five members of the Sobor who are present, by secret ballot.

9. Delegates taking part in any of the above discussions at the Sobor must state their names and the location and the name of the parish/congregation they represent.

10. Resolutions are adopted by a majority vote (50% + 1) of delegates and others having the right to vote as outlined above [in Policy 15, not reproduced here].

Additional Rules to be followed:

1. Every resolution must have a mover and a seconder.
2. Every resolution must be signed by the mover and seconder.
3. Resolutions proposing By-Law amendments must provide an address for the mover and seconder. The Consistory, Eparchy, parish or mission address of the mover or seconder will be sufficient to meet this requirement.
4. Where a resolution is being submitted by the Consistory Board, Eparchy, parish or mission, and in the case of all resolutions proposing By-Law amendments, a certified copy of the resolution or motion proposing the amendment and authorizing its submission adopted by a meeting of the Consistory Board, Eparchy, parish or mission must accompany the resolution to be submitted to Sobor.
5. Every resolution must contain a brief recital setting out the background or context for the resolution. For example:
WHEREAS it snows a lot in winter;
6. Every resolution must set out an action item. For example:
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a snow-blower be acquired immediately.
7. Every resolution must set out the expected estimated cost of implementing the resolution, and if no cost, that must be so stated. For example:
The cost of implementation is \$849.99 for the snow-blower plus GST and \$50.00 delivery charge; or
No cost as the snow-blower is being donated
8. Resolutions must be sent by email to the Consistory at: consistory@uocc.ca and, in order to facilitate By-Laws Committee review, simultaneously sent to the Chair of the By-Laws Committee, Walter Pylypchuk at pylypchuk@shaw.ca

NOTE: DESPITE THE TIMELINES SET OUT ABOVE, WE ASK THAT PARISHES NOT PUT OFF DEALING WITH PROPOSED BY-LAW AMENDMENTS AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS. OUR PREFERENCE IS THAT PARISHES SUBMIT ALL PROPOSALS BY THE END OF FEBRUARY 11, 2022. THIS WOULD PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TIME FOR DIALOGUE WITH PARISHES CONCERNING ALL PROPOSALS.

OUR ULTIMATE GOAL WOULD BE TO GO TO SOBOR IN 2022 WITH A SINGLE PREFERRED PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS CONSISTING OF THE BEST PUT FORWARD BY ALL PARISHES AND THE CONSISTORY BOARD.