

## Membership Dues and Changes to Bylaws

### Top 10 FAQs

#### Membership Dues

**1. Q: Why is IDC increasing membership dues?**

A: : An increase in dues will provide IDC with a solid financial foundation of revenue as a member-based association. Current minimal dues restrict both the type and level of service(s) which IDC can provide its members. A dues increase will allow IDC to deliver its current list of services as well as provide best practice research, ongoing government relations, international partnerships and bespoke training for senior practitioner members.

**2. Q: What happens to IDC if the dues increase is not implemented for 2018?**

A: If the proposed dues are not approved, with a January 2018 implementation date, the IDC board will need to immediately consider a number of options including significantly reducing its services to voluntary dissolution.

**3. Q: Why the hike in student and intern dues?**

A: We are bringing IDC into alignment with other association best practices. Students in similar member-based organizations pay annual membership dues, and IDC's student rate will be far less than the dues for registered members.

**4. Q: Do similar organizations (e.g. ASID, IIDA) require their members to pay additional dues to chapters and states in addition to their national association?**

A: Depending on the legislation in each state, Registered Interior Designers in the U.S. may need to be members of a state board in order to practice. State boards are part of state governments and are heavily subsidized by taxpayers. ASID & IIDA are advocacy bodies for the profession and do not have registration requirements for their members.

**5. Q: What kinds of benefits does IDC provide for its members?**

A: IDC provides professional development, event and networking opportunities, industry research, government relations, public relations, media opportunities and much more.

#### Bylaw Changes

**6. Q: How does this change affect associations which have a Practice Act?**

A: The new dues model and bylaws will not affect any existing collaborative relationships or agreements in place as it pertains to who sends out notices, collects dues, or how programs are delivered.

**7. Q: How will voting on the amended bylaws and dues increase be conducted? Will this be done nationally?**

A: The amended bylaws will be voted on by members attending the 2017 IDC Annual Meeting in Montréal on Oct. 19, 2017 or via proxy votes (for those who cannot attend).

**8. Q: The new IDC will have nine board members – will these board members be drawn from the nine provincial associations?**

A: Our intent is to move IDC to the next level of its evolution by striving for excellence and meeting industry best practices as it pertains to competencies, gender equality, diversity, experience, etc. As a national advocacy board, we will be pursuing regional representation from across the country. IDC will have a policy to ensure that these best practices are met.

**9. Q: What happens to proxies in the future under the new bylaws?**

A: Through our research, industry best practice is moving away from proxies in the attempt to provide better transparency. We want members to vote for themselves, without giving their votes to others. Members will be able to vote in advance of or at the annual meetings going forward.

**10. Q: Why is IDC reducing the requirements for designers – moving from a required four-year degree to a two-year degree?**

A: IDC is not changing the requirements of how provincial associations register members. Rather, IDC is becoming a more inclusive body that continues to promote and advocate for the profession while expanding our reach and influence by drawing others who impact the profession and lives. With that said, our Board will be meeting to consider removing the 2-year reference in the definition.