

Ripley and District Horticultural Society

Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures 2025

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1: The Society shall be known as the Ripley and District Horticultural Society. This is the parent group of FOY (For Our Youth).

By-Law 3: OFFICERS, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND BOARD

The OFFICERS of the Society shall be the President, Past President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and the District Eight OHA Representative.

The President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and Six Directors are elected at the AGM. Three Directors finish their term and three new Directors are appointed annually.

The Officers, Directors, Youth Convenor and the Society Representative to the District shall be known as the **Board of the Society**.

By-Law 5: Annual General Meeting (AGM)

1. The AGM shall be held, either in-person or virtually, or a combination thereof at such time and place as the Executive Committee may decide for the purpose of presenting and reviewing the work of the year, activities and accomplishments, preparing policy, and such other business deemed necessary. The Officers and Directors shall be elected. The AGM of the Society shall be held in December of each year, at such time and place as the Board of Directors determines. Notice of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to every member in good standing of the Society, by the Secretary or their representative.

7. The Fiscal Year of the Society shall be November 1st to October 31st.

By-Law 6: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND FINANCIAL REVIEWERS

1. The Society President term is two years plus one additional year in extreme circumstances and Vice President, Directors, Treasurer and Secretary are for a two year term. The Financial Reviewers are for a one year term.

By-Law 16: AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

These By-Laws may be amended, or revoked by a majority of votes cast by members present at any AGM or special meeting of the members provided that:

- a) A notice of motion in writing of such proposed amendment, or revocation, has been given at the previous AGM, or
- b) The Secretary is notified in writing of the proposed changes in time to notify electronically all Society at least 40 days before the next AGM or special meeting.

CODE OF CONDUCT

As a member of the Ripley and District Horticultural Society, I agree to respect and support the Constitution and By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, Code of Conduct of the Society and the decisions of the Board and the membership of the Society.

The full text of the Society constitution and code of conduct can be found and downloaded on the Ripley and District Horticultural Society's webpage, <https://gardenontario.org/society-listing/entry/140/?letter=r> or a print copy can be viewed by contacting the President.

GENERAL POLICIES:

1. Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month, September to November and January to June.
2. Flower Shows: a) Rotating flower shows to be held at the discretion of the Society. Judges fees and other expenses incurred by the judge (mileage) to be paid by the Society.
b) The flower show will be planned by the Flower Show Committee members.
c) The Royal Bank Award will be given to the exhibitor having the most points in the flower show. This cannot be awarded to the same member more often than once every three years.
3. The Society will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the flower beds at the library, cemetery and rose bed at the Legion, town planters and Huron-Kinloss Municipal office planters including municipal flower beds and the pollinator gardens in Ripley, Lurgan Beach and Point Clark.
4. An Executive meeting will be held in or before the second week of November to plan the AGM and next year's program. An Executive meeting will also be called before the September meeting to discuss any fall business.

ANNUAL EXPENSE BUDGET AND PROCEDURES:

5. Speakers: To be paid \$100.00, if asked, plus mileage of \$0.60/kilometer, if asked. Convenors are to contact the Executive if the speaker requests more than \$100.00.
6. Memorial: a) In the case of a deceased member, will be \$30.00 for a floral gift or can be given to a designated charity.
b) In case of the death of a spouse or immediate family member, a charitable donation or a floral gift will be given in the amount of \$25.00.
7. OHA Convention: Each eligible Voting Delegate to the OHA convention will have their registration paid by the society not to exceed \$150.
8. Mileage to be paid to voting delegates to the District Annual meeting and to the District Representative for committee meetings at \$0.60 per kilometer each way.
10. The Society will donate \$100.00 to the Ripley Agricultural Society every year in January to promote horticulture and to benefit the Ripley Fall Fair.
10. The Society will make available within the community an education fund of \$100 upon written request to the Board.
11. Membership: a) Dues of \$15.00 are to be paid in January, or the first meeting that a member attends in the current year.
b) Members will acknowledge and agree to the Society Code of Conduct by signing consent each year.
c) The Society accepts junior membership for children from 6 – 17 years of age at a fee of \$5.00.
d) The Society will pay for expenses incurred for a reasonable amount at the discretion of the Youth Committee.