



RECRUITMENT POSTING MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

The Brenda Strafford Centre was established in January 1996 when it became apparent that there was a dire need in Calgary for long term accommodation and substantial supports for women and children exiting emergency shelters. The Brenda Strafford Foundation invited the heads of local crisis shelters and other active community members to form an Advisory Committee to suggest solutions to this very serious problem.

In cooperation with Calgary Housing Company, The Brenda Strafford Centre opened its doors to families who had fled domestic violence. Throughout its history, the Centre has evolved to be one of the largest Second Stage Shelters in the Country.

The Centre is named for Brenda Strafford, late wife of Dr. Barrie Strafford, Founder of The Brenda Strafford Foundation Ltd. The Centre operates under the registered charity The Brenda Strafford Society for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (The Society).

The Brenda Strafford Centre serves women and children impacted by family violence through providing a safe housing environment and comprehensive support services for its residents so that they can live safely in the community upon their departure from the Centre. Our facility offers 31 units of Second Stage Shelter and 54 units of Progressive Housing. Resident women and children are supported through a wrap-around, family-centred continuum of services including comprehensive case management, counseling, therapeutic early childhood education, and a broad range of community development programs designed to foster engagement and holistic wellbeing. Each resident is supported to achieve maximum potential and transition to an independent life free of abuse.

As a growing organization with a bold and innovative strategic direction, The Brenda Strafford Centre offers a dynamic work and volunteer environment for talented individuals seeking an opportunity to be part of changing futures for women and children who have suffered the impacts of domestic violence.

THE ROLE: BOARD DIRECTOR

The Society's Board of Directors (the Board) serves the needs of Calgary's diverse community, and the Board composition aims to also reflect the diversity of that community. Board Directors serve an initial three-year term and play a governance role in supporting the strategic vision of The Society. Direct areas for impact include: enhancing the health and well-being of children, youth and women; building a community free of domestic violence; providing safe, affordable housing opportunities; and fostering inclusivity for diverse populations experiencing marginalization and barriers to service.

As volunteers, Board Directors typically commit up to ten hours per month to Board related activities, including preparation for and participation in Board and Committee meetings and participation in Society events. Board Directors identify and develop relationships, build alliances and networks, and leverage resources in support of The Society, including a variety of stakeholders. They also support the Board's responsibility to ask critical questions and assess critical information in furtherance of its governance, planning and stewardship functions.

Board of Directors - Position Posting

Page 2

Specific responsibilities of all Board Directors include:

- Strategic planning and visioning;
- Promotion and support of The Society's mission;
- Support of fund development;
- Financial and risk management; and
- Executive Director performance management and succession planning.

QUALIFICATIONS

The Society seeks to develop a Board whose members possess and demonstrate a strategic combination of personal attributes, expertise, social capital, competencies and occupational backgrounds so that, collectively, it has access to a broad diversity of experiences, perspectives, information, connections, and skills to carry out its governance, planning and stewardship functions. The Board Recruitment Committee is responsible for ensuring The Society has a diverse Board, representative of our stakeholders, those we serve, and reflecting the rich tapestry of Albertans. In addition to the below mentioned skills and competencies, the Committee encourages applications from nominees who identify as: Indigenous, under 40, Black, a person of colour, a new Canadian, an LGBTQ2S+ person, or a survivor.

Additional Core Competencies:

The following competencies are also desired for the role:

- A strong passion for The Society and the community it serves;
- Previous Board experience in the public or not-for-profit sector;
- Board governance and strategic planning experience; and
- Previous volunteer experience.

Personal Characteristics:

The following characteristics are desired for the role:

- Team player contributing to positive and productive discussions;
- Committed, highly reliable and able to prioritize and adhere to strict timelines;
- Strong communicator with excellent written and oral skills in English;
- Strategic thinker with innovative ideas and big-picture perspective;
- Passion for the health and wellness of families and community building; and
- Loyal to organizational mandate and goals.

In adherence with the Board's governance model, regular Board performance evaluations are designed, reviewed and managed through a skills matrix to ensure the composition of skills on the Board remains aligned with The Society's stage of development and strategic direction.

Based on the Board's most recent skills matrix review, preference for the upcoming Director appointments in Fall 2021 will be given to candidates demonstrating:

- Leadership in public relations, marketing, stakeholder engagement, and resource development;
- Strong and well-established Indigenous relationships and community connections; and
- Expertise in affordable housing development and related systems including land use planning, real estate, National Housing Strategy, capital campaigns and property management.

Board of Directors - Position Posting

Page 3

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

If you are committed to playing a leadership role in the community including supporting the financial sustainability of the organization, possess the preceding core competencies and are passionate about creating a community free of domestic violence, please consider an application. Applicants may express their interest by kindly forwarding a covering letter, linking the requirements of the foregoing position description to your background, and a current resume to Recruitment Committee c/o j.violini@brendastraffordsociety.org.

In order to meet the required timelines established by the search committee of the Board, the closing date for applications will be Friday, July 30, 2021.