This membership policy contains important information for any **individual** interested in becoming a member or a current member. The policy outlines the applicable fees, benefits, eligibility criteria, procedures and forms.

**Membership Dues:**

The membership dues (fees) shall be determined by the CAD-ASC Board of Directors. Members shall be notified in writing or via electronic means of the membership dues.

* Individual Members: $25/year

All memberships begin with the fiscal year (April 1st) and run to the end of the same fiscal year (March 31st). If a member fails to renew its membership 45 days before the Annual General Meeting, it shall automatically cease to be a member of CAD-ASC.

**Membership Benefits:**

Individual members:

* Receive documented verification of membership through email.
* Receive regular updates and announcements.
* Shall be entitled to observer privileges during Annual General Meetings, whether in-person or virtual (online).
* 15% percent discount on all CAD-ASC publications and merchandise.
* 15% discount for events such as conferences, workshops, training, town-hall meetings, and others.
* May be invited to join committees, task forces, and/ or strategic teams.
* May request the full AGM package of reports for the one year previous to membership.
* May request the Minutes of AGMs up to three years before joining.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

All membership must be accompanied by payment in full of the appropriate membership fee.

All members must support CAD-ASC’s mission and vision that represents and advocates for Sign language rights, human rights, and equality of accessibility for Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing Canadians who use Sign languages.

All individual members must have legal status in Canada at the time of their application. Individuals must be at least 18 years of age, and legally able to sign contracts in the same calendar year as they apply for membership.

CAD-ASC is a civil society organization that supports the principles and practices of inclusion, diversity, and equality. In any category of membership, any member may be refused membership and/or have their current membership revoked if it is determined that they have violated these principles and practices in any situation, whether private or public.

As stated in CAD-ASC bylaws, Section II, Membership; 6, Membership Classification:

“The membership of the Corporation shall consist of such Full Members, Organizational Members, and Individual Members whose application for admission to the membership has been received and approved in its sole discretion by the Board of Directors of the Corporation in each fiscal year.”

**Procedures:**

1. Individual membership will be generally granted upon satisfactory completion of membership forms and agreements.
2. The CAD-ASC office acts as a screening body to ensure applications meet membership requirements, including eligibility criteria.
3. As per Section 6 of the bylaws, the CAD-ASC Board of Directors has sole discretion to approve and review all memberships. Any membership may be suspended until the next AGM or until a special meeting of the Board. All decisions are final and may not be appealed. Any applicant who has been rejected for current-year membership may apply again in the following year. Any member may withdraw at any time without receiving a refund.
4. The membership payments are **NOT** refundable.

Approved: February 2021

Note: This policy will be automated changed to accommodate to any change in the bylaws.