

Trustee Roles and Responsibilities

Background: Haliburton Highlands Land Trust modified its bylaw in 2026 to restrict voting membership to people who were designated as lifetime members by the board and a new category called Trustees. This change was adopted to provide governance by a Council of Trustees who will carry our mission into the community and help ensure that the vision of those who founded the organisation is sustained.

Role of Trustees: Trustees support the Corporation and the board in their fulfillment of the Corporation's mandate and values as approved from time to time by the board.

In addition, trustees will be responsible for:

- Election of the board of directors from among the trustees
- Approving amendments of the Corporation's By-law
- Suggesting candidate trustees to the governance and nominating committee
- Electing new trustees
- Receiving audited financial statements

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

Composition: The Corporation's Bylaw provides for a maximum of 30 trustees. Trustees will be elected at each Annual General Meeting.

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

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



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Expectations of Trustees:

- Become informed about the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's history, strategic plan, fundraising goals, land acquisition and stewardship plans, regular activities and special events.
- Attend all meetings of the Council of Trustees and come to the meetings prepared.
- Respect the confidentiality of all materials and discussions identified as such
- Volunteer to serve on committees as needed
- Act as ambassadors to the community and publicly support the decisions of the board and staff
- Identify any issues to the Chair of the Board or Executive Director
- Contribute to the advancement of the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust through active participation in fundraising activities.
- Provide advice and/or assistance in the trustee's areas of expertise

Nominating Committee: This committee is a standing committee of the board of directors. It consists of a Chair who is a board member, plus two additional board members and two non-director trustees.

The committee accepts applications from prospective trustees, reviews them and recommends a slate of candidates for the Council of Trustees to the board of directors. Once the board of directors has approved the prospective slate of candidates, they are presented to the membership (lifetime members and trustees) for approval at the Annual General Meeting.