



Board of Directors Frequently Asked Questions

I am interested in being a candidate for the Board of Directors.
What are the requirements of a Director on the Board of Directors?

1. What is the length of a term as a Director?

Three (3) years.

2. How many terms may a Director serve on the Board?

A director may serve for a maximum of nine (9) consecutive years (3 terms).

3. Number of Board members in total and representation across Canada?

The Board is comprised of nine (9) Directors from at least 4 out of the 6 membership categories. There is no assigned representation by region. All directors are elected by the membership on their individual merit.

4. What do the various membership categories represent?

Farmers - individuals who are active farmers

Provincial/Territorial Ministry Representatives - each of the thirteen Provincial and Territorial Ministries of Agriculture (or their equivalent Ministry or Department concerned with Agriculture in that Province or Territory) may nominate one of their employees or a representative of their choosing from their Province or Territory with a knowledge of Farm Business Management

Members at Large - non-farmer individuals (excluding organizations, and Corporations)

Association/Organization - not-for-profit corporations, organizations and associations

Academic Institution - educational institution dedicated to education and research

Corporate - capital corporations (public or private)

5. How often does the Board meet and where?

While Board meetings will be called according to the needs of the organization, the following Board meetings are mandatory for Directors:

- Annual Meeting (summer)
- Governance Training & Orientation (fall)
- Business Planning (winter)
- Progress Review (quarterly)
- Performance Review (spring)

With the exception of the COVID19 situation, there will be at least one physical meeting of the Board held in conjunction with the annual Agricultural Excellence Conference held in a different province/territory each November or December. All other meetings will be held by videoconference.

6. Am I expected to be available for frequent videoconference calls?

Typically directors can expect 6-8 two-hour calls per year.

7. Are there numerous committees?

The Audit Committee is a standing committee of the Board. Additional committees may be formed ad hoc and based upon the needs of the organization and Board of Directors. Committee work occurs via videoconference and email.

8. How many days per year will I invest in the work of the Board?

In order to satisfy Board roles and responsibilities, Directors will be expected to commit approximately 14 full days per year to Board activities. Reviewing background documentation, minutes, etc. may total approximately one (1) day per month.

9. What are the benefits of Board participation?

The Board of Directors plays a key role in setting the strategic direction of Farm Management Canada to help achieve its objectives and goals:

1. Increase awareness of the principles of farm business management and the potential gains of applying these principles in the management of a farm operation;
2. Improve farm business management in the areas of finance, production economics, marketing, human resources, farm transition and strategic direction;
3. Increase the extent of application of farm business management principles, skills and tools to achieve a positive change in management behaviour and more stable and viable farm operations.

4. Ensure governing policies are followed and updated to reflect the evolving needs of the organization
5. Ensure sustainable growth and prosperity of the organization to continue to serve its mandate

Farm Management Canada plays an important role in promoting farm business management best practices, and providing Canada's farmers with leading edge resources and tools to reach their business goals.

Helping set the strategic direction of Farm Management Canada, as well as the networking, learning opportunities, and industry insight gained by participation in the Board of Directors activities, is extremely gratifying.

10. Will I receive compensation and/or reimbursement of expenses, etc?

All travel, accommodations and meal expenses incurred by Directors in carrying out the Board mandate are reimbursable by Farm Management Canada as per *Treasury Board* guidelines.

Directors who are Farmers or Members at Large may be eligible to receive a per diem compensation and/or an honorarium for the exercise of their duties beyond regular Board duties such as meeting preparation and attendance.

Farmers and Members at Large serving as Officers may be entitled to a per diem compensation and/or honorarium at the discretion of the Board.

Per diem and/or honourariums are administered at the discretion of the Board and rates are determined by the Board.

11. How do I get involved? Where can I get further information?

Individuals who are Farm Management Canada members in good standing and are motivated to serve on the Board of Directors, are invited to submit a nomination form signed by two (2) current members in good standing to the Nominations Committee via the FMC Head Office in Ottawa.

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