

Bylaws Review 2025: Summary of Changes

Article II – Mission

- Original (2024):
“Collaborating to reduce the incidence, mortality, and effects of cancer across the care continuum for all North Dakotans.”
- Draft (2025):
“The North Dakota Cancer Coalition is a state-wide network collaborating to reduce the incidence and mortality of cancer across the care continuum and improve the quality of life for those affected by cancer in North Dakota through prevention, education, and access to care.”
- Change: Expanded scope to include quality of life, prevention, education, and access to care. Removed separate Vision statement entirely.

Vision Statement

- Original:
“A cancer-free future for North Dakota.”
- Draft:
Removed entirely.
- Change: Eliminated aspirational vision to prevent mission creep.

Article III – Purpose

- Original:
Included five principles with headings like “Success begins with VISION” and detailed narrative.
- Draft:
Principles reframed with bold headings (VISION, COLLABORATION, EFFICIENCY, ACTION, RESULTS) and streamlined language emphasizing mission-driven approach and measurable outcomes.
- Change: More concise, mission-focused language; removed aspirational tone.

Article IV – Membership

- Original:
Required annual dues of \$50 and waiver process; application link included “annually.”
- Draft:
Removed dues requirement entirely; simplified application process; added Code of Ethics and expectation for ethical conduct.
- Change: Membership is now free; ethical standards introduced.

Article VI – Officers

- Original:
Officers: Chair, Immediate Past Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.
No detailed position descriptions.
- Draft:
Removed Immediate Past Chair; added Fundraising Chair and Information Officer with detailed role descriptions; added tie-breaker rule for elections.
- Change: Expanded board roles and responsibilities; clarified governance structure.

Article VII – Executive Committee

- Original:
Composition: Immediate Past Chair, Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer.
- Draft:
Composition: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Fundraising Chair, Information Officer.
Added quorum clarification (50% voting members, Chair as tie-breaker).
- Change: Broader representation; voting rules updated.

Article IX – Action Teams

- Original:
Listed responsibilities like aligning projects with ND Cancer Plan and submitting minutes.
- Draft:
Added requirement for annual Action Plan approved by Coalition Manager and Executive Committee; emphasized program design and evaluation.
- Change: Stronger accountability and planning requirements.

Article XII – Restrictions

- Original:
Referenced 501(c)(6) status; prohibited lobbying and legislative endorsements.
- Draft:
Changed to 501(c)(3) status; clarified lobbying restrictions per IRS code; removed blanket prohibition on correspondence about policy.
- Change: Significant legal compliance shift from trade association to charitable nonprofit.

Fiscal Year

- Original:
July 1 – June 30.
- Draft:
January 1 – December 31.
- Change: Aligns fiscal year with calendar year.

Financials

- Original:
Article XV titled “Contracts, Checks, and Funds.”
- Draft:
Renamed to “Financials”; same provisions but reorganized for clarity.
- Change: Structural and formatting improvement.