

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS Deadline: November 15, 2019

**Niagara Research and Planning Council (operating as Niagara Connects)** is seeking new Board Members. Niagara Connects is a Niagara-wide network for collaboration, planning, learning, innovation and community action toward a stronger future for Niagara.

Mission: “*Generating knowledge that drives community action*”.

### Guiding Principles:

- Community strengths, research, and evidence are linked in order to plan for a stronger Niagara
- Different interests are engaged to work together mobilizing for change; and
- Research and activities are guided by communities.

### Strategic Focus Areas:

- **Build** community capacity to use Niagara-focused evidence (data, information, knowledge) to inform planning and decision-making
- **Facilitate** coordinated community action to create the conditions for a more vibrant Niagara
- **Strengthen** Niagara Connects as a value-add and sustainable enterprise in the Niagara-wide community

[http://www.niagaraknowledgeexchange.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/12/niagara\\_connects\\_strategic\\_focus\\_areas\\_2016.pdf](http://www.niagaraknowledgeexchange.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/12/niagara_connects_strategic_focus_areas_2016.pdf)

Niagara Connects facilitates tools and processes to fast-track access to relevant, reliable, Niagara-focused information to support evidence-informed decision-making:

- Living in Niagara quality of life report (2008, 2011, 2014, 2017 [www.livinginniagarareport.com](http://www.livinginniagarareport.com) )
- Niagara Knowledge Exchange (NKE [niagaraknowledgeexchange.com](http://niagaraknowledgeexchange.com))
- Niagara Community Calendar (on NKE)
- Engaging Diverse Players in Important Evidence-informed Conversations and Action Planning that matter to the people of Niagara
- Data Navigator coaching and capacity-building service
- Visualizing Connections: Network Mapping and Analysis

For more information: [www.niagaraconnects.ca](http://www.niagaraconnects.ca)

### **Niagara Research and Planning Council (o/a Niagara Connects) Board Membership**

Membership is comprised of a maximum of 15 voting members who live or work in the region of Niagara. The Board strives for a balance of representation from individuals with knowledge of the community and/or a particular sector.

### **Role of Board Members**

*Applicants should be prepared to:*

- Actively engage in supporting Niagara Connects’ mission and mandate within the community of Niagara

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- Have some flexibility to attend Board and committee meetings during business hours
- Attend regularly-scheduled meetings of the Board (3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every second month from 4 to 6 pm), with one meeting during the summer months
- Prepare appropriately for well-informed discussion at regular Board meetings
- Work diligently to complete Board-related activities and projects
- Participate on subcommittees of the Board as appropriate

### Application for Board Membership

Please provide two documents:

1. A resume or equivalent document outlining qualifications and suitability for membership
2. A letter of interest outlining the applicant's commitment to Niagara Connects' mission and responsibilities; also include in the letter information showing how your skills align with at least four (4) of the following aspects that are included in the Niagara Connects membership application review matrix:
  - Recognized leadership in the community and a figure of influence
  - Demonstrated success in working with local, provincial or national funders
  - Demonstrated experience in political, social, economic and/or research environment in which Niagara Connects operates
  - Evidence of community development or planning experience related to the 12 Living in Niagara Sectors
  - Evidence of Niagara-wide perspective
  - Familiarity with Research Process – how to take research to practice
  - Evidence of understanding and experience in cross-sectoral collaborative planning
  - Experience working in a team-based environment and with a variety of community partners
  - Excellent communication skills
  - Information management and digital technology expertise
  - Experience in *Communities of Practice*
  - Understanding of data and knowledge-sharing
  - Board composition mix:
    - Gender, age diversity
    - Expertise in Business, Law, Governance, Accounting
    - Geographical
    - 12 Living in Niagara Sectors

Members will be selected from among the applicants, through a process that includes the above attributes matrix. The Selection Committee will consist of the Chair and other NRAPC o/a Niagara Connects Board members.

Interested applicants may submit their application documents electronically, no later than: **5:00 p.m. on November 15, 2019** to:

Mary Wiley  
Executive Director  
Niagara Connects  
e-mail: [ed@niagaraconnects.ca](mailto:ed@niagaraconnects.ca)