

SO YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR BOARD?

FAQ

[VERSION EN FRANÇAIS](#)

Thank you for your interest in being on the NETWORK's Board of Directors! Read the following document to help you decide if you want to officially submit your candidature.

A. What does the NETWORK do?

The NETWORK is a non-profit organization that supports the ecosystem of individuals and groups committed to improving the quality of life of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people living in the greater Montreal area. We do this by:

1. Sharing information and transferring knowledge;
2. Prioritizing needs;
3. Developing joint projects to address gaps and reduce duplication of services;
4. Creating and strengthening partnerships.

Our members:

- 1) *Full members*: Indigenous persons and Indigenous groups (nonprofits, governments, etc.)
- 2) *Associate members*: non-Indigenous organizations, governments, institutions, and other groups, as well as non-Indigenous persons

B. What is the process to becoming a NETWORK Board Member?

1. Interested individuals must complete [this form](#). The form includes a section for a written statement which will be shared with the NETWORK member at our AGM, so make sure that your statement only contains information you are willing to share.
2. Following your submission, you will receive an email confirmation that we've received your application, and should you choose, a NETWORK representative will schedule a phone call with you to answer any questions you have about your potential involvement and ensure a good fit for the organization.
3. Candidates will be asked to present their candidacy (2minutes) at the NETWORK's virtual AGM on September 2nd from 4:00 pm-7:00 pm. A short question period may follow.
4. Full members of the NETWORK will then elect the new Board members by secret ballot.
5. Immediately following the AGM, the board will meet briefly for 30 minutes to schedule the full-day board orientation and board meetings for the year.

C. Who are we trying to recruit to be on the NETWORK board?

Keep in mind that formal training or prior Board experience is not necessary to be on the NETWORK Board.

However, there are other **essential and required qualities**:

1. Proven experience or keen interest in the nonprofit sector and the Indigenous community sector.
2. Commitment towards social justice and decolonization.
3. Ability to work within a collaborative team setting.
4. Leadership skills and willingness to learn new skills.
5. Must be Indigenous.

Additional assets that we are looking for:

1. Experience related to finances; **financial management, accounting, bookkeeping, partnerships and development, entrepreneurship**, fundraising, successful grant writing, and more;
2. Experience related to project management;
3. Experience related to policy development;
4. Human resources;
5. Organizational development;
6. Facilitation (Charing meetings and spaces);
7. Public relations;
8. Mediation and conflict resolution;
9. Setting up a nonprofit and/or charity;
10. Experience working within a decolonized framework and its application in an organizational setting;
11. Ability to connect with both Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations, community members, governments, foundations, and/or institutions;
12. And more.

The NETWORK values the contributions that individuals with lived experience bring to our organization. We encourage, among others, those belonging to an Indigenous group or nation, people of colour, people identifying as LGBTQ2S, women, formerly incarcerated or institutionalized people, people with experience living in care, and people with experience living



in homelessness to apply. We also understand that applicants may experience a number of these identities simultaneously in ways that reinforce and complicate their experience.

D. What is the role of a NETWORK Board member and what commitment is required?

The NETWORK's Board is a volunteer board, meaning our Board members are called upon to do tasks above and beyond coming to meetings. Here are a few examples:

1. Act in a general organizational governance role and ensure accountability to The NETWORK's mission and membership;
2. Participate in 3-hour Board meetings approximately every 8-or-so weeks;
3. Participate in NETWORK events (including AGMs, gatherings, etc);
4. Participate in one or more of NETWORK Standing Committees (the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee, the Human Resources Committee, and the Public Relations Committee), and regularly report that committee's activities back to the Board;
5. Contribute to developing the NETWORK's membership base by connecting The NETWORK to other circles;
6. Board members should expect approximately 3 à 12 hours of Board work per month (this includes participating in Board and Standing committee meetings);
7. Must be available for a 2-year term.

E. Before submitting your candidacy

Please make sure to carefully read these documents:

- ✓ The [Roles & Responsibilities of a Board of Directors](#), produced by COCo
- ✓ The NETWORK's [By-Laws](#)
- ✓ The NETWORK's [Strategic Directions](#)
- ✓ The NETWORK's [Conflict of Interest](#) policy

F. Finally, submit your application [here](#).

PLEASE APPLY NO LATER THAN Aug 30th, 2020 TO FACILITATE PLANNING.

PSSST! If you decide to apply, here are some tips to include in your written statement:

(200 words maximum)

Your statement will be shared with NETWORK membership at our AGM, so make sure your statement only contains information you are willing to share. You can provide additional details in your presentation. Your statement can be written in English, French or in combination of both languages.

You can choose to answer any or all of the questions below:

- Who are you? Are there aspects of your personal identity that you would like to share with NETWORK membership?
- What groups or social movements are you involved in?
- What circles are you connected to in your work and/or personal life that you feel are relevant to share with NETWORK membership?
- Tell us about your motivation for becoming a NETWORK Board member.
- What do you think you can contribute (**your specific skills or experience**) to The NETWORK?

Do you have more questions? Write to Alanna at Alanna@reseaumtlnetwork.com.