



FED talk - leadership on the ground

OFA has a proud history of on-the-ground leadership. Whether you're considering a new volunteer position or are a longstanding leader, it's important to have a clear understanding of your role in contributing to your local Federation's mission.

We believe local federation directors have 5 primary responsibilities:

- ➔ Providing leadership
- ➔ Serving as an ambassador for OFA
- ➔ Managing financial resources
- ➔ Supporting your board's administrator and treasurer
- ➔ Ensuring a healthy local organization



And several key benefits:

- ➔ Being connected and in the know about current industry issues
- ➔ Creating solutions for agriculture
- ➔ Giving back to the community
- ➔ Being an advocate and ambassador for agriculture in your community

Providing Leadership

You have the opportunity to be part of the overall vision and the road map to get there, while key staff or named volunteers handle more of the day-to-day operations.

Be a part of developing the organization's direction, goals and a plan to get there.

Leading effectively includes overseeing and organizing programs, activities, and outreach to support effective leadership.



Planning



Evaluation



Finance

Serving as an Ambassador for the OFA

Being an advocate and voice for local agriculture is very rewarding!

Cultivate relationships that benefit your local farm community, tell the story of farming, and connect with other organizations that share similar goals.

Don't forget to ask those in your network to attend events, speak at workshops and support Federation activities - the number 1 reason people join boards is because they were asked!

Listen to the needs of local members and share the impact of your efforts in the community.



Oversight of Financial Resources

Non-profits are unique in their finances and business model.

Learn how to interpret your organization's financial reports and develop programs and outreach that are realistic and appealing.

Ensure the board follows guidelines and regulations - carrying appropriate insurance and sharing yearly activities with the membership at the Annual General Meeting.

Create accurate and timely financial oversight.



Supporting fellow directors and staff

Collaborating with and supporting the administrators and treasurer roles.

Actively participate in meetings, to put the interest of the organization first following best practices.

Recruit and onboard new board members that represent a full range of background, views and experiences. A mix of thinkers, writers, planners, leaders, networkers and do-ers!

Local boards evolve over time and are important contributors to the success of the Federation as a whole. It starts with understanding your roles and responsibilities and participating in many fulfilling opportunities.

Learn more at:

ofa.on.ca

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