



## **PLAY SELECTION COMMITTEE (PSC)**

(AKA Play Reading Committee)

(as of OCTOBER 2022)

### ***Selecting plays is the most important function of the Executive.***

The mandate of the Play Selection Committee (PSC) is to recommend a season of plays and—in case a particular play is unavailable, or the Executive disagrees with a selection—provide at least one alternative for each play recommended.

**The Play Selection Committee (PSC)** is a sub-committee of, appointed by, and reports to, the Executive Committee.

For practical purposes, the PSC should comprise no more than six (6) persons, including a member of the Executive.

The Executive, in consultation with the PSC chair, appoints members of the PSC annually from members of St Luke's Players Community Theatre who have expressed an interest.

The plays selected will be performed the year following the next season. This is to allow enough time to find directors and to advertise the season. For instance, the PSC appointed in August/September 2022 will be recommending plays for the 2024-2025 season.

### **Process & Suggested Timeline:**

**August** – The Executive appoints a Chair for the PSC.

**Summer/Early Fall** – The Executive solicits interested parties to be members of the PSC and strikes the sub-committee at the September Executive meeting.

The PSC should start the play selection process early enough (ideally in the early Fall) to ensure that it can present their recommendations to the Executive by the March Executive meeting.

**Fall** – The PSC meet to discuss and read plays, make suggestions, get information about other theatre groups' upcoming seasons, etc.

- The Committee determines which plays it will consider. They will draft a note and the secretary will send it to all executive, past and potential directors and the general membership asking for suggestions. Alternate plays, recommended by previous PSCs, should also be considered.
- A list of previous productions by SLPCT is available. Care should be taken not to repeat a play in less than 7 to 10 years, or to repeat a play performed recently by another local group.
- Note: There are several boxes of scripts with an index in a duo tang binder in the Men's Dressing Room. Other scripts may be available from Langham Court, UVIC, on-line, etc. A budget of \$150 is available to purchase additional scripts.



- The Committee should be mindful in its selection of the following considerations:
  1. **Content** – When selecting a play, bear in mind that, as required by Section 4 of Article VIII of the Bylaws “All proposed plays are subject to approval by the Rector of St Luke’s Church or his Appointee.” Although modern Rectors are often worldly, plays with adult content, blasphemy or coarse language are not a good choice.
  2. **Set** – One set is best. Two sets can occasionally be accommodated. Please discuss any multi-set plays with the set construction team (Dave Hitchcock) to determine if it is possible to perform the play on the SLPCT stage.
  3. **Cast size** – The more members of SLPCT who can be involved on stage in a production, the better. A play with eight characters is better than one with four. Given our stage, the upper limit for cast size is probably twenty (20).
  4. **Play length** – Our audience has requested that the plays be no longer than two (2) hours including the 15-minute intermission.
  5. **Type of Play** – Bearing in mind the note under “Content” above, the Executive is open to any play provided there is a variety of genres in each season. Past audience surveys indicate that the favourites are mysteries and comedies.
- The committee should create a short-list of plays and all committee members should read the short-listed plays.
- The Play Evaluation form should be completed for each play that is short listed.
- Create a one 1) page synopsis of each play recommended and its alternative(s) containing the genre, storyline, number of characters, setting, costumes, suggestions when it should be performed, etc.

**March** – The chair of the PSC will present the recommendations at the March Executive Meeting.

The Executive members will read the plays before the April meeting.

**April** – All members of the Executive will come to the Executive Meeting prepared to discuss and vote on the recommended plays. A decision may be made at the April meeting but, if there is not consensus, the executive will read the alternatives provided before the May meeting.

**May** – The final decision will be made at the May Executive meeting.



- The Executive will apply for the performance rights and scripts for the plays (see job description for Ordering Scripts...). If there is a problem getting performance rights, the Executive will read and approve an alternative play proposed by the PSC.
- The Publicity Committee will advertise for Directors, requesting proposals to direct one or more of the selected plays. The PSC Chair should be available to answer questions and to provide copies of the plays to interested directors.