When the Chair's Vote Will Make a Difference By Lori Lukinuk, CP, PRP, Parliamentary Services

One of the most important aspects of the job of the chair is to remain impartial. The chair has the same voting rights as any other member (unless otherwise stipulated in the bylaws) meaning they can vote, but to maintain impartiality they should not vote if their vote will not make a difference.

12 in favour; 13 opposed – majority vote required

Without chair's vote: **defeated** – 12/25 (48%)

If chair votes in favour – there would be 13 in favour; 13 opposed – <u>still defeated</u> (Chair's vote makes no difference - 13/26 - 50% - Not more than 50%)

If chair votes opposed – there would be 12 in favour; 14 opposed – <u>still defeated</u> (Chair's vote makes no difference - 12/26 - 46.15% - Not more than 50%)

15 in favour; 14 opposed – majority vote required

Without chair's vote: motion carried - 15/29 (51.7% - more than 50%)

If chair votes in favour; there would be 16 in favour; 14 opposed – <u>still carried</u> (Chair's vote makes no difference. 16/30 - 53.3% - more than 50%)

If chair votes opposed; there would be 15 in favour; 15 opposed – motion is <u>defeated</u> on a tie vote (Chair's vote <u>DOES</u> make a difference. 15/30 - 50% - not more than 50%)

60 in favour; 31 opposed – 2/3 vote required

Without chair's vote: motion <u>defeated</u> – 60/91 (65.93% - does not meet the 2/3 requirement)

If chair votes in favour; there would be 61 in favour; 31 opposed – <u>still defeated</u> (Chair's vote makes no difference. 61/92 - 66.30% - does not meet the 2/3 requirement)

If chair votes opposed; there would be 60 in favour; 32 opposed – <u>still defeated</u> (Chair's vote makes no difference. 60/92 - 65.2% - does not meet 2/3 requirement)

30 in favour; 14 opposed – 2/3 vote required

Without chair's vote: motion <u>carried</u> – 30/44 (68% - meets 2/3 requirement)

If chair votes in favour; there would be 31 in favour; 14 opposed – <u>still carried</u> (Chair's vote makes no difference - 31/45 - 68.89% - meets 2/3 requirement)

If chair votes opposed; there would be 30 in favour; 15 opposed – <u>still carried</u> (chair's vote makes no difference) – 30/45 (66.67% - meets 2/3 requirement)