



Frequently Asked Questions

Thank you for your interest in serving on LSHC's Board of Directors. Our formal bylaws cover the make-up, duties, powers, terms of office and other details concerning our Board. The following is a less formal summary of information that is intended to answer frequently asked questions.

1. **What is a Board of Directors?**

All non-profit organizations have a Board of Directors. Basically, there is no single person who is the "boss" of LSHC. Rather, the board collectively manages the organization.

2. **How is being on the board different from volunteering?**

Being a member of the Board of Directors is a volunteer position; there is no financial remuneration for sitting on the Board of Directors. While working group volunteers and staff are concerned with issue-related work, the Board of Directors is responsible for goal setting, organizational policies, commitments, yearly planning, budgeting, and financial accountability. We encourage board members to be involved with working groups as volunteers, to ensure that board members remain conscious of volunteer-related issues and have a good sense of what is happening throughout the organization.

3. **How many people serve on the Board of Directors?**

The Board of Directors consists of ten members reflecting the diversity of the community and representing an array of skills, expertise and knowledge.

4. **Who appoints members of the Board?**

The Board of Directors appoints a Nominations Committee which is responsible for leading the recruitment process and making recommendations to the Board on prospective new members.

5. **How long are the terms of each appointment?**

The Board members serve a two year term. If an election is not held at the proper time, the directors continue in office until they are re-elected or their successors are elected.

6. **What are the eligibility requirements of Board positions?**

The Board is seeking innovative and proactive volunteers. Ideally, candidates will have a connection, stake or interest in the business of renting in Ontario.

7. **What are Board members' responsibilities?**

Board members are required to:

- Understand and maintain the ethics, values and objectives of the organization

- Act in good faith toward the organization, its members, supporters, staff, partners and creditors
- Be familiar with the organization's constitution, policies and procedures, and the duties of directors
- Make decisions in a timely, fair and efficient manner
- Prepare for, attend, and participate actively in board meetings
- Ensure decisions of the board are based on the best evidence and information available
- Develop contacts and good relations with other agencies and groups
- Keep up to date on the environment in which the organization is working
- Immediately report any personal conflicts of interest or breaches of the law to the board
- Be available to undertake appropriate training
- Publicly represent the organization in a positive manner

8. How many Board meetings are held each year, and where are they held?

LSHC holds a minimum of ten meeting each year; generally a meeting is not scheduled during the month of August. The meetings are usually held at the LSHC office.

9. How long are the meetings and what other time obligations are there?

The monthly meetings range in duration from 2 to 3 hours. In addition to the time required to attend the meetings, directors must also prepare for meetings and become a member of at least one committee.