

1 October 2008

To: All Members - Hellenic Community of Ottawa
From: HCO – Chair, Nominating & Elections Committee

Dear Member:

Hellenic Community of Ottawa - Community Council Elections

On Sunday November 30th 2008, the Hellenic Community of Ottawa (HCO) will be holding elections to fill fifteen (15) vacant Community Council positions (Board of Directors) - to replace the out-going council, whose term expires on December 31st 2008.

In accordance with HCO By-Laws, the Nominating & Elections Committee (NEC) is responsible for conducting and overseeing election activities. The 2008 committee members include: Anna Papadopoulos; Demetra Zouzoulas; Olga Loly-Roussos; Jim Stogiannos; Dr. George Karlis; and, Tony Soulis.

This is the second time that elections are being held under HCO By-Laws that were adopted by the Community in 2004. As such, election activities will closely follow the same basic format that guided the 2006 election process. To that end, HCO members-in-good-standing, election candidate nominees, and nominee sponsors, should make themselves familiar with HCO By-Law requirements before the election process unfolds.

Of significance to all election participants are the following excerpted sections of our By-Laws that have a direct impact on candidate eligibility - and other controlling factors germane to the election process. For more details, please refer to the full HCO By-Law text. Please note, that copies of the By-Laws are available through the Community office.

Applicable HCO By-Laws:

- 4.3 Member in Good Standing*:** *A member who has paid their dues to the HCO in full, and was a member in the previous membership period, or was a member in good standing with another Hellenic Community prior to....*
- 4.5 Eligible Membership Categories:** *Regular; Student; and, Senior...*
- 4.6 Definition of Members Rights:** *...Vote on any matter and seek any elected position of the HCO....*
- 8.2 Term of Office:** *Each elected Director shall hold office for a term not exceeding two (2) years commencing on January 1st and ending on December 31st....*
- 8.3 Candidate Eligibility:** *... be at least twenty (20) years of age, resident of the Ottawa or surrounding region for a continuous period of two years; be a member in good standing; be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant; be of Hellenic origin (or through spouse; be of the Greek Orthodox faith and abide by its teachings and not have a criminal record; and, not have served on the three (3) previous consecutive terms of the Board of Directors....*

- 8.4 Nominations:** *May be submitted to any member of the HCO Nominating & Elections Committee – up to fourteen (14) days prior to the date established for elections... available from the Community office no less than thirty (30) days prior to the established election date...and be sponsored by no less than **five (5) members in good standing.***
- 8.5 Posting of Nominations:** *Names of eligible nominees will be posted on the Church and Hellenic Centre bulletin boards once received, but no later than seven (7) days prior to the date established for the election....*
- 8.6 Election by Acclamation:** *Should the number of eligible nominees fall between ten (10) and fifteen (15), these will be declared elected by acclamation and the incoming Board of Directors will appoint - by majority vote, the balance of the required number of Directors...If fewer than ten (10) nominees are available, then elections will be postponed for twenty-one (21) days in order to seek additional candidates.*
- 8.7 Election by Voting:** *Should the number of nominees exceed fifteen (15), then elections will be held.....*

** Note: To avoid potential voting registration problems at the polls, members who are not aware, or are in doubt of their current HCO membership voting status, please contact Emmelia Kardaras (HCO Office Administrator) at (613) 225-8016 (Ext: 221) - well in advance of voting day.*

Candidate Nomination Forms: A candidate nomination form is attached and additional forms are available from any member of the NEC or from Emmelia Kardaras (613) 225-8016 (Ext: 221). Alternatively, copies can be downloaded from the HCO web site: www.helleniccommunity.com.

Completed Nomination Forms: Completed forms should be submitted to any member of the NEC or to the HCO Community office, where receipts will be issued with time and date stamp. Submission deadline is **5:00 pm on November 17th 2008.**

Election Date: All voting will take place in the Church Hall Boardroom (church basement) on Sunday, November 30th 2008. Polls will open following the Divine Liturgy and shall remain open until 7:00 pm.

Advanced Polls: Two advanced polls will be open to eligible voters who cannot participate in the election process on Election Day. Persons wishing to avail themselves of this option should contact a member of the NEC no later than November 3rd 2008. Advanced polls will be held at the Church Hall Boardroom on Thursday, November 20th from 5:00 to 9:00 PM; and on Saturday, November 22nd, from 2:00 PM until 6:00 PM.

Proxy Voting: Where a community member in good standing is physically unable to participate in either the advanced or regular polls, proxy voting will be made available.

Scrutinizers: Each nominee is entitled to appoint a scrutinizer to oversee registration, polling and ballot counting activities. Strict rules apply to persons acting in this capacity.

For further details and qualification standards addressing Proxy Voting or Scrutinizer options, please contact any member of the NEC, or the HCO Office Administrator, Emmelia Kardaras (613) 225-8016 (Ext: 221).

Contact Information: HCO Nominating & Elections Committee Members

Anna Papadopoulos: Tel. (613) 843-1975; email: annapapas@hotmail.com
Olga Loly-Roussos: Tel. (613) 828-6889; email: ololy@hotmail.com
Jim Stogiannos: Tel. (613) 521-5662
Dr. George Karlis: Tel. (613) 843-0780; email: gkarlis@uottawa.ca
Demetra Zouzoulas/Vice-Chair email: demetrazz@yahoo.com
Tony Soulis/Chair Tel. (613) 592-0572; email: tonysoulis@gmail.com

For over seventy-seven years, the HCO has been well served by a series of councils that have had the wisdom and foresight to keep our Community at the forefront in all areas related to church and culture. That positive outcome has been the result of sound planning by dedicated members who have reflected the aspirations of our Hellenic Community: Ordinary members like you, who benefit from our structure and commitment - gained from past and current administrations.

As you reflect on our Community, its benefits, and our many civic accomplishments, please consider serving on our Community Council, so that going forward, new ideas and input can form the basis of our Community planning process.

Alternatively, should you know of one or more HCO members, who can make a positive contribution within our Community, please consider lending your support through the nomination process. Nominees will certainly benefit from your support - and the Hellenic Community of Ottawa will continue to reflect the will of its diverse membership.

Should you require additional information or further assistance regarding the election process, please contact any member of the Nominating & Elections Committee listed above. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



A.S. (Tony) Soulis
Chair, HCO Nominating & Elections Committee

CC: George Trigylidas – HCO Assembly Chair
Antonio Pantieras – HCO President
Fr. Alex Michalopoulos – Protopresbyter

Attachment:
HCO Nominating & Election Committee - Nomination Form