

# RESOLUTION 24R-30

To request the RI Board to consider proposing legislation to a future Council on Legislation to change the frequency of the RI Convention

**Proposer(s):** Rotary Club of Nelson, District 5080, Canada

1 WHEREAS, the RI Convention is held annually, and  
2  
3 WHEREAS, conventions require Rotarians, RI staff, and guests to travel great  
4 distances using many different modes of transportation, and  
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6 WHEREAS, the impact of 20,000 or more travelers is significant and has a  
7 negative impact on the environment, including increasing carbon emissions, and  
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9 WHEREAS, the RI Board must have the authority and flexibility to change the  
10 frequency of conventions by proposing amendments to the constitutional  
11 documents, including the Rotary Code of Policies and the RI Bylaws  
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13 IT IS RESOLVED by Rotary International that the Board of Directors of Rotary  
14 International consider proposing legislation to a future Council on Legislation to  
15 change the frequency of the RI Convention so that it may be held annually or less  
16 frequently, as determined by the Board.

(End of Text)

## **PURPOSE AND EFFECT**

17 For future generations, RI has a duty to reduce its impact on the environment by  
18 decreasing the use of fossil fuels.  
19  
20 This enactment seeks to amend the RI Constitution so that the International  
21 Convention does not need to be held on an annual basis. The frequency of this  
22 meeting would thereafter be left to the discretion of the RI Board. A reduction in  
23 the number of International Conventions would positively impact the  
24 environment, as it has the potential to reduce carbon emissions over time,  
25 thereby demonstrating Rotary's serious commitment to its new area of focus,  
26 support for the environment.

## **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

27 This resolution, if implemented, could have a financial impact on RI which  
28 cannot be determined at this time. Cost would be dependent on the scope and  
29 extent of support provided by the RI Board to accomplish this goal.

1 The average cost to hold an annual RI convention over the last four years has  
2 been between US\$8.4 million to US\$12.3 million. The cost of the convention is  
3 funded by the registration fees. Excess revenues or loss is charged against the  
4 convention reserve.

5  
6 If the convention did not take place annually, meetings that would normally take  
7 place during the convention, such as those of the RI Board, TRF Board of  
8 Trustees, Council of Past Presidents, International PolioPlus Committee, and  
9 other committees, would potentially cost more to hold at a different location and  
10 time.