

# **EMBROIDERERS' GUILD OF VICTORIA**

## **Life Membership Policy**

### **POLICY:**

The Embroiderers' Guild of Victoria (EGV) will grant life membership as the highest honour that it can bestow upon a fellow member. Life Membership will be awarded only extraordinarily and with great consideration to a member who has clearly demonstrated sustained, extraordinary service and contributions to EGV and its membership at large, and who has enriched and advanced the art of needlework.

### **CRITERIA:**

The candidate must be an active member in good standing and must have been a member of the Guild for a minimum of 20 years, although not necessarily continuous years. Membership in another EAC chapter may count for up to 5 years of the 20 year minimum requirement. The candidate must have previously received an EGV Service Award. As well, the candidate will be someone who fits most of the following criteria:

1. Has demonstrated an unselfish willingness to share their time and skills through volunteer teaching, Spring Festival, work with youth, Brownies and Guides, etc.
2. Has undertaken community outreach or other service related to needlework
3. Has served on the executive of EGV
4. Has undertaken special projects on behalf of EGV and/or has quietly assumed responsibility for some of the routine tasks necessary to the smooth running of EGV
5. Acts as a mentor to new and/or less experienced members of EGV
6. Is warmly welcoming to new members of EGV
7. Is a good ambassador who enhances the reputation of EGV
8. Has actively promoted and advanced the art of needlework both within EGV and in the community at large
9. Explores new techniques and expands their needlework skills
10. Demonstrates other exceptional talents or personal traits related to the advancement of the needle arts

### **NOMINATION PROCEDURE:**

A member (or members) would approach the Executive with a suggestion that a certain member be considered for life membership with written documentation to show how the nominee meets the criteria outlined above.

The Executive would then strike an ad hoc Executive Review Committee of not less than three members – at least one of which shall be an executive member.

The Review Committee shall examine the contributions of the proposed candidate and compare them to the established criteria. The committee could invite the nominator(s) to be present for the discussion if they so desired.

The Review Committee shall report to the Executive as a whole as to whether the proposed candidate meets the established criteria.

A quorum of the executive shall then vote on whether to accept or negate the recommendations of the Review Committee.

The executive shall report in confidence to the member(s) who initiated the nomination. If the nomination is not accepted at that time, it may be reviewed at a later time. If the nomination is accepted, the candidate will be presented with the life membership at an appropriate time, preferably at the Annual General Meeting for that year. The award of a life membership shall be presented by the current president, or delegate, and a spokesperson from the nominating member(s).

Absolute confidentiality must be maintained by nominating and committee members during the nomination and review process.

### **BENEFITS TO AND RIGHTS OF A LIFE MEMBER:**

1. The Life Member shall be presented with a framed certificate, as well as some other tangible memento of the honour (an engraved brooch or pendant is one suggestion).
2. The Life Member will have the EGV portion of their annual membership dues paid for by EGV.
3. The Life Member will retain all rights and privileges of regular membership, including the right to vote on the business of EGV.
4. The Life Member will be recognized as a life member in all membership lists and other appropriate literature.
5. If the membership dues to the Embroiderers' Association of Canada (EAC) are not paid, or if the Life Member becomes inactive due to illness, age, etc. they shall be considered an Honourary Life Member, without voting privileges.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:**

1. It is recommended that not more than one life membership should be awarded in any one year.

2. The total number of life memberships at any one time shall be determined by EGV's ability to absorb the long term financial commitment of this award.

**REVIEW:**

This policy shall be reviewed as required.

Amendments to this policy may be proposed by the executive and/or an appointed Policy Review Committee and adopted after being discussed and voted upon by the general membership.

**APPROVAL:**

Established: 1994. Revised; 2006; 2015