



OMAFRA Annual Report & Dealing with Society/Club Financials

December 17th, 2020

On Monday, December 14, I had conversation with the OMAFRA Representative who is the liaison with the OHA and Societies/Clubs. We discussed the upcoming OMAFRA Annual Report and more specifically, the conversation was around the financial reporting requirements for the report. Here is what is known as of right now:

- 1) OMAFRA will require that Societies/Clubs report their financials for the year via the OMAFRA Annual Report Form due to legislative requirements.
- 2) OMAFRA is currently working on a new form for the OMAFRA Annual Report. It is not ready yet and a projected date is not possible at this point. Best “guess” is hopefully early 2021 but time will tell.
- 3) As in past years, Society/Club financials should be “reviewed” or “audited”. Almost all Societies/Clubs use the “reviewer” process but the choice remains with the Society/Club. Nothing has changed with this component.
- 4) After the “reviewers” have completed their work, this is where things change from what has been done in past years. Once the “reviewers” have completed their work, the final report and financials will need to go to the Society/Club Executive for approval. There is no need for the financials to go to an AGM for approval as far as OMAFRA is concerned. It is understood that for transparency for the Society/Club membership, the financials should be dealt with during the AGM however, considering the current and ongoing situation with COVID-19, AGMs are not always possible or practical for all Societies/Clubs. If a Society/Club has processed or plans to process their financials through an AGM format because they were or are able to safely hold the meeting, that is an equally acceptable process.

OMAFRA, the OHA Officers and the OHA Board are all aware that these are uncertain times for all Societies/Clubs and unfortunately, as with many things we were used to doing, we all have to handle things in the best way possible and still do what must be done.

Take care and stay safe

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