

## NLN.ON Member Voting: Changes to NLN Bylaws pertaining to membership categories and election of Directors

### Summary of NLN Bylaw Changes and Rationale

Current Bylaw	Proposed Change	Rationale
Two categories of members 1. Active / RNAO 2. Active / Sustaining (non-RNAO)	Change the name of Active/ Sustaining member to <b>Active/Independent</b> member	Based on feedback from current and potential members that reference to “sustaining” was not clear.
NLN membership open to Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners only	The Active/ Sustaining (Independent) membership <b>shall be open to all categories of nurses</b> (e.g. Registered Nurses, Registered Practical Nurses, Nurse Practitioners) involved or interested in a career in nursing leadership or health care management. An Independent member shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of an Active member.	This change is based on feedback from members and is in keeping with the growing movement of greater intra-professional collaboration within the family of nursing across various associations and regulatory bodies across Canada.
Election of Directors based on regional representation (Regions 1 – 12)	Election of directors based a <b>competency / skill-based matrix</b> (years of experience as a nurse leader, practice setting / sector, rural / urban, ect....). The number of Directors would remain the same.	This would be in keeping with best practices for governance models. This would also enable NLN to ensure that the Board of Directors best reflects the characteristic and qualities of the NLN membership.
NEW	There is to be <b>no more than two (2) Active / Independent</b> members as Directors on the Board at one time.  For a candidate to be eligible to be nominated for President-Elect, the candidate must be an NLN member in good standing, <b>from within the Active / RNAO membership category</b>	As the clear majority of NLN members are within the Active/ RNAO membership; therefore, the governance structure should reflect the NLN membership profile.