

Volunteer Opportunity

Director of the Board

We are seeking people to join our **Board of Directors!** Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region (EAFWR) works alongside individuals, families, and the community to build inclusion and support people with developmental disabilities. Our volunteer Board includes community members who advocate for EAFWR and the people we support. Our work is guided by our mission, vision, and values (<https://www.eafwr.on.ca/about/>).

EAFWR is committed to creating an inclusive and accessible Board. We know that people from some communities face barriers to leadership and may hesitate to apply. We encourage you to apply even if you don't check every box. We recognize that lived experience, community leadership, and non-traditional career paths bring valuable skills to our Board. We aim to remove barriers to participation, including financial, accessibility, and caregiving challenges. Supports are available for childcare, transportation, and any other needs you may have. We acknowledge non-traditional career paths, community leadership and experiential learning as valuable forms of experience.

Key Duties of our Board:

- Guide and support the Strategic Plan.
- Review staff reports and financial statements.
- Prepare for, attend, and participate in Board meetings.
- Work with one of the Board Committees: Governance, Human Resources, or Finance.
- Provide direction, support, and feedback to the Executive Director.
- Help identify and address risks to the organization.

To strengthen our Board, we are **currently seeking** individuals who are comfortable contributing to conversations on the following topics:

- Fundraising
- Marketing & Communications
- Public Policy

We are seeking Directors who have lived experience of disability, either personally or in their family. We strongly encourage applications from Black, Indigenous, racialized, 2SLGBTQIA+, and disabled individuals, as well as those with lived experience of poverty or other systemic barriers.

What We Expect from Board Members:

- Attend and prepare for Board meetings. 5 meetings per year on Saturday mornings (8:45 AM – 12:30 PM). Meetings are held in-person. A virtual option is provided if necessary. Board members should review materials before meetings.
- A commitment to participate in respectful dialogue and disagree well with one another, with a goal of progressing the organization's strategic plan.

- Come to a New Director Orientation. Meet your Board mentor and learn about EAFWR. Orientation sessions may be held in-person and/or virtually.
- Join a Board Committee. Committees focus on governance, finance, and human resources. Committees typically have between 5 to 9 virtual meetings per year, held on weekday evenings. Committee schedules are determined by each committee in September.
- Support our mission and values. Board members help guide our work on inclusion and community support.
- Attend Extend-A-Family events such as annual campaigns, fundraisers, and staff events.
- Commit to equity and inclusion. Come to training, review policies with an equity lens, and help remove barriers for all.

What you can expect from EAFWR:

- Welcoming, supportive, family-oriented, collaborative environment
- Governance Training
- Pre-Board information sessions
- Mentorship
- Learning opportunities
- Directors and Officers Insurance
- Reimbursement for expenses such as childcare or transportation
- Invites to community events
- Join a well-respected Board of Directors!

A Board role is a big commitment, but you can start smaller by joining a committee. It's a great way to get involved, learn about our work, and maybe grow into a Board role. We value your voice and will support you to share it in a way that works for you. We invite you to share ways in which we could support your participation.

Ready to apply? Tell us about yourself and how your experiences connect with our values.

Apply here: <https://www.eafwr.on.ca/board-application-form/>

The deadline for submitting applications is Thursday, April 9, 2026.

Thank you for your interest in Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region.