

Announcing Changes to the 4-H BC Provincial Council Society

The 4-H BC Provincial Council Society is announcing changes to the current Society structure. The goal is to open 4-H BC to new opportunities and resources. We are taking steps to have the changes in place for the virtual annual general meeting on April 6, 2024.

Society Membership & Community Members – Two Big Changes

Society Membership - Members of the Society are being changed from Regional Councils to District Councils. The 33 District Councils across BC will become voting members of the Society and appoint one representative to take part in the virtual AGM.

Community Members - Two positions are being added to the Council for individuals from the community, increasing the number of Directors from seven to nine. The Community Members will be elected by the membership. Seven council seats will continue to be reserved for Regional Representatives.

Purposeful Changes

In collaboration with 4-H BC staff and the Youth Development Team from the Ministry of Agriculture & Food, the Council works to enhance the 4-H experience for our members, leaders, volunteers, and partners. Changes to the Society open 4-H BC to new funding opportunities and expand the skills and knowledge represented on the Board.

Specific Changes for District Councils

Society Representative - District Councils will continue to elect Regional Representatives to their Regional Councils. However, District Councils will choose one of the Regional Representatives to act on behalf of the District as the Society Representative. The Society Representative will attend the virtual AGM and vote on behalf of the District Council.

Provincial Council Representative – The individual chosen to be the Society Representative by a District Council can be elected as the Provincial Council Representative. Therefore, the Society Representative is also a District Council's nominee for Provincial Council Representative decided at a Regional Council AGM.

Specific Changes for Regional Councils

Membership of the Society – District Councils will replace Regional Councils as members of the Society. The Provincial Council Regional Representatives will continue to be part of each Regional Council. They are chosen every two years on even or odd years depending on your region.

Even & Odd Director Term Schedules

The Director term schedules fall on even or odd years. Fraser Valley, Yellowhead West and Central Interior regions fall on an even year schedule. Vancouver Island, Peace, Kamloops/Okanagan, and Kootenay regions fall on an odd year schedule.

Community Members – How, when, who?

A Community Member is not registered with 4-H BC but wishes to contribute to the 4-H program in BC. They are elected on staggered terms by the Members (District Councils) for a two-year term. An application package is available from the 4-H BC office. The application deadline is March 6, 2024.

It Takes a Team

To make this change happen, we need your help.

There are two key steps District Councils need to complete:

1. **January 31st annually** – If not already completed, send a completed District Registration Form to 4-H BC to be considered in good standing.
2. **February 28, 2024** – Deadline to send the name of the Society Representative to 4-H BC. If the Provincial Regional Representative is from your District, this will be the same person.

Learn to Do by Doing

Change can be hard, and we are learning as we go. If you still have questions about the changes, please review the FAQ's for more information or contact Lorna Kotz, 4-H BC President at lkotz@shaw.ca with any questions.

IMPORTANT DATES

February 28, 2024	- District Councils send Society Rep name and contact information to 4-H BC
February 14-March 6, 2024	- Call for Applications - Community Member. Packages available from 4-H BC
March 13-20, 2024	- Election of Community Member. Ballot sent to Society Rep via email
March 20, 2024	- Notice of AGM circulated via email to Society Reps
April 6, 2024	- 4-H BC Provincial Council Society AGM followed by Council Meeting