**Society AGMs COVID-19 Updates**

It is important that Societies and those individuals involved with Societies follow guidelines and recommendations set forth by the Provincial Health Officer, B.C. Health Minister, and Canada Health guidelines in regards to COVID-19.

See *NEW* [decision of the Registrar of Companies](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/permits-licences-and-registration/registries-other-assets/20200618_registrar_decision_to_extend_societies_agm.pdf) on timing of meetings.

Last updated:**June 23, 2020**

**Virtual Meetings**

Societies now have the option of hosting virtual or hybrid meetings even if the society’s bylaws and the Cooperative Association Act, the Business Corporations Act, the Societies Act, and any regulations under these acts that state otherwise.

* This is the result of a [ministerial order](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2020_m116) that will remain in force for the duration of the current state of emergency
* Where a notice is required, instructions for participation can be provided in lieu of a physical location

**Timing of Meetings**

Section 71 of the Societies Act also provides flexibility as to when AGMs are held.

A society has until December 31 to hold an Annual General Meeting.

* If an Annual General Meeting is not held prior to December 31 then the society may file the Annual Report as "No Meeting Held" between January 1and January 31
* A society may also file online for an extension to AGM date between November 1 to December 31 of the calendar year in which the AGM is supposed to be held
* The society can then hold a meeting up to March 31 of the following year
* In light of COVID-19, a  [decision of the Registrar of Companies](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/business-management/permits-licences-and-registration/registries-other-assets/20200618_registrar_decision_to_extend_societies_agm.pdf)  has been made to provide an option for societies that wish to delay their annual general meeting past the March 31 deadline.