



OLTA Board of Governors - Job Description

About Ontario Land Trust Alliance (OLTA)

Ontario Land Trust Alliance (OLTA) empowers and supports highly effective, well-governed land trusts that engage their communities to conserve forests, wetlands, nature, living lands, water sources and provide natural climate solutions.

OLTA builds capacity through training and educational programs; connecting land trusts to each other, resources and their communities; leading and supporting on-the-ground conservation work; sharing knowledge and best practices, reducing financial barriers to land conservation, promoting organizational excellence, providing access to current research and acting as a voice for land trusts among the public, governments and other stakeholders and rightsholders.

Our impact is Ontario-wide through over 50 connected charities and communities.

Our members and partners work from Rainy Lake, to Windsor and to Cornwall in the east. OLTA's local land trust members collectively care for over 77,000 ha across Ontario, engaging the support of thousands of volunteers and supporters annually.

For more information about OLTA and land trusts, please visit www.olta.ca.

Corporate Accountability

The Board of Governors are collectively accountable to the OLTA members, funders, and other stakeholders. They are responsible for the performance of OLTA in relation to corporate vision and mission, for the oversight and implementation of strategic plans and programs, and for the effective stewardship of financial and human resources.

Board Responsibility for Governing Decisions

Governors are responsible for acting wisely in making fiduciary decisions in the best long-term interests of the organization and its community and will bring to the task of informed governance, a broad knowledge for inclusive democratic perspective.

Individual Authority

Individual Board members do not have authority to independently approve actions by OLTA, to direct staff, or to speak and take a position on a policy matter on behalf of the Alliance, unless such authority is given to represent or act for the OLTA Board.

Individual Commitment of Time and Expertise

Governors are expected to contribute approximately five to ten hours per month attending and contributing to key events and meetings, consulting with stakeholders and networking in the community in support of the Ontario land trust movement.

Terms and Conditions of Appointment

Governors are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting for a term of up to three years or by an in year appointment until the next Annual General Meeting. Governors must sign a Declaration of Eligibility and OLTA Board Member Agreement.

Desired Qualifications

The following are considered to be desired qualifications for all Governors:

- Knowledge of land trusts, conservation and/or not for profit community dynamics as well as role-specific skills and experience to meet current Board requirements.
- Commitment to organizational mission, vision, and strategic direction.
- A contribution of time with talent and democracy in teamwork.
- An interest in continued learning and sharing expertise.

Performance Evaluation

The Board will monitor and discuss its governance and the performance of all governors annually to ensure proper attention to its fiduciary duties as follows:

1. The *Duty of Care* that requires, in the fulfillment of their duties, a Board member owes OLTA the reasonable care and due diligence that a reasonably prudent person would exercise in a like position and under comparable circumstances.
2. The *Duty of Loyalty* that requires Board members to act with honesty and good faith in what they reasonably believe to be the best interests of OLTA and its members.
3. The *Duty of Obedience* that requires Board members to be faithful to the vision and mission of OLTA in policy directions and program actions.

A Governor may be removed from the Board, if unable to attend meetings without due cause or for other reasons, as decided by a majority vote of the Board.