

**PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS,
WESTERN CANADA DISTRICT,
SWIFT CURRENT DISTRICT CONVENTION,
AUGUST 16, 2008.**

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE: A proposal to change the territorial limits of the District.

CURRENTLY THE ARTICLE READS AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE I: NAME AND TERRITORIAL LIMITS

Section 2. The territorial limits of this district shall be confined to the Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, that portion of Ontario lying west of 85 West Longitude, that portion of the Northwest Territories known as the District of McKenzie, and the city of Dawson Creek in the Province of British Columbia. Neither the district name nor territorial limits shall be changed unless permission shall first have been obtained from the International Board of Trustees.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

ARTICLE I: NAME AND TERRITORIAL LIMITS

Section 2. The territorial limits of this district shall be confined to the Provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, that portion of Ontario lying west of 85 West Longitude, the Northwest Territories, and the city of Dawson Creek in the Province of British Columbia. Neither the district name nor territorial limits shall be changed unless permission shall first have been obtained from the International Board of Trustees.

RATIONALE:

Until recently the Northwest Territories was divided into three DISTRICTS, the District of Franklin, the District of Mackenzie and the District of Keewatin. In April 1999, the District of Keewatin became Nunavut and the old District of Mackenzie became the Northwest Territories. (The District of Franklin also disappeared and became a part (mostly) of Nunavut.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER TWO-To remove the reference to Uranium City in the boundaries for Division six.

CURRENTLY THE ARTICLE READS AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE III: DIVISIONS

Division 6: that part of the Province of Alberta north of the boundary line from the B.C. boundary north to Brazeau, to Blackfalds, to Stettler, to Coronation, to Compeer, and to include Uranium City, Saskatchewan and Dawson Creek, B.C., and that portion of the Northwest Territories known as the District of McKenzie.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT**ARTICLE III: DIVISIONS**

Division 6: that part of the Province of Alberta north of the boundary line from the B.C. boundary north to Brazeau, to Blackfalds, to Stettler, to Coronation, to Compeer, and to include Dawson Creek, B.C., and the Northwest Territories.

RATIONALE:

As noted in the previous amendment, the District of Mackenzie is now known as the Northwest Territories. The City of Uranium City, Saskatchewan is now an almost deserted hamlet lying 800 kilometers from Edmonton and has a population of less than 70 people, no hospital, one school (K to 9) with 10 students at this moment. If there ever was going to be a resurgence in the area (doubtful due to the one product nature of the area) it could be added to Division 5.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER THREE-A proposal to increase the Sponsored Programs Assessment.

CURRENTLY THE ARTICLE READS AS FOLLOWS:**ARTICLE XV: REVENUE**

Section 1. Each member club shall pay to the district for each of its members, with the exception of its honorary members, the sum of \$2.00 per annum for the subscription price of the district bulletin, \$5.00 for the operation of the Sponsored Youth Districts, namely Circle K, Key Clubs and Builders Clubs, and \$36.00 per annum as dues. Clubs shall be exempt from paying District dues only for any former member of a Circle K or Key Club who joins their club within one year of leaving their Circle K or Key Club. This exemption shall last for a period of two years. The total amount shall be due annually on the club's anniversary date as set forth in the International Bylaws, payable not later than sixty (60) days thereafter, and is to be based upon the membership of the respective clubs as shown by the reports to Kiwanis International as of September 30. Such annual membership report shall be due eighty (80) days prior to the due date for the club's annual dues payment and shall be made on the official forms provided by Kiwanis International. The total amount shall include all district charges other than the new member add fee and registration fees for district conventions or conferences.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT**ARTICLE XV: REVENUE**

Section 1. Each member club shall pay to the district for each of its members, with the exception of its honorary members, the sum of \$2.00 per annum for the subscription price of the district bulletin, \$5.00 for the operation of the Sponsored Youth Districts, namely Circle K, Key Clubs and Builders Clubs, **\$5.00 per annum for the expenses related to the administration of all of our Sponsored Programs and Key Leader** and \$36.00 per annum as dues. **REST REMAINS THE SAME.**

RATIONALE:

Since the early years of this century, the Sponsored Programs (Circle K and Key Club in particular) have been administered by the Kiwanis District. This was due to the declining numbers of both clubs and members in those two programs. All revenue and all expenses have been both received and paid by the District Office. Since 2001, there has been a \$5.00 assessment paid by each Kiwanian in our District that is used by the District to fund the Sponsored programs. This currently results in about \$6000 for their use. The District receives very little in the way of revenue from the Sponsored Programs (\$100 in dues money from Circle K at this writing and no revenue at all from Key Club-partially due to the fact that they are not an official district within Key Club International.

To support our Sponsored Programs we continue to pay expenses for the leaders of the Sponsored programs to attend their various conferences and we continue to pay expenses for the administrators of these two programs for their attendance at required conferences as well.

The Kiwanis District has placed additional emphasis upon our Sponsored Programs and has also supported our K-Kids, Aktion Clubs and Builders clubs as well.

For the past three years the District has also supported the concept of the Service Leadership Programs by providing expenses for all of our District administrators to attend these annual conferences. We have also supported the Key leader Program by providing expenses for our Key Leader chairs to attend required conferences as well.

All of these expenses are currently being covered by the Sponsored Program assessment and the excess is being supported by your district dues.

Between October 1, 2006 and the end of the Sponsored Program year in 2008, (April) we have spent nearly \$3000 more on these programs and services than we have received. In a district that has seen declining membership (and therefore revenues) this cannot continue to happen (we have only \$30,000 in our reserve fund.)

In 2008 we were unable to provide some of our administrators with any expenses for their work at both Spring Sessions.

There are now five administrators involved in our Sponsored programs and the original intent (decades ago) was that only the Administrators for Key Club and Circle K would receive some reimbursement from the District. This is patently unfair to the others, especially when we are asked to send them to conferences and seminars to both learn more about their programs and to promote their growth within Western Canada.

These administrators are some of the most dedicated Kiwanians that you will ever find in this, or any other district and their passion for what they do is unmatched!

We basically have three choices:

- 1) Abandon financial support of Sponsored Programs and Key Leader Administrators.
- 2) Leave the financial support as the status quo.
- 3) Provide an increase to the Sponsored Program Assessment.

Choosing either of the first two would leave the Administrators having to spend a lot of their own resources. While they may continue to do so, they may also decline to do so and that would leave us with no option to suspend the program as it is doubtful that the District could find anyone who would take on these large financial obligations.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT NUMBER FOUR-Dues Increase

CURRENTLY THE ARTCILE READS AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE XV: REVENUE

Section 1. Each member club shall pay to the district for each of its members, with the exception of its honorary members, the sum of \$2.00 per annum for the subscription price of the district bulletin, \$5.00 for the operation of the Sponsored Youth Districts, namely Circle K, Key Clubs and Builders Clubs, and \$36.00 per annum as dues. Clubs shall be exempt from paying District dues only for any former member of a Circle K or Key Club who joins their club within one year of leaving their Circle K or Key Club. This exemption shall last for a period of two years. The total amount shall be due annually on the club's anniversary date as set forth in the International Bylaws, payable not later than sixty (60) days thereafter, and is to be based upon the membership of the respective clubs as shown by the reports to Kiwanis International as of September 30. Such annual membership report shall be due eighty (80) days prior to the due date for the club's annual dues payment and shall be made on the official forms provided by Kiwanis International. The total amount shall include all district charges other than the new member add fee and registration fees for district conventions or conferences.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

ARTICLE XV: REVENUE

Section 1. Each member club shall pay to the district for each of its members, with the exception of its honorary members, the sum of \$5.00 (OR ??) for the operation of the Sponsored Youth Districts, namely Circle K, Key Clubs and Builders Clubs, and \$43.00 per annum as dues. REST REMAINS THE SAME

Note that the Sponsored Youth Assessment may be different if the preceding amendment is passed.

RATIONALE:

The last dues increase in our district was in 1997.

At that time, the district consisted of 59 clubs and 1850 members and an average club size of 32 members; at the time of this writing (May 2008) we have 49 clubs, 1166 members and an average club size of 23 members.

There has not been growth in Western Canada in the last decade!

Over the last 11.5 years we have lost 9 clubs and nearly 700 members. That loss of 700 members represents (at today's dues) a total ANNUAL LOSS of \$26,600 in dues revenue and \$3500 in revenue that would have been available to our Sponsored Programs. Over the decade that represents a loss of over \$200,000!

During this same period, the cost of operations in our district has not lessened. In fact, factoring an average inflation rate of 2.5 percent, we can note that the cost of operations has increased by 28%. (What would cost \$1.00 in 1997 would now cost \$1.28)

This is not even factoring in how much the current oil situation will increase our operating costs as travel is major expense in this district and the price of oil increases everything from air fares to convention food and hotels to office supplies.

Hotel rooms in the same 11 year period have risen from an average of \$85 per night to \$120 (with GST, PST and various local tourism levies.)

The size of our district has not diminished, thus the travel from point to point for meetings and conferences has not diminished. We are experiencing difficulty in finding Lt. Governors (in fact, for the past few years we have had nearly half of the Lt. Governors serving more than one year) and this is partially due to the fact that we cannot provide them with enough expense money to make it worthwhile.

In recent years we have been spending more money than we have been receiving and the reserve fund, which was approximately \$55,000, a few short years ago now, stands at just \$30,000. This affects our ability to generate revenue from interest and has an affect upon our ability to withstand any economic disaster.

In recent years the District Board has reduced expenses by:

- Holding meetings of the Board by telephone, thus eliminating some travel expenses.
- Reducing amounts allowed for district leaders to attend international and district conventions.
- Holding spring sessions instead of the former mid year conferences thus reducing the hotel and travel expenses for district leadership from two nights to one.
- Moving the Lt. Governor-elect Education to the District Convention reducing travel expenses for the Lt. Governor-elect.
- Reducing the use of Postage by providing everything to the clubs via e-mail. We still have two clubs that receive info by Canada Post and it is hard to believe that they do not have one member who has e-mail. Most North American Districts have stopped using Postal Service by policy.
- Telephone costs have been reduced by the use of the Internet as well.

In addition to this:

- The District Secretary has not attended a Secretary's Conference in two years (saving roughly \$1500)
- The DST has not attended an International convention in two years (saving another \$1500 savings)
- The Past Governor has had his travel allowance reduced.

- For next year's Board meeting the Lt. Governors will be assigned two to a room, where practical.
- The Governor's travel allowance has been reduced by combining the official divisional visit with the spring sessions.

Despite all of this, our expenses continue to increase and our membership continues to decline.

The only way to prevent dues increases in the future is to increase our membership through club revitalization processes or through new club building.