



Volunteer Opportunity: Board of Directors

We are currently looking for enthusiastic individuals who want to make a difference in our community to join our Board of Directors.

About Us

United Way Perth-Huron helps here in the community you care about, tackling #UNIGNORABLE issues including homelessness, mental health and access to services. We work on short- and long-term solutions to pressing challenges through innovative initiatives and partnerships including Connection Centres, the Urgent Needs Fund, mental health supports, research and advocacy. When you show your #LocalLove by donating or volunteering, you're helping people in your own community improve their lives.

Making real and lasting change requires the contributions, expertise, and commitment of everyone in our community – including our Board of Directors. We know that the social issues facing our community are challenging. We also know that the ways that people want to connect to make a difference in their community are changing. Working on our Board of Directors, you will help us adapt to meet these needs as we elevate our role as a catalyst for change in Perth and Huron Counties.

How You Can Make an Impact

By joining our Board of Directors, you will be part of an organization that is uniquely able to focus and unite people and resources to improve lives and build community by building impact in these five areas:

- **Focused investment and presence in rural communities**, responsive to their unique needs;
- **Connected community supports that are focused on belonging and inclusion**, because we know that isolation, mental health, and informal and formal supports are critical issues coming out of the pandemic;
- **Dedicated investment for equity-seeking and vulnerable groups**, because we know that real, tangible barriers to resources and belonging in our communities persist;
- **Aligned collaborative supports for food, housing, and financial security**, because we know individuals and families need comprehensive opportunities to stabilize, recover, and build their futures; and,
- **Increased resilience in children and youth through emotional wellbeing**, because we know that helping to prevent and mitigate adverse childhood experiences is both urgent and foundational to lifelong potential.

How You Can Help Us

We are committed to ensuring representation on our Board of Directors that is consistent with the communities we serve. Based on the current Board composition in terms of skills, expertise, demographics and lived experience, we welcome a wider range of perspectives to ensure a more diverse set of voices at our table. Individuals without board experience are welcome to apply. Training and mentorship are provided.

We are happy to accept applications from all interested individuals. We are particularly seeking applications from:

- People living and/or working in Huron County
- People living and/or working in Perth County outside of Stratford
- Black or racialized individuals
- Indigenous peoples
- Individuals who identify as 2SLGBTQI+
- Individuals who have experienced homelessness or being under housed

Experience in the following areas is an asset:

- Labour
- Agriculture
- Legal
- Financial

Board of Directors Position

Responsibilities

The Board of Directors has a governance mandate and is responsible for ensuring United Way's mission and strategic plan are achieved. The board is committed to fostering an equitable and inclusive atmosphere in which every board member's perspective is welcomed, respected and valued.

Board members are responsible for:

- Providing strategic leadership to United Way, including but not limited to:
 - establishing the long-term direction and vision;
 - monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the strategic plan;
 - ensuring action is taken on our commitment to build a more equitable future and a community where everyone can thrive;
 - identifying and helping mitigate organizational risks;
 - overseeing the financial health of the organization; and,
 - providing business and personal insights to inform major organizational decisions.
- Acting as a positive and passionate ambassador for United Way both in meetings and out in the community.
- Keeping informed about the organization, its issues, and its connection to the community through active participation.
- Supporting activities within the annual fundraising strategy, as appropriate.
- Applying equity, diversity, and inclusion lens to their work.

Time Commitment

Board members are elected for a three-year term and can serve two consecutive terms. During that term, board members are expected to:

- Attend regular board meetings. Approximately eight meetings per year.
- Attend an all-day in-person Board retreat on a Saturday in September.
- Attend the Annual General Meeting.
- Participate on one United Way committee (Audit & Finance, Governance & Development, Community Impact & Allocations, Social Research & Planning Council, Campaign Cabinet, Equity Diversity Inclusion Committee, United Housing Board).
- Attend United Way special events and fundraisers and represent United Way at community events, when available.

Total time commitment of approximately 4-6 hours a month plus meeting preparation time.

Training Provided

- 2-hour Board member orientation will be provided
- Ongoing education and team building throughout Board membership

How to Apply

Please consider joining our team by applying or reaching out for more information. You can:

- Reach out via [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#);
- Contact Ryan Erb at rerb@perthuron.unitedway.ca or 519-271-7730 x 222; or,
- Fill out and submit a [Board Application Form \(App1\)](#).

Your application will be reviewed by our Governance & Development Committee, and we will be in touch with next steps.