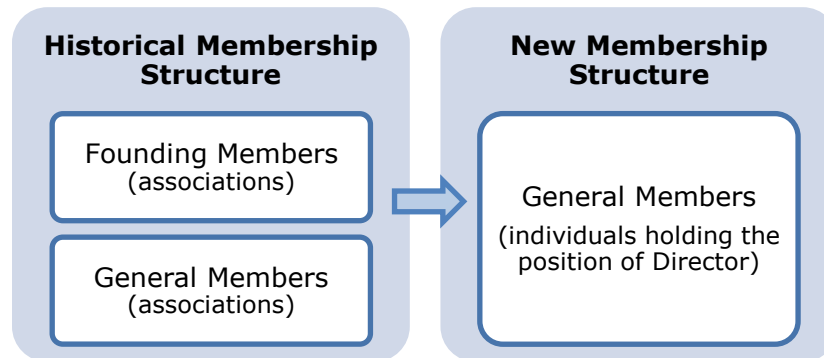




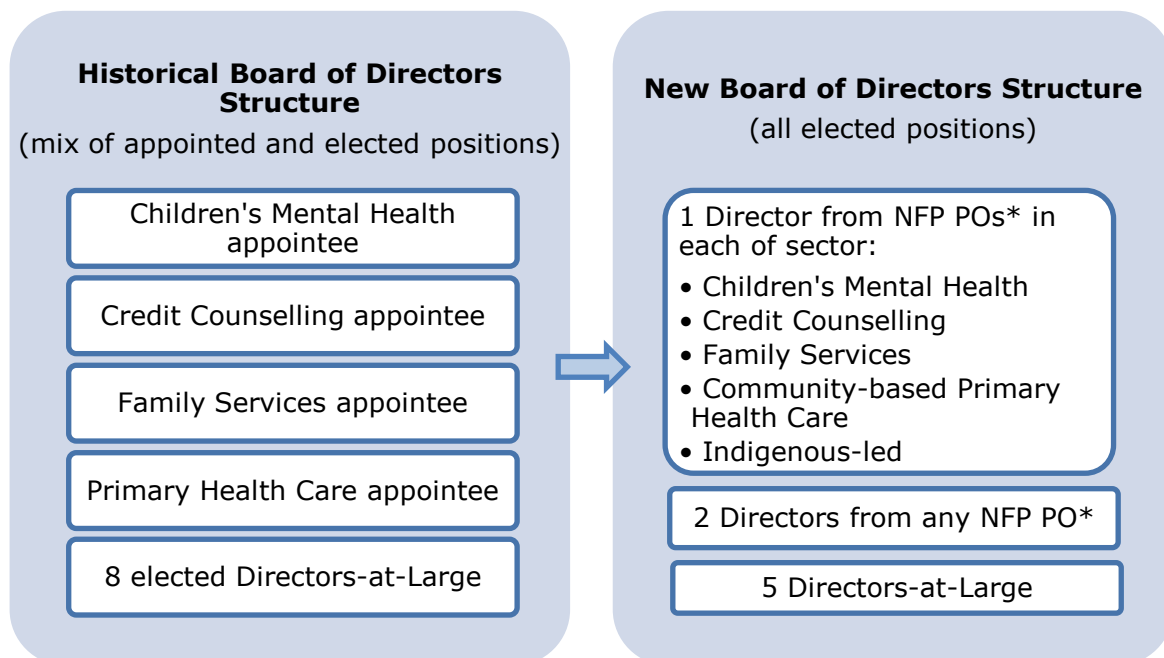
## Membership and Governance Updates at the CCA

In December 2023, the CCA membership approved changes to the bylaws that resulted in a new membership structure and a new structure for the Board of Directors.

**Membership Structure:** the membership changed from 2 classes of members made up of associations to a single class of individuals who also constitute the Board of Directors.



**Board of Directors:** the Board of Directors changed from a combination of individuals appointed by the original Founding Member associations and ones elected by the membership, to a fully elected group. The new Board continues to include positions for representatives from CCA's original founding sectors. The majority of Directors will be from not-for-profit organizations accredited by CCA.



\* NFP PO: an individual in a governance or management capacity in a not-for-profit Participating Organization (PO)

## Why these changes were made

These changes were originally considered by the CCA Board to improve and protect the organization. The Board had received legal advice that under the previous two-class membership structure, the organization was at risk of the following scenarios that could have inhibited its ability to function effectively:

- Motions brought forward to the membership could have been held up by a tied vote within either member class.
- There was only one member in the General Member class; that individual association had the authority to veto any motion put forward to the membership.

Since its inception, the CCA has worked to recruit more general members, without success. The Board also considered the idea of equating membership with participation in the accreditation program. But with over 200 POs, it would be challenging to track and engage with such a large membership in a meaningful way and would likely be very difficult to achieve quorum at member meetings.

The final membership structure that was selected equates the membership with the Board of Directors.

## Guiding Principles

Before undertaking any discussions on governance and membership changes, the Board of Directors identified that this work would be guided by the CCA's values of *Meaningful Collaboration* and *Inclusion & Equity*. The CCA membership was engaged throughout the past year and helped to craft the resulting changes. Participating organizations and Reviewers were also informed early on and invited to provide feedback on the changes under consideration.

The Board committed that any new membership and governance structures would

- Protect and remain accountable to its founding community-based values.
- Recognize the shared history with Founding and Indigenous Members.
- Promote and embed inclusion and diversity throughout its practices.
- Remain accessible, grounded in health equity, and committed to engagement.
- Facilitate efficient, streamlined, and clear governance processes.

To mitigate the potential risk of being disconnected from the sectors it serves, the CCA Board also committed to

- Promoting a diversity of perspectives and lived experiences on the Board by paying particular attention to recruiting Indigenous peoples, Francophones, individuals from other equity-deserving communities and from across Canada for all Director positions.
- Engaging with and learning from the sectors we serve, by
  - building in opportunities for the CCA Board to learn about and from the sectors and communities served,
  - engaging sector associations and POs in our strategic planning processes and accreditation standards reviews, and
  - maintaining cooperation agreements and active partnerships with interested sector associations.

*If you have questions or feedback about the changes that have been enacted, please contact Sophie Bart, Executive Director, at [ed@canadiancentreforaccreditation.ca](mailto:ed@canadiancentreforaccreditation.ca).*