



Report on Six Principles for OLTA Partnerships – A Managing Guide.

Recommendation (Approved by the OLTA Board on August 14, 2018)

That the OLTA Board of Directors approve the report as presented on "Six Principles for OLTA Partnerships" to guide the OLTA and its Staff in new partnership ventures.

Background

Partnerships of mutual benefit are an excellent way for OLTA and like-minded agencies to collaborate and accomplish more or better together, than they can alone. Recent conversations on opportunities indicate the OLTA Board should have basic "Principles for Partnerships" in place as a guide for the ED in going ahead with a partnership e.g. OLTA response to a request OR for OLTA to make a request.

If an opportunity is affordable, beneficial, contractual, planned, strategic & timely, the Executive Director (ED) can be delegated to act and pursue a partnership without the need for separate and singular Board approvals and OLTA signing officers can execute the formal agreements. When opportunity knocks, the ED can proceed to engage, without a delay or need for urgent Board meeting or e-vote decision.

Six Principles for OLTA Partnerships

1. The project or program must be fully consistent with our charity purpose (legal objects) and implementation will directly contribute to achieving OLTA mission and vision.
2. The project or program must fall within the strategic directions and action priorities of the currently approved OLTA Strategic Plan and the Annual or Multi-Year OLTA Budget Forecast.
3. The project or program must be reasonably shared and supported by the partners such that all parties are contributing fiscal and/or people resources (staff, members or volunteers).
4. There is a formal partnership agreement that spells out the contractual duties, commitments, financing and reporting of the partners to each other or funders with dispute resolution.
5. There is good reason to believe that the partners, including OLTA can devote the necessary resources to take on a project or program without negative impact on OLTA priorities.
6. There is a strong track record of joint ability to manage business activities and to achieve specific goals within contracted time frames by OLTA and the key players in a formal partnership.

Implementation

All of the above six principles are good common sense for most OLTA business and priorities - both with and without partners, so if endorsed by the Board, the ED can proceed with routine operations and partners. While it is preferred that a partner in a proposal is also a registered charity, this is an operational judgement that can vary with the scope of proposal and the rules of funding (e.g. foundation grants).

When a proposal or project arises and falls outside of the six principles (with exception of principle #1 and firm in charity law), yet it seems to have good merit, then ED will bring it to the Board for decision. If a proposal is outside principles and urgent, OLTA Chair can ask for an urgent Board meeting.