



# THE BOARD PLEDGE



# THE BOARD PLEDGE

Nonprofit organizations rely on the trust and commitment of their board members. Signing a pledge is a concrete action board members take to demonstrate their dedication to the organization's values and expectations. This act helps ensure that they are not only aware of their roles but also formally committed to them.

A pledge establishes clear expectations and enhances accountability among board members, guiding them to align with the organization's goals and ethical standards. It also serves as a constant reminder of their obligations and a reference point for their behavior and decisions.

The introduction of pledges into the board dynamic promotes integrity and a shared sense of duty, essential during both the onboarding of new members and the reaffirmation of commitments by current ones. This can strengthen the unity and leadership across the board.

Moreover, pledges are helpful for performance evaluation, helping to measure and improve board member contributions. They are not just a symbolic gesture but a foundational element of professional and accountable board governance.

The enclosed sample letter and pledge are designed to facilitate this commitment, providing a framework for understanding and executing board responsibilities with the utmost fidelity and diligence.

Regards,



Joanne Toller  
The Cause Specialists

# SAMPLE LETTER

[Date]

Dear [Board Member Name],

Welcome to the [Nonprofit Name] team. As a board member, you're joining a group pivotal in guiding our mission and upholding our values and goals.

Your board membership demonstrates your dedication to our cause and willingness to lend your expertise. The Board of Directors is integral to our governance, leading with integrity and accountability.

The attached pledge is your official commitment to the roles and principles critical to our success. It covers essential duties and the expectation to act transparently, ethically, and with respect for our organization.

In your role, active participation, critical thinking, advocacy, and confidentiality are key. The pledge also highlights your promise to avoid conflicts of interest and pursue ongoing development.

Please review the pledge, sign it, and return it to the Board Chair promptly. Your signature seals your commitment to excellence and our shared objectives.

Thank you for being so committed to making a difference with [Nonprofit Name].

Best regards,

[Your Name]

[Your Title]

[Nonprofit Name]

# SAMPLE PLEDGE

## [Nonprofit Name] Board of Directors Pledge

I, [Board Member Name], as a member of the Board of Directors for [Nonprofit Name], hereby pledge to uphold the highest standards of ethical conduct and fiduciary responsibility as I carry out my duties as a board member.

### **Commitment to Mission**

- I will actively promote and support the mission of [Nonprofit Name] to serve the needs of [describe the community served or cause supported].
- I will be fully informed about the organization's mission, services, policies, and programs.

### **Responsibility and Stewardship**

- I accept the responsibility to ensure that the organization is well-managed and its financial situation remains sound.
- I will exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship of resources and will make decisions that are in the best interests of [Nonprofit Name] as a whole.

### **Attendance and Participation**

- I will attend, barring unforeseen circumstances, all meetings of the board and committees on which I serve.
- I will come prepared to talk about the issues and business to be addressed at scheduled meetings, having read the agenda and all background material relevant to the discussions.

### **Advocacy and Public Representation**

- I will represent [Nonprofit Name] in a positive and supportive manner at all times.
- I will abstain from publicly airing internal disputes or conflicts that might arise within the organization.

# SAMPLE PLEDGE

## Page 2

### Conflicts of Interest

- I will disclose any conflicts of interest that may arise and avoid voting on matters in which I have a material personal interest.
- I will maintain confidentiality about all internal matters of [Nonprofit Name].

### Support and Donations

- I will make an annual financial contribution according to my means to [Nonprofit Name], understanding that 100% board giving is a critical benchmark for fundraising efforts.
- I will endeavor to support the organization through participation in fundraising activities and events.

### Professionalism

- I will respect and support the majority's decisions even when in a minority position.
- I will respect the roles and responsibilities of staff and refrain from performing managerial functions or interfering with management's role.

### Continuous Improvement

- I will stay informed about current issues, trends, and best practices in nonprofit governance.
- I will participate in self-assessment and evaluation processes for the board and engage in regular professional development to enhance my skills as a board member.

By signing this pledge, I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the above terms and will act in the best interest of [Nonprofit Name] at all times.

---

[Board Member Name]  
[Date]

---

Acknowledgment by Board Chair  
[Board Chair Name], Board Chair  
[Date]

**CONTACT US TO  
LEARN ABOUT OUR  
NONPROFIT COACHING**



 [toller@causespecialists.ca](mailto:toller@causespecialists.ca)

 [@CauseSpecialist](https://www.instagram.com/CauseSpecialist)

 [www.causespecialists.ca](http://www.causespecialists.ca)