

Becoming a director: What does it take?

We are searching for individuals interested in serving on the Ontario Regional Council Board of Directors, Directors are guardians of the SSVP Ontario Regional Council's mission.

- To promote the charitable work of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, throughout the province of Ontario and elsewhere in Canada, in its mission to serve and minister to the poor and those in need.
- To support councils and conferences in their various charitable activities through the provision of financial, technological, legal, and training resources and such other forms of assistance as they may require.

If you are passionate about helping people who are impacted by poverty and interested in how Ontario Regional Council can best support SSVP Councils and Conferences to serve those in need, this may be the opportunity you have been seeking.

Are you ready to share your personal and professional skills in board governance, strategic thinking, financial oversight, research, problem solving, and issues management?

Are you willing to serve in a manner different than what you have experienced working in your Vincentian community at your council or conference?

Board Director Role Description

Term: Director positions are non-paid and elected to a term of three years. A Director in good standing may be elected to an additional term of three years.

The Board of Directors:

- Determines how the organization will conduct its mission through strategic planning.
- Adopts an annual budget and provides fiscal oversight
- Recruits, orients, and develops board members
- Hires and evaluates the performance of the executive director and staff, if any.
- Evaluates the Board's performance and the overall performance of the organization in achieving the mission
- Establishes and updates policies for the effective management of the organization

Director's Duties and Responsibility: Directors act in a position of trust and are responsible for the effective governance of the organization.

- The duty to ensure the organization operates in compliance with the laws that govern it as well as its governance documents and board policies.

- The duty of faithfulness to the Society, and to always act in a manner consistent with the it's mission and goals.
- Understand and take responsibility for the Board's deliberations and decisions on organizational policy, finance, fund-raising, programs, asset and risk management, personnel, advocacy, and the everyday operations of the corporation.
- Prepare for, attend Board meetings
- Actively serve on at least one Board standing committee, attend those meetings and take on special assignments as well as participate in the Society's events
- Promote positive relations and communication among the Board, committees, staff members and the community to enhance the Society's mission and its outreach.
- maintain confidentiality of board discussions and externally support all board decisions.
- Adhere to conflict of interest and confidentiality policies, providing full disclosure and obtaining Board approval when necessary.

Desired Assets, Skills, and Experience:

- Committed and enthusiastic about the mission and work of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul in Ontario and Canada to serve those in need, the marginalized, the victims of exclusion and adversity.
- Experience in the Vincentian community and/or in the not-for-profit sectors
- Knowledge in one or more area of Board governance: policy, finance, programs, asset management, personnel, and advocacy.
- A team player with demonstrated business, service and other experience that brings a diverse perspective to Board discussions and decisions and is willing to take responsibility for decisions, and get things done.
- Previous Board experience an asset but not required
- No single candidate will possess all these qualities and skills, but we strive to include this range of knowledge, expertise and commitment on the board always.

Time Demands:

- Attend and actively participate in monthly Board meetings, the Annual General Meeting and up to two to four additional extraordinary meetings per year.
- Participate in at least one Board standing committee and other special activities as they arise
- Time commitment is estimated at 8-12 hours per month not including time committed to any Particular Council or conference level work.