

The YWCA of Calgary offers a wide range of services to women and their families – housing, family violence prevention programs, employment and education training, childcare and health and recreation opportunities. The Board of Directors has the responsibility and privilege of governing and charting the future for this incredibly diverse organization and of overseeing an annual budget of approximately \$7.5 million.

The Nominations Committee of the YWCA of Calgary seeks candidates with strong leadership qualities as Board members, and as community members of Board committees. We require individuals with demonstrated capabilities, as listed below, and a commitment to the mission and vision of the YWCA of Calgary. The work is rewarding; the YWCA of Calgary makes a difference in women's lives.

1. Leadership Qualities We Seek

- Policy development, analytical, financial, communication and decision-making skills
- Ability to respect, accept and reflect differing views and life experiences with respect to race, age, religion, sexual orientation, etc.
- Ability to work in partnership with volunteers and staff
- Ability to respond to organizational change, and an awareness of its impact
- Ability to work as a team member
- Ability to participate in respectful debate.

We seek broad representation reflective of the community at large.

2. Time Commitment We Ask

New Board Member Orientation – 4 hours

A thorough orientation has been developed to address three areas: governance, operations, and integration of new Board members. The President will host a meeting with current and new Board members to discuss board governance and current priorities. The CEO will also host a meeting to discuss the YWCA of Calgary and how it works with and supports Board members. In addition, each new Board member will be

assigned a current Board member to act as her "Board Buddy," available to answer questions for the new member on an ongoing basis.

Board Meetings – 4 hours/month

All Board members are expected to attend the monthly Board meetings. Each is three hours in length on average, in addition to estimated preparation time of one hour. A Board binder is couriered to you on the Friday prior to the Wednesday evening meeting, generally the first Wednesday of the month. A light lunch is offered at 5 pm with the meeting beginning promptly at 5:30 pm.

Annual General Meeting – 1 hour

The AGM is held annually in late April, all members of the Association are invited to attend; thus all Board members are strongly encouraged to participate.

Committees and Task Groups – 4 hours/month

Each Board member is generally asked to serve on a committee based on both her personal interests and the Board's current needs. Meetings are often held either monthly or quarterly, averaging two hours per session. On occasion the President will strike a Task Group to address a specific issue. These Task Groups are short-term in nature although requiring a similar time commitment to committees. Preparation and workload will vary for each.

YWCA of Calgary Events

The YWCA of Calgary averages a dozen fundraising initiatives per year. All Board members are provided with a list of the events, their financial goals, dates and Staff/Board role in each. Involvement could include simply representing the YWCA of Calgary by attending to ticket sales, ticket purchase, volunteering at the event or serving on organizing committees.

3. Financial Commitment

The Bylaws require all Board members to be members of the YWCA of Calgary (\$10 annually). Board members' names will be placed on the mailing list for all fundraising events and general correspondence for two important reasons: (1) to ensure the Board is up-to-date on all YWCA of Calgary initiatives, thus allowing them to be well informed ambassadors for the Association; (2) to allow the Board to respond personally and confidentially to any requests for financial support. Financial participation is encouraged at the level most comfortable for you and your family.