Consensus Council Board of Directors
How to Apply

Thank you for your interest in Consensus Council! Please review the Board Member Roles & Responsibilities below, and visit agree.org to learn more about our work. We invite new board members from various lived experiences, geographic regions, professional backgrounds, and political affiliations across North Dakota.

If you would like to join the Consensus Council Board of Directors, **send an email indicating your interest to Lori Capouch, lori.capouch@gmail.com.** The Consensus Council Membership Committee will periodically review inquiries and contact select candidates for interviews. Call or text Lori at 701.400.6688 with questions. We look forward to hearing from you!

Board Member Roles & Responsibilities

The Consensus Council Board of Directors is a working board that depends on the commitment and expertise of every member. Consensus Council board members advise and support the organization's work in a number of ways. Board members serve renewable three-year terms and attend four general meetings per year that are held either virtually or in various locations around North Dakota. The Consensus Council Board of Directors has financial oversight of the organization, takes an active role in outreach and fundraising, sets policy, approves new program initiatives, and supervises the Executive Director.

Director Expectations and Responsibilities

- Is knowledgeable about Consensus Council's mission, vision, values, programs, bylaws, and policies.
- Prepares for, attends, and participates in four board meetings annually, including one board retreat per year.
- Prepares for and participates in special meetings as needed.
- Serves on at least one board committee, participating in committee calls and workstreams as assigned.
- Participates in fundraising activities and makes a meaningful personal financial donation.
- Maintains a fiduciary responsibility to the organization for sound financial management; approves annual budgets, audit reports, and material business decisions.
- Provides policy, strategic direction, and oversight. Directors are not necessarily involved in the operational or administrative activities for which the Executive Director is responsible.
- Listens to other points of view and shares their perspective with candor and respect, votes in the organization's best interests, and supports board decisions publicly regardless of original personal position.
- Supports the Executive Director and contributes to the annual performance evaluation and ongoing supervision of the Executive Director.
- Represents Consensus Council to stakeholders and partners; serves as an ambassador for the organization.

- Ensures Consensus Council's commitment to a diverse board and staff that represents the North Dakota communities it serves.

Qualifications

Board members are empowered leaders within education, business, government, media, social services, philanthropy, and the nonprofit sector and must be passionate about the work of Consensus Council. Consensus Council seeks to be governed by well-qualified, high-performing board members.

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Strong understanding and/or lived experience relevant to working across social, political, and economic differences in North Dakota.
- Demonstrated engagement with programs and networks designed to benefit ND communities.
- Professional experience with accomplishments in education, business, government, philanthropy, nonprofits, or similar sectors.
- A commitment to and understanding of Consensus Council's mission and programs.
- Diplomatic skills and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships and persuading, convening, facilitating, and building consensus among diverse individuals.
- Personal qualities of integrity, accountability, curiosity, and a passion for improving the communities Consensus Council serves.

Board members must reside within the geographic boundaries of North Dakota, or within one of the five tribal nations sharing North Dakota's geography. Service on the Consensus Council Board of Directors is without remuneration, except for travel and accommodation costs in relation to board meeting attendance on an as-needed basis and within the approved annual budget guidelines.

Board Terms

Consensus Council board members serve a three-year term and are eligible for reelection for three additional terms, not to exceed 12 years. Absence from three consecutive meetings constitutes an automatic resignation from the Board, unless an exception is made by the board chair.

Key Policies

Board members will familiarize themselves and maintain compliance with the bylaws and other standing policies of the Consensus Council, including Conflict of Interest, Code of Ethics, Fraud, and Allocation of Responsibilities Between the Board of Directors and the Executive Director.

Confidentiality

Consensus Council values transparency in governance, financials, and program operations. However, to function effectively and without undue compromise, there also is need for confidentiality of some board and committee discussions and votes. So that the organization is represented with a unified voice, public comments should be at the discretion of the Executive Director and/or the board chair, and board members should always respect the need for confidentiality of potentially sensitive and proprietary information.