

RAIC LIFE MEMBERSHIP POLICY

Category: Membership

Policy Number: OP-008

Date of Policy: February 27, 2026

1. Purpose

Life Membership is a prestigious honour awarded to RAIC full members who have demonstrated exceptional, sustained, and long-standing service to the Institute and the architectural profession. This designation recognizes members whose contributions advance the RAIC's strategic direction and priorities, inspire the membership community, and exemplify the values and objectives of the RAIC, including leadership, mentorship, and a demonstrated commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Recipients of Life Membership retain all benefits and privileges of full RAIC membership for life without the obligation to pay future dues.

2. Eligibility

To be eligible for Life Membership, a nominee must meet all of the following criteria:

- Be a current full RAIC member in good standing; and
- Have made distinguished and sustained contributions to the RAIC, the architectural profession.

Eligibility may also reflect exceptional service or impact not otherwise captured above, at the discretion of the RAIC Board of Directors.

Eligible nominators include RAIC members in good standing, as defined in the Terms of Reference.

3. Assessment Criteria

Nominees will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- Leadership and service to the RAIC or allied organizations
- Demonstrated sustained compliance with the RAIC Code of Conduct and upheld the ethical standards and professional integrity of the RAIC throughout their membership.
- Advancement of the profession (practice, research, education, advocacy)
- Demonstrated support for equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- Influence, mentorship, and legacy over time

4. Conflict of Interest

Any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest arising in the nomination or assessment of Life Membership candidates shall be declared and managed in accordance with the RAIC's Conflict of Interest policy. Individuals with a conflict shall recuse themselves from discussion and decision-making related to the affected nomination.

5. Governance and Authority

- The RAIC Board of Directors exclusively holds the authority to confer Life Membership.
- The Board determines the maximum number of awards (three) conferred each year and may elect not to confer any awards in a given year.
- Unanimous approval by the Board of Directors is required to grant Life Membership.

6. Recognition, Announcement and Privileges

Successful nominees for Life Membership shall be formally notified by the RAIC following approval. Public announcement of Life Membership recipients shall be made in accordance with RAIC communications practices and timelines.

Life Members:

- Retain all rights and privileges of full RAIC membership as defined in RAIC bylaws and policies.
- Are recognized publicly, including but not limited to the presentation of a certificate at a RAIC event.

Serve as exemplars of the RAIC's values and may, at the discretion of the Institute, contribute to mentorship and leadership initiatives.

5. Strategic Principles

The Life Membership program:

1. Honours long-term commitment to the RAIC and the profession through sustained service and leadership.
2. Highlights exemplary contributions that inspire the membership community.
3. Promotes equity, diversity, and inclusion within the Institute and the profession.
4. Ensures transparency and accountability in recognition through documented approvals and formal record-keeping.

6. Record-Keeping

All nominations, supporting materials, and Board decisions will be maintained in RAIC membership records in accordance with RAIC records management and privacy policies for accountability and historical reference.

7. Policy Review

This policy shall be reviewed every five years by the Board of Directors, or sooner if required by changes in governance, membership priorities, or strategic objectives.