

Amended &
added by General
Meeting
Nov 23/72

CONSTITUTION OF THE CANADIAN
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

1. Organization

The Canadian Environmental Law Association is an unincorporated body of individuals and societies associated together to carry out the aims and objectives set out in Paragraph 2.

2. Aims and Objectives

- (a) To promote through legal channels, standards and objectives that will ensure the maintenance of environmental quality in Canada.
- (b) To develop an awareness within the legal community, including the judiciary and law students, of both how the law may be employed to attack the problems of pollution and how, through the use of proper planning techniques, environmental quality objectives must be adequately considered in the total decision-making process.
- (c) To inform the general public of legal remedies available to secure their rights to a healthy and attractive environment.
- (d) To encourage and assist direct legal action whenever a particular complaint cannot be remedied through available procedures of government agencies, especially when such legal action can: generate precedents for environmental law; highlight the adverse environmental implications of

government decisions; stimulate government agencies inundated with routine work; provide specific remedies for private and public wrongs.

- (e) To assure the maximum involvement of all affected interests in the decision-making processes regulating the environment.
- (f) To assess and challenge all actions detrimentally affecting environmental quality.
- (g) To assist in the development of environmental policy by non-governmental groups for submission to government.
- (h) To study existing anti-pollution remedies, examine legal solutions in the jurisdictions and evaluate the effectiveness of government agencies, in order to propose feasible legislative reforms for the protection and enhancement of our environment.
- (i) To stimulate the vital cooperation required among the various disciplines in order to foster reforms that reflect all aspects of environmental problems.
- (j) To establish a reference library of environmental law to serve both litigant and researcher.

3. Membership

Payment of annual membership fees will entitle any person or society to become a member of the Canadian Environmental Law Association and to enjoy the rights and privileges accorded to all of its members. Annual

membership fees will be set by the National Executive Committee and ratified at the annual general meeting.

4. National Executive Committee

- (a) From the membership at the annual general meeting will be elected a National Executive Committee consisting of at least 6 persons which Committee shall elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer or other officers. Additionally, each branch of the Association is entitled to one member on the Executive Committee.
- (b) The National Executive Committee is authorized to act on behalf of the general membership, on all matters relating to the Canadian Environmental Law Association (except where such authority is specifically limited by the general membership).

5. Voting

At meetings of the membership or the National Executive Committee a simple majority of the members present shall be required to carry any vote. The Executive Committee shall from time to time establish policies on the manner of voting including the use of proxies. In the case of a tie vote, the President shall cast an additional vote to decide the question.

6. Meetings.

There shall be at least one general meeting of members

held annually. Due notice is required to all members. The Executive Committee shall be elected annually at the general membership meeting. The financial report shall be presented by the Treasurer. Additional membership meetings may be called by the Executive Committee, or by a group of members numbering at least 10 (at their own expense).

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once before the next annual membership meeting.

7. Branches

- (a) Branches of the Association may be opened in any centre in Canada or at any University or College, with the approval of the National Executive. All branches cease to exist upon having less than three members in good standing.
- (b) Each branch must have associated with it a member in good standing of the Provincial or Territorial Law Society to be responsible to the National Executive for the operation of the branch according to the principles of the Canadian Environmental Law Association as herein described.
- (c) The National Executive Committee may at any time upon written notice revoke the status of any branch and of any or all of its members as being connected with the Canadian Environmental Law Association for any act or omission of a branch or its members which adversely reflects upon

the reputation or aims and objectives of the Canadian Environmental Law Association.

8. Bank Account

A bank account shall be maintained in the name of the Canadian Environmental Law Association, by the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall take all measures necessary to establish proper accounting procedures.

9. Records

All minutes of meetings shall be kept by the Secretary, as well as general records, files and documents, pertaining to the Canadian Environmental Law Association.

10. Amendments

The Constitution may be amended from time to time by the general membership.

Dated at Toronto this day of November, 1972.

President

Treasurer

Secretary

Ratified by the General Membership on the 28th day of
November, 1972, at the Ramsay Wright Building, University
of Toronto.

Secretary

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION

Policy Re: Membership Categories and Fees

The following are the Membership Categories:

Student	\$ 4.00
Individual	\$ 10.00
Family	\$ 15.00
Society or Group	\$ 25.00
Sustaining	\$100.00

The National Executive Committee can waive or reduce membership at their discretion.