



More Information About the Board of Director Expression of Interest

About the National Autism Network

The National Autism Network (The Network) is a new, independent community-led group supported by the Government of Canada.

It was created to make sure that Autistic people and their families have a say in setting priorities and helping to carry out Canada's Autism Strategy.

People involved in the Network include:

- Autistic people
- Family members
- Service providers
- Researchers
- Community members

To learn more about Canada's Autism Strategy, visit the Government of Canada website:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/canada-autism-strategy.html>

Deadline to Apply to be on the Board of Directors

Applications are open until August 31, 2025.

What Is the Board of Directors?

The Board of Directors helps guide the Network. It does not manage daily work or programs.

The Board:

- Focuses on what is best for the whole Network
- Works as a team
- Helps make important decisions

- Approves rules and policies
- Hires and supports the Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Board members are not paid.

If you want to share your experiences or ideas but do not want to join the Board, you might be interested in a role on a Strategic Priority Committee or Standing Advisory Council instead.

Responsibilities of a Board Member

Board members will agree to:

- Act honestly and in the best interest of the organization
- Be careful and thoughtful in your decisions
- Avoid conflicts of interest
- Join and participate in meetings
- Help hire and support the CEO
- Review budgets and reports
- Make sure the Network follows the law and is safe
- Help the organization stay on track with its goals

Time Commitment:

Board members will be expected to give about 15-20 hours every 3 months. This time includes:

- Reading documents before the board meeting
- Participating in the board meeting
- Providing follow-up comments as needed after the board meeting

There will be about 4 to 6 Board meetings each year.

Who We Are Looking For

We want a Board that includes people from many backgrounds.

Board members must be:

- 18 years old or older
- A member of the Network

We are looking for people who:

- Reflect the diversity of Canada's autism community
- Believe in the Network's mission and values
- Want to volunteer their time and experience
- Understand or are open to learning about neurodiversity-affirming practices

You do not need past experience on a Board, but it is helpful.

Board Elections

The Board will include 12 to 15 members.

Network members will vote for Board members each October.

This year's election is:

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

4:00 PM Mountain Time / 6:00 PM Eastern Time

Representation on the Board

Our goal is to include:

- At least 1 person from each region: Pacific, Prairie, Central, Atlantic, and Northern
- At least 51% Autistic people (7 or 8 people)
- At least 30% family members (4 or 5 people)
- At least 10% Francophone (2 people)
- At least 10% Indigenous (2 people)
- At least 20% People of Colour (3 people)
- At least 15% 2SLGBTQIA+ (2 people)
- At least 50% women (6 to 8 people)
- At least 30% with French and English language skills

Board members may belong to more than one group.

For example, a person may be Autistic, a parent, and Francophone.

How We Choose Candidates

1. Names of the candidates will be removed before their applications are reviewed.

2. We will make a shortlist of candidates from each region.
3. We will also shortlist candidates from different identity groups.
4. Candidates will receive a response from The Network by September 15, 2025.
5. Information about candidates on the shortlist and voting details will be shared with members after that.

Want to Learn More?

You can book a 30-minute phone or video call with the Board Secretary.

To do this, email:

secretary@nan-rna.ca

How to Apply

You must be a member of the Network to apply. Membership is free.
The membership and Board application form are combined into one.

You will be asked about:

- Your background
- Your experiences

You can ask a support person to help you with the form.

To apply online, visit:

<https://redcap.link/kfxofq9k>

Other Ways to Apply

If you do not want to apply online, you can apply another way.
Email info@nan-rna.ca and let us know what works for you.

For example, you can:

- Schedule a phone or video interview
- Fill out a Word or PDF form and email or mail it
- Send your application as a video, audio file, PowerPoint, or another format
- Or suggest another format that works for you

Need Help?

If you have any questions, please email:
info@nan-rna.ca

We are happy to support you.