



## **Society Membership FAQ**

### **1. The Society... what is it?**

Apart from the legal aspect of having a formed Society group for the school (as explained in the orientation session that is held before the AGM), it is a group of people who want to be involved and informed about what's going on with the school now and for what's to come at NCS. These people want to have a voice when decisions are brought forward by the Board by either taking part in the voting process, asking questions or sharing any thoughts or concerns to the group and Board Members; to have the opportunity to be more involved by serving on committees, task forces or the Board of Directors.

### **2. What is the role of the Membership Committee?**

The Membership Committee recruits new and previously existing Society members. We are accountable for managing and maintaining applications, as well as teaching the NCS community about the benefits, roles and expectations of Society members.

### **3. How do I get involved or apply?**

At the beginning of each school year, the Membership Committee runs a membership drive that typically goes until the middle of October. There's a formal process that goes on behind the scenes, and for this reason, there will be deadline dates provided for those who are interested in applying.

### **4. What is a Full Society Member?**

It is a group of parents who genuinely care about Nanaimo having a Christian, faith-based, Christ-centered school for our children to develop and grow in, and who want to have an active voice in decisions being presented by the Board. These parents share a love for our school as a Christian based school for their children and community, and who want to preserve the foundation on which this school was built on.

### **5. What is an Associate Member?**

Very similar to the Full Society Membership. This is for grandparents, teachers who don't have children enrolled at NCS, parents who are not part of an evangelical Christian church, or alumni who want to stay connected to what's happening at our school. The main difference between an Associate Member and a Full Society Member

is the voting rights. While Associate Members will have opportunities to have a voice by voting, there will be some votes that will be for Full Society Members only. Associate Members will still be able to ask questions, share their thoughts or concerns and be able to speak at the General Meetings. Associate Members will also be able to serve on task forces.

#### **6. How much of a time commitment is it to join?**

The main part of joining is to attend the General Meetings. There is the main one in the fall, the AGM, and in some years, there may be another one in the spring.

Communication of the date and time of the meetings is sent out in advance to all members. Sometimes people cannot make these meetings, and we understand that, we just ask for members to do their best to try to attend. On the night of the AGM, there is an orientation session before the meeting that the Board strongly encourages new members to attend or those who feel they need a refresher on why membership is important. There is also a good opportunity on this night to see all of the committees at the school, as they will have tables set up, ready and happy to answer any questions you may have.

#### **7. Does it cost anything to join?**

No. In previous years there was, however, in 2018 the process of how people became members changed significantly. In fact, by attending the general meetings, parents/families can now use that time to count toward their volunteer hours.

#### **8. Follow-up questionnaire -- Why do some have to complete this form?**

Each year, the Membership Committee sends out this questionnaire which is a part of the application process, to parents who are either new to NCS, or part of the random selection that the Committee has now implemented. One of the responsibilities of the Membership Committee is to ensure that everyone fits in to the best membership type. This questionnaire helps the Membership Committee to get to know parents on a deeper level.