

Q & A SESSION AT TOWN HALL MEETING

This message is a brief recap of the Town Hall Meeting held on **December 20th** during the WMA Christmas event.

During the meeting, a presentation was made to the General Body outlining **seven minor proposed changes** to the current WMA Constitution. Hard copies of these proposed amendments were distributed to attendees at the meeting.

As discussed, the General Body has been given **30 days** to review the proposed changes and provide feedback. A **Q&A session** was also held during the Town Hall Meeting to address initial questions and concerns from members.

Q & A Summary

Member Question:

One of the proposed changes allows a President to serve multiple terms. Why is there a required **six-year gap** before becoming eligible again? Why can't a former President run immediately?

Response:

The six-year gap is intended to ensure leadership rotation, encourage broader member participation, and prevent the concentration of authority in a single individual. This cooling-off period allows fresh leadership and new perspectives while still permitting experienced leaders to contribute again in the future.

Member Question:

Before official registration, could anyone register the association using the same name and logo?

Response:

While the association name and logo were in use prior to formal registration, legal ownership and protection are established only after official registration. Once registered, the association gains legal rights over its name and logo, preventing unauthorized use or registration by others. The formal registration process was completed to ensure proper legal protection, governance, and continuity of the association.

To answer your question, **yes**, prior to official registration, **anyone could have registered the association name and used the logo**, as there was no legal protection in place at that time. This is one of the key reasons the association proceeded with formal registration, to secure legal ownership and protect the name and logo going forward.

Member Question:

Hypothetically, if an individual or group had registered the organization under their own group, could WMA continue to use the same name and logo? Could that group restrict WMA from using the same name and logo?

Response:

Yes. If an individual or group had legally registered the organization's name and logo under their own group, they would hold the legal rights to that name and logo. In such a case, they could restrict or prevent WMA from using the same name and logo without authorization. This risk is why formal registration was necessary, to ensure that WMA itself holds legal ownership and legal protection of its name and logo.

Member Question:

Why did certain individuals claim to be WMA officials and send emails to the general public attempting to prevent the Executive Committee from registering the organization as a non-profit?

Response:

Only the duly elected Executive Committee is authorized to represent WMA and make official decisions or communications on its behalf. Any claims or communications made by individuals outside this structure do not represent the association's official position. The Executive Committee proceeded with the non-profit registration in accordance with approvals given by the General Body and in the best interest of protecting the association's governance, identity, and future operations.

Member Question:

Is the WMA Constitution currently documented and filed legally under ONCA?

Response:

No. At this time, the Constitution has not yet been formally documented under ONCA. Once the proposed amendments are reviewed, approved, and adopted by the General Body, the updated Constitution will be documented as the official legal governing document in accordance with ONCA requirements. Prior to the AGM, the Constitution must be finalized to close the corporation transaction; only after this step can the required tax filings be completed. Following this, elections will be conducted for both the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.

Member Question:

Why is prior experience with WMA required to be eligible for the position of President? Why can't a new or first-time member contest for the role?

Every organization has history, previous decisions, conflicts, lessons learned, and community dynamics. Experience helps avoid repeating past mistakes.

A minimum experience (in any roles such as Coordinator or Committee member) rule ensures the person has already invested time and effort in WMA activities. It shows long-term commitment rather than short-term interest.