



## Organic Council of Ontario —Call for Directors – 2016

**Position:** Director, Organic Council Board of Directors

**Type:** Volunteer

**Start:** April 2016

**Term:** 2 years, renewable

**Commitment:** 10-15 hours/month

**Meetings:** Once a month, mornings—moving to bi-monthly by 2017

The Organic Council of Ontario is the voice for organics in Ontario. We are a membership-based full value-chain organization created by and for the organic sector to advocate on behalf of the sector's interests. We do this by communicating with government, the media, and various agri-food associations and commodity groups; collecting sector-wide data; conducting market and policy research; and promoting and protecting the organic claim.

The Organic Council of Ontario is governed by an elected Board of Directors with alternating two-year mandates. The Directors are responsible for governance, leadership, and financial oversight of staff and operations. At this point in its development, OCO has a volunteer board where board members are expected to contribute volunteer efforts in their area of responsibility. As the organization grows and hires staff, a transition can be made to a governance board that provides direction and relies on staff to execute the mandate.

In 2016, we have open for election:

- three (3) at-large positions,
- one (1) producer representative,
- one (1) processor representative,
- one (1) distributor/marketer representative,
- one (1) retail representative,
- one (1) non-profit/association representative, and

- one (1) certifier representative

This year, the Board of Directors is looking for individuals with the following qualifications, expertise and experience:

- Fundraising
- Business Development
- Marketing and Brand Development
- Social media and Communications Strategy
- Media Relations
- Website and Membership Management Tools
- Knowledge of Organic Regulations and Certification
- Government Relations
- Non-profit Management and Governance
- Previous board experience

To be eligible, an individual must:

- Be or become a member of OCO in good standing
- Be nominated by another member
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Not have bankruptcy that is undischarged

Responsibilities of a Board member include:

- Attend and participate in regular Board meetings (currently once a month, but moving to bi-monthly)
- Actively participate in contributing to projects related to your area of expertise
- Stay informed about the organization and attend at least one program event per year.

This year, OCO is embarking on a new phase. We have a plan to build sustainable sector funding, an active and engaged membership and a clear set of targets to achieve by 2017. We are looking for board members who are excited to be part of building this new phase with us and are not afraid to get their hands dirty. We need your skills for Ontario organics to survive and thrive!

All nominees must complete this [short on-line form](#) by **March 22<sup>nd</sup>** in order for their bios to be shared with the members.