



Co-operative Housing Association of Eastern Ontario
Association de l'habitation coopérative de l'est ontarien

Role of the Board of Directors

The board is responsible for the good governance of the co-op. The board supervises the management of the co-op. It can use all the powers of the co-op, unless the *Co-op Act* or the by-laws say that a members' meeting is needed to decide on something. Some of the board's duties are to:

(a) **Members**

- approve or refuse membership applications
- call members' meetings and present an agenda to the members
- report to the members on the activities of the board and committees
- pay attention to the community needs of the members
- make sure that education about co-operatives is available to members

(b) **Finances**

- oversee the financial affairs of the co-op
- present a budget to the members
- make financial decisions for the co-op within the budget and by-laws
- arrange for long-term financial planning based on expected future needs of the co-op
- make sure the co-op has a current building condition assessment, a current reserve fund study and an asset management plan
- report to the members on the co-op's finances

(c) **Maintenance**

- ensure that the co-op's property is well maintained and repairs are done when needed
- make sure that the system for responding to member work orders operates efficiently

(d) **Risk management**

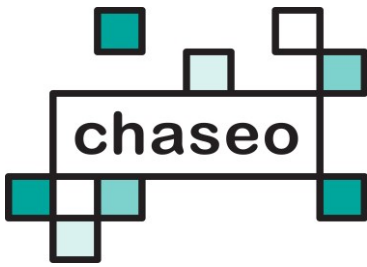
- make sure the co-op has appropriate insurance for the co-op property and for co-op liability
- make sure that other kinds of insurance are maintained if prudent and cost-effective, such as directors' and officers' liability insurance and employee and contractor dishonesty insurance or bonding
- evaluate long-term maintenance contracts for co-op equipment
- make sure the co-op has a disaster relief plan
- arrange for all required fire plans
- make sure the co-op's electronic records and data are backed up and protected

(e) **Organization**

- make sure that co-op by-laws are reviewed regularly
- have a clear outline of the responsibilities of committees and staff
- direct and co-ordinate the activities of committees
- involve the co-op in the broader co-operative movement and in the local community

(f) **Staffing**

- deal with staffing



Co-operative Housing Association of Eastern Ontario
Association de l'habitation coopérative de l'est ontarien

JOB DESCRIPTION: PRESIDENT / VICE-PRESIDENT

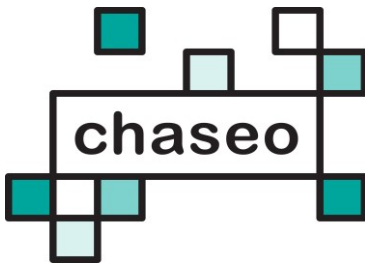
The President

The president

- gives leadership to the co-op
- represents the co-op to the outside world unless the board has appointed someone else for a specific event or purpose
- chairs meetings of the board unless the board chooses someone else
- follows the decisions approved at board and members' meetings
- acts as the co-op's representative in ongoing dealings with staff unless this duty is given to another officer
- co-ordinates the work of the board, committees, members and staff, and
- reports about board activities at every members' meeting.

The Vice-President

The vice-president performs the president's duties in the absence of the president and generally works with the president in carrying out the president's duties. The president and vice-president review their roles regularly to make sure that they are carrying out all their responsibilities.



Co-operative Housing Association of Eastern Ontario
Association de l'habitation coopérative de l'est ontarien

JOB DESCRIPTION: SECRETARY

Secretary's Duties

The secretarial duties are:

- giving all required notices of board and members' meetings
- providing all necessary documents for board and members' meetings
- ensuring that co-op minutes and minute books are properly kept up and meet appropriate standards, including
 - minutes of board and members' meetings include all motions and the results of the motions
 - all reports, resolutions, by-laws and other things submitted at a meeting are attached to or included with the minutes
 - minutes of board and members' meetings are duly signed by two signing officers and inserted in the minute book
 - the minute book is kept up to date, and
 - minutes of all board and members' meetings are distributed before the next meeting
- making all necessary corporate filings with the government, and
- arranging for a copy of all new by-laws to be given to the members as soon as possible after they are confirmed.

The secretary need not personally perform these duties if they are part of the duties of an employee.

Role of staff

Staff is responsible for performing regular secretarial duties for the co-op. The manager must see that all the staff duties are done and that legal requirements are met. The secretary will be familiar with staff secretarial duties and report to the board if staff is not adequately performing them. The secretary will perform any secretarial duties that are not part of staff responsibilities.



Co-operative Housing Association of Eastern Ontario
Association de l'habitation coopérative de l'est ontarien

JOB DESCRIPTION: TREASURER

Treasurer's duties

The treasurer will act as the co-op's representative in dealing with the auditor beyond what is normally done by staff

- work with staff and the auditor in implementing and monitoring internal financial controls
- when available, sign cheques on behalf of the co-op along with one other signing officer
- each month, review the reconciliation of the co-op's bank accounts performed by staff, sign the reconciliation statement to show the review has been performed and report to the board on any problems
- work with staff in preparing an annual budget and any capital budget and present the budget to the board, and
- receive a copy of any management report from the auditor as soon as possible, report to the board on it and work with staff and the board in implementing its recommendations.

Role of staff

Staff is responsible for the day-to-day financial management of the co-op. The treasurer must understand and review the co-op's finances and report on them to the board and the members and any financial committees. The treasurer will report to the board if staff is not adequately performing its duties in relation to finances. The treasurer will report to the board with respect to any financial problems and issues.