

# MEMO

**TO:** Council

**FROM:** Fazal Khan, Registrar

**DATE:** January 29, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Procedure in the Event of Inconclusive Election Results  
Action Required

---

**Issue:**

With the current composition of the council of 8 elected and 6 public appointed members we are at 14 members total which could result in a tie vote during the Executive Committee elections. To avoid confusion during the course of the elections, administration has flagged this possibility for council consideration.

Under the current by-laws the chair has discretion to make a ruling on how to proceed in the event of a tie vote.

**Background:**

*Procedure in the Event of Inconclusive Election Results*

*No Majority*

*Article 9.1(e) of the by-laws set out the procedure in the event that no majority is obtained as follows:*

- If no majority is obtained on the first election round, a second round is conducted*
- If there is still no majority following a second round, the candidate with the least amount of votes is removed from the ballot and a subsequent round is carried out*

*Tie Vote*

*Under section 21 of Schedule C to the by-laws, it is up to the chair to make a ruling on how to proceed in the event of more than two tie votes with respect to an elected office. The chair's ruling can be appealed to the Council without debate. Both the chair and the Council must be guided by Roberts Rules of Order.*

*Pursuant to Roberts Rules of Order, members do not proceed to the next office until they elect someone for the unelected office. In other words, if no one receives a majority vote for the office of president, the members keep voting until they elect someone.*

**For Consideration:**

Would Council like to give any guidance to the Chair in advance as to its preference when dealing with:

- 1) In the event of a repeated tie, should there be a cap on the number of rounds of voting?
- 2) If council prefers to cap the number of rounds of voting, how would it like the tie to be broken? While not explicitly stated in the Executive Elections by-law, the Council Election by-law does make reference under Article 6.9 that the a tie can be decided by 'drawing of lots' by the elections officer.