

OHI seeks Volunteer to help us protect Ontario's natural heritage and aquatic resources

The Ontario Headwaters Institute (OHI) is looking for volunteers with a passion for the environment to help us build on some recent successes to expand our profile in Ontario by growing our digital footprint, educational program delivery, and our work to enhance provincial policies and programs related to protecting natural heritage and our watersheds.

Founded in 2003 following the public health crisis in Walkerton, the Institute has grown to be the leading not-for-profit organization in Ontario working on both headwater protection and improvements to the provincial framework for watershed management.

An excellent article about the OHI and some recent successes can be found on pages 30 – 37 at http://www.climateontario.ca/doc/RACIII/Climate_Change_Stories_of_Ontario_Final.pdf, written by staff at the Ontario Centre for Climate Impacts and Adaption Resources - OCCIAR.

More recent efforts include **WaterScape**, a collaboration of 3 provincial partners and 11 community organizations that staged 6 events across south-central Ontario with more than 160 participants. Outcomes include a compelling set of Proceedings, found [here](#), and a Submission to the Province with 17 recommendations on Protecting Water for Future Generations, endorsed by more than 50 organizations and 90 individuals, found [here](#).

Guided with a mission that embraces integrity, accountability, and respect, we seek the volunteer described below.

Lawyer

The OHI would benefit with sober legal advice from time to time. With Board and staff experience covering significant aspects of organizational, facility, human resources, and commercial management, as well as extensive experience in policy and program analysis, we don't need much hand-holding.

For example, we recently authored a successful submission for amended charitable objects with the CRA, and are now submitting an application for supplementary letters patent to Ontario, without the expense of having hired a lawyer.

Having access to a professional legal perspective, however, may be helpful should unanticipated issues arise. Downstream, we need to address the fact that we currently do not carry Directors' insurance and need to address that as we grow. Similarly, the new Ontario Non-profit Corporations Act looms. While two of the current core has experience with drafting bylaws, and can take on the bulk of draft new bylaws based on the Ontario template, we anticipate needing some legal perspectives on this front in 2019.

We do not anticipate a regular work-load for 2018, but perhaps the odd bit of advice of say 2 - 4 hours this year, and maybe 8 -12 over the course of 2019 / 2020 combined to review proposed bylaws drafted by the Executive Director and Board.

For more information, please contact Andrew via [andrew @ ontarioheadwaters dor ca](mailto:andrew@ontarioheadwaters.org), or at 416 231 9484.