

## **KAWARTHA LAND TRUST**

## **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES**

**Background:** Trustees were first elected in 2017, following revision of By-law No. 1 of the Kawartha Land Trust. The concept of members as Trustees was endorsed as it conveys a sense of both legal duty and guardianship role. Trustees carry the mission into the community and help ensure the vision of those who founded the organization is sustained.

**Role of Trustees:** The Trustees' role is to support the Corporation and the Board in their fulfilment of the Corporation's mission statement and statement of values as approved from time to time by the Board.

In addition the Trustees will be responsible for:

- election of the Board of Directors from among the Trustees;
- approving amendments to the By-law;
- suggesting candidate Trustees to the Governance and Nominating Committee;
- electing new Trustees;
- receiving audited financial statements;
- approving appointment of the auditor as recommended by the Board of Directors;
- providing Trustees to ad hoc Board committees, as required;
- approving the disposition of all or substantially all of the assets:
- approving the dissolution, sale or merger of the Corporation.

Except as set out above, the role of the Trustees is advisory only and Trustees do not participate in the management or supervision of the management of the Corporation.

**Composition:** The Bylaw provides for a maximum of 30 Trustees. Trustees will be elected through a phase-in process over two to three years beginning in fall of 2017.

**Term**: Trustees normally will be elected for three-year terms, and may be re-elected for a maximum of five successive terms.

**Meetings:** Trustees will meet at least once per year for the Annual General Meeting. Meetings will be chaired by the Chair of the Board of Directors.

**Governance and Nominating Committee:** The Governance and Nominating Committee is the only standing committee of the Trustees. It is chaired by the immediate past chair of the Board of Directors, and also includes two additional Directors elected by the Board of Directors, and two non-Director Trustees elected by the Trustees. All nominees for Director must first become Trustees.

The role of the Governance and Nominating Committee is to ensure good governance of the Kawartha Land Trust through policy review, and through succession planning, the latter by anticipating vacancies on the Board of Directors and within the body of Trustees, developing a slate of nominees for new Trustees and Directors, and presenting these to the Trustees for election at the AGM. Additional detail is available in By-law N. 1 and in the Governance and Nominating Committee Terms of Reference.

## **Expectations of Trustees:**

- become informed about the Kawartha Land Trust's history, strategic plan, fundraising goals and other activities
- attend all meetings of Trustees and come to meetings prepared
- respect the confidentiality of materials and discussions identified as such
- volunteer for special assignments on committees or for specific tasks
- publicly support decisions of the Trustees, the Board and the Executive Director
- act as a champion and advocate of the Kawartha Land Trust in the community
- identify any problems to the Chair of the Board or the Executive Director
- contribute to the advancement of the Kawartha Land Trust as a donor and/or through active participation in annual giving and other campaigns.

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