

Consumer and Corporate Affairs

The Societies Act
Section 7)

Companies Branch

Application

We, the undersigned, hereby declare that we desire to form a Society under the Societies Act, and that:

1. The name of the Society is “Edmonton Goan Association”
2. The purpose of this Society shall be:
 - a. To maintain an association of Goans and well wishers of Goa, its culture, customs, and traditions, in order to encourage and promote social and cultural activities of a predominantly Goan nature.
 - b. To acquire lands, by purchase or otherwise, erect or otherwise provide a building or buildings for social and club purposes.
 - c. To provide a meeting place for the consideration and discussion of questions affecting the interests of the club.
 - d. To provide all necessary equipment and furniture for carrying on its various objects.
 - e. To provide a centre and suitable meeting place for the various activities of the club.
 - f. To sell, manage, lease, mortgage, dispose of, or otherwise deal with the property of the club.
 - g. To affiliate with, cooperate with, and support other organizations having similar objectives.
3. The operations of the Society are to be chiefly carried on in Edmonton in the Province of Alberta.

By-Laws of Edmonton Goan Association

Article I – Interpretation

- 1.01. “Society” shall mean “Edmonton Goan Association”, except where the context otherwise requires.
- 1.02. “Members” shall mean “members” of the Society as set forth in Article II – 2.01 paragraphs A, B and C, but shall not include “Associate Members”.

- 1.03. “Extraordinary Resolution” shall mean resolution passed by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the members entitled to vote as are present in person at a special general meeting called in accordance herewith.
- 1.04. “Goan” shall mean any person whose ethnic origin can be traced to Goa, or the spouse of such a person.
- 1.05. “Non-Goan” shall mean any person not covered by the definition of “Goan” as in 1.04.

Article II – Membership

- 2.01. Membership in the Society shall be comprised of the following:
- A. Members – Any Goan (18 years and over) residing in Edmonton and Northern Alberta shall be eligible for membership in the Society as a “Member”. This includes all persons who joined the Society prior to 1st June 1980 and remain in good standing.
 - B. Honorary Members – Members attaining the age of 60 years and over shall be eligible for membership in the Society as an “Honorary Member”. This privilege can only be granted to those individuals who were members in good standing for the previous two years.
 - C. Junior Members – Children under 18 years of age whose parents are not members of the Society shall be eligible for Junior Membership in the Society. The dues for such members shall be such amount or amounts as may be fixed for time to time by the members at the Annual General Meeting.
 - D. Associate Members – Any reputable person (18 years and over) interested in associating with members of the Society and who sympathized with the purpose of the Society, shall be eligible for membership in the Society as an “Associate Member”.
- 2.02. Names of proposed new members shall be submitted to the Executive Board in writing. Each name shall be proposed by one member and endorsed by two other members who know the candidate.
- 2.03. The names of candidates applying for membership in the Society should have their names posted on the bulletin Board for a period of three months during which time any member of the Society may put in writing to the Executive Board of his or her objections relating to that particular individual.

Article III – Rights of Members

- 3.01. An Associate/Junior Member is not eligible to vote at any general meeting of the Society, nor to propose and endorse the names of candidates applying for membership in the Society.
- 3.02. A Member/Associate Member/Junior Member shall cease to be in good standing upon the day following the date upon which such member's dues are due and payable and are not paid.
- 3.03. Any Member/Associate Member/Junior Member wishing to withdraw from membership may do so upon a notice in writing to the Executive Board. If any Member/Associate Member/Junior Member is in arrears for fees for three months and over, Member/Associate Member/Junior Member shall be automatically suspended at the expiration of six months from end of such year and shall thereafter be entitled to no membership privileges or powers in the Society until reinstated. Any Member/Associate Member/Junior Member upon a two-thirds vote of members in good standing present at a special meeting may be expelled from membership for any cause which the Society may deem reasonable.

Article IV – Duties of a Member

- 4.01. To pay dues as prescribed on or before the due date thereof.
- 4.02. To attend all meetings of the Society
- 4.03. To the best of his/her ability, and willingly, to perform all duties or tasks assigned
- 4.04. To take part, if possible, in all functions and activities of the Society generally.
- 4.05. To act at all times in such manner as not to bring himself/herself or the Society disrepute or discredit.
- 4.06. To notify the General Secretary of the Society of any change in address.

Article V – Dues

- 5.01. The dues for Member/Associate Member/Junior Member shall be such amount or amounts as may be fixed from time to time by the members at the Annual General Meeting.
- 5.02. Family Membership shall include husband, wife, and children under 18 years, and the annual dues shall be one and one-half times that of a single membership.
- 5.03. No cancellation or refund of dues shall be made if a Member/Associate Member/Junior Member resigns before the close of the fiscal year.

Article VI – Officers and Executive Board

- 6.01. The officers of the Society shall be: President, Vice-President, General Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 6.02. The officers shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting each year to serve for one year. They may be re-elected for one additional term. No officer may be elected to the same office for more than two consecutive terms. They may be elected to some other office, but not to the same one.
- 6.03. Three members shall be elected annually from the active membership of the Society. These three members, together with the officers of the Society, shall constitute the Executive Board. These three members shall be assigned Social Secretary, Sports Secretary, and Publicity Secretary, and they shall meet with the officers of the Society to formulate plans and decide all purposes and procedures of the Society. They shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting each year to serve for one year. They may be re-elected for one additional term. They shall not be eligible for re-election for more than two consecutive terms. They may be elected to some other position, but not to the same one.
- 6.04. Vacancies occurring among members of the Executive Board shall be filled by election by the Executive Board; such officers or Board members to serve only until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 6.05. All persons serving on the Executive Board shall be elected from among the members of the Society.

Article VII – Duties of Officers

- 7.01. The President shall preside at all meetings at which he/she is President, shall exercise general supervision over the affairs and activities of the Society, and shall serve as member ex-officio on all committees. If the President desires to participate in debates, he/she may turn over the Chair to the Vice-President or such officer as he/she shall select.
- 7.02. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President during his/her absence and shall serve as member ex-officio on all committees.
- 7.03. The General Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Society and of the Board and shall keep accurate minutes of the same. The General Secretary shall have charge of all correspondence of the Society and be under the direction of the President of the Board. The General Secretary shall also keep a record of all the members of the Society and their addresses and send all notices two weeks in advance of the various meetings and agenda as required. In case of the absence of the General Secretary, his/her duties shall be performed by such officer appointed by the Board.

- 7.04. The Treasurer shall receive all Society funds and deposit them in a bank selected or approved by the Society. He/she shall properly account for the funds of the Society and keep such books as may be required. He/she shall present a detailed account of receipts and disbursements to the Board whenever requested and shall prepare for submission to the Annual General Meeting a statement duly audited as hereinafter set forth and submit a copy of the same to the General Secretary for the records of the Society. All disbursements shall be signed by the President and the Treasurer of the Society.
- 7.05. Auditing of the books, accounts, and records shall be performed at least once each year by two members of the Society elected for the purpose at the Annual General Meeting. December 31st in each year shall be the end of the fiscal year of the Society.

Article VIII – Powers and Proceedings of the Executive Board

- 8.01. The Executive Board may carry on all business of the Society.
- 8.02. It shall approve the expenditure of all monies of the Society.
- 8.03. It shall make banking arrangements with such bank or banks as it may determine, provided that cheques shall carry the signature of the President and the Treasurer.
- 8.04. The Executive Board shall, subject to the directions given it by majority vote at any special general meeting properly called and constituted, have the power and authority to borrow money for and on behalf of the Society in such amounts as they think proper and may cause to be executed mortgages and pledges of the real and personal property and rights of the Society and may cause to be signed bills, notes, contracts, and other evidence of indebtedness.
- 8.05. Any member of the Executive Board who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of the Board shall cease to be a member of the Executive Board unless the Executive Board prior to or at the third meeting has excused such default.
- 8.06. Each member of the Executive Board shall have one vote on the Board. The Chairman shall have no vote except in the event of a tie when he/she shall have casting vote.
- 8.07. Questions arising at any Board meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes of the Board members present.
- 8.08. Committees shall be appointed by the Executive Board as need may arise and ratified by the Society at the Annual General Meeting.
- 8.09. A quorum at any Board meeting shall be four members of the Executive Board.

- 8.10. It shall be allowed, upon two-thirds vote of committee members present at a meeting, to warn and/or suspend any member for a minimum of three to a maximum of five functions for any cause which the Executive Board may deem as reasonable. It will be deemed necessary that the parties involved be given the opportunity to explain the incident, which will then be used by the Executive Board to make judgment.

Article IX – Meetings

- 9.01. The Executive Board shall meet regularly on a specified date of each month at places designated by the officers of the Society.
- 9.02. The regular February meeting shall be the Annual General Meeting for hearing reports from all the officers and committees and for electing the same.
- 9.03. Special general meetings for special purposes may be called by the Executive Board at such times as are thought advisable. Such special general meetings may transact only such business as in specified in the call.
- 9.04. At least two weeks' notice, specifying the place, the day, the hour of the meeting, and, in case of special business, the general nature of the business, shall be given to members of the Society as the case may be. The non-receipt of any such notice by a member shall not invalidate the proceedings.
- 9.05. A quorum at any general meeting shall be fifteen members in good standing present in person.
- 9.06. All votes shall be taken on a show of hand unless prior thereto on member requests a secret ballot or unless the Chairman directs a secret ballot; only members in good standing may vote.
- 9.07. The President shall preside as Chairman. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall preside as Chairman. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the Chairman shall be elected by members present.
- 9.08. The Chairman shall have no vote except as in the case of a tie when he shall have a casting vote.
- 9.09. At each Annual General Meeting, the Executive Board of the Society, acting as a Nominating Committee, shall present to the members nominations for the Executive Board for the ensuing year. In addition, nominations may be made from the floor at such meeting.

Article X – Notices

- 10.01. Notices to members/associate members/junior members may be given by sending such notice by prepaid post to his/her last known address according to the records of the Society.

Article XI – Inspection of Records

- 11.01. The books and records of the Society may be inspected by a member at such time and place and on such terms as the respective Executive Board may direct.

Article XII

- 12.01. The Society may exercise all the powers conferred upon it by the Societies Act and any amendments thereto unless specifically excluded hereunder.

Article XIII – Seal

- 13.01. The Seal of the Society shall be kept in the custody of such officer or person as the Executive Board may designate and shall not be affixed to any instrument except by authority of the Executive Board and in the presence of such officers as they may prescribe.

Article XIV – Remuneration

- 14.01. Unless authorized at any meeting and after notice of same shall have been given, no officer or member of the Association shall receive any remuneration of his/her services.

Article XV – Amendments

- 15.01. The By-Laws of the Society may be rescinded, altered, amended, or changed by extraordinary resolution of the members of the Society and in compliance with the Society Act.
- 15.02. Exception to Article XV – 15.01 will be that the name of the Society “Edmonton Goan Association” shall not be changed.