

Director Position Description

Organization: Partners for Affordable Housing

Position Title: Board Chair, Charity

Location: Anywhere in Canada

Overview:

Partners for Affordable Housing (“Partners”) was incorporated as a non-profit (with charitable status in progress). Harnessing the Power of P4, our goal is to facilitate nationwide collaboration and coordination among community housing providers and public, private, and philanthropic supporters (P4 partners) to attract investment in and funding for the acceleration of more dignified affordable housing.

Are you passionate about housing as the foundation for addressing critical societal issues like health care, mental health, and workforce development? As Board Chair, you’ll lead the charge in securing stable homes, recognizing that without housing, efforts to improve health, increase economic security, and enhance community well-being are severely hindered.

You bring the entrepreneurial spirit and experience to navigate complex challenges and build the partnerships needed for lasting change. With the full support of a strong executive team and two dedicated boards (non-profit and charity), this is your chance to make a profound impact where it matters most.

If you’re ready to lead and drive transformative change, we invite you to be our inaugural Board Chair.

About Us:

Partners for Affordable Housing (“Partners”) is a social-purpose organization dedicated to addressing the critical need for affordable housing in our communities. Through strategic partnerships, innovative solutions, and community engagement, we strive to facilitate the delivery of more affordable housing units to the market, faster.

Partners has three core objectives:

1.1 Collective Investment

Facilitating the stacking and scaling of investments in affordable housing by combining community housing project opportunities with public, private (corporate), and philanthropic investments across Canada to expedite project development. Specifically, Partners will focus on providing access to funding for community housing providers to facilitate the delivery of new units or the acquisition of existing units for the purposes of providing affordable housing*.

*The definition of affordable housing can vary depending on specific circumstances, but Partners defines affordable as units that are at least 30% below average market rents for the

municipality in question or units intended for prospective tenants in core housing need (i.e. where rent cannot exceed more than 30% of a prospective resident's income per month).

1.2 Collective Voice

Providing a national and unified voice for individuals and providers, destigmatizing the need for affordable housing, dispelling myths often associated with those most impacted, and raising awareness of front-line organizations developing solutions. Partners also promotes the need for greater investment and encourages Canadians to recognize the important role they can play in addressing housing challenges.

1.3 Collective Knowledge

Offering a valuable directory for P4 partners (Public, Private, housing non-Profit and Philanthropic) within the sector, capitalizing on tools such as Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's Capital Connect to bring together social-purpose investors, funders and donors with community housing providers and developers seeking project capital.

Position Overview

The Chair of the Board provides leadership to the Board of Directors, ensuring that the Board fulfills its responsibilities for the governance of the organization. The Chair works closely with the CEO, VPs and other board members to set the strategic direction and oversee the execution of the organization's mission, particularly in the delivery of affordable housing. The Board Chair will be an ex-officio member of all committees developed.

Key Roles and Responsibilities:

Leadership and Governance:

- Provide overall leadership to the Board and ensure that it functions effectively in fulfilling its governance responsibilities.
- Chair Board meetings, setting agendas in consultation with the CEO and Vice-Presidents Development, ensuring that key issues are discussed.
- Serve as the primary point of contact between the Board and the CEO.
- Provide support, guidance, and performance feedback to the CEO.
- Work with the CEO on strategic planning, resource development, and organizational management.

Board Management:

- Ensure that Board members are informed and engaged, facilitating their participation in Board discussions and decision-making.
- Oversee the recruitment and orientation of new Board members, fostering a collaborative and effective team environment.

Strategic Oversight:

- Guide the Board in setting the strategic direction of the organization, particularly focusing on initiatives related to affordable housing.
- Ensure that the organization's programs and initiatives align with its mission and strategic goals.



Interest-holder Engagement:

- Act as an ambassador for the organization, representing its interests to external stakeholders, including funders, government bodies, and community partners.
- Support efforts in interest-holder engagement, particularly in the context of affordable housing projects and initiatives.

Fundraising and Resource Development:

- Support fundraising efforts, particularly in securing resources for affordable housing projects.
- Work with the Board, CEO, and VPs to identify and pursue new funding opportunities.

Qualifications:

- Commitment to the objectives of Partners for Affordable Housing.
- Knowledge of the non-profit sector and public policy, preferably in affordable housing or related fields.
- A core competency and experience that is related to Partners for Affordable Housing's mandate.
- Board chair experience.
- Knowledge of and willingness to explore the philanthropic sector in Canada.
- Strong communication, interpersonal, and collaboration skills.
- Experience in strategic planning, governance, and financial management.
- Ability to think critically, problem-solve, and make sound decisions.
- Strong networks within the housing and philanthropic communities would be advantageous.
- Governance experience, including governance training or certification (e.g. ICD certification).
- Knowledge of affordable housing issues, policies, and best practices is desirable.
- Availability to attend regular board meetings and participate in committee work as needed.
- Partners is striving to build a diverse, inclusive and representative Board. Applications from individuals with lived experience, as well as all races, religions, national origins, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, ages, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged.

Time Commitment:

The Chair position is well-supported by a dedicated administrative team, ensuring that your focus remains on providing leadership and strategic oversight. While the time commitment will vary based on specific organizational needs, the role is designed to be manageable with the robust support available to the Chair.

This wording emphasizes the support provided to the Chair, making the role more appealing while still acknowledging the variable nature of the time commitment.

Benefits:

- Opportunity to make a meaningful impact in addressing the affordable housing crisis in Canada.
- Engage with a passionate and dedicated team of Board members, staff, and volunteers.
- Professional development and networking opportunities in the non-profit housing sector and the philanthropic community.
- Fulfillment of serving a vital role in the community and making a difference in people's lives.



Application Process:

To apply for the Director position, please submit a resume or curriculum vitae and a cover letter outlining your interest, qualifications, and relevant experience to connect@pfah.ca by October 15, 2024.

Join us in our goal to more efficiently and effectively connect non-profit housing providers with public, private and philanthropic funding sources to create a more equitable and sustainable future where everyone has access to safe, affordable housing.

