



General Child and Family Services Authority Board of Directors

Board Members

Chair

James Lowry, Winnipeg

Vice Chair

Lizanne Lachance, Winnipeg (bil.)

Members

Craig Johnson, Winnipeg

Darlene MacDonald, Winnipeg

Lorne Belmore, Winnipeg

Joan Haugh, Oakbluff

Gregg Hanson, Winnipeg

Abimbola Akin-Akinbulumo, Winnipeg

Mandate:

The General Child and Family Services Authority (General Authority) was established under the *Child and Family Services Authorities Act (CFSA Act)*, which was proclaimed on November 24, 2003. *The CFSA Act* outlines the responsibilities and duties and powers of the General Authority. In accordance with the *CFSA Act*, the General Authority is responsible for administering and providing for the delivery of child and family services in Manitoba for all persons not receiving services from another Authority.

Authority:

[*Child and Family Services Authorities Act*](#)

[*Child and Family Services Authorities Regulation*](#)

Responsibilities:

The Board is responsible to direct and manage the business and affairs of the General Authority including finance, personnel, planning, policies and public relations of the Authority for the delivery of statutory child and family services by agencies and offices throughout Manitoba, in accordance with the *CFSA Act*.

Section 9 of *the CFSA Act* states that Members must

- a) act honestly and in good faith, with a view to the best interests of the authority and the children and families for which it is responsible; and
- b) exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonable and prudent person would exercise in comparable circumstances, and carry out their responsibilities in accordance with this *Act*.

Membership:

Under section 6(4) of the *CFSA Act*, the Board of Directors of the General Authority is appointed by the Minister of Families for the Province of Manitoba. The Board must have at least three members but not more than eleven directors appointed by the Minister. All members are subject to satisfactory child abuse registry and criminal record checks. A person shall not be eligible to be a member of the Board if he or she falls within the scope of Section 62 of the *CFSA Act*.

Per 13 (2) of the *CFSA Act* “A Board may appoint any officers and engage any employees and other persons it considers necessary to carry out its responsibilities.” Per the General Authority by-law 7.1 (b), “The Board may by ordinary resolution appoint ex-officio directors who shall be non-voting members.” The Minister does not appoint ex-officio Directors.

Length of Terms:

According to the General Authority by-laws, board members can be appointed for three consecutive three-year terms, with additional terms at the discretion of the Minister.

Desirable Experience:

- Experience in child welfare and/or social services;
- Knowledge of the Child and Family Services Act and the Child and Family Services Authorities Act;
- An understanding of good corporate governance practices;
- Ability to read and interpret policies/legislation;
- The ability to adhere to a high degree of confidentiality;
- The ability to make decisions in a fair and unbiased manner; and
- The ability to demonstrate an understanding of cultural and social issues, including but not limited to child welfare, poverty, and cultural diversity.

Time Commitment:

Meetings are held monthly in Winnipeg (ten (10) meetings per year. Meetings are held in the late afternoon commencing at 4:00 p.m. and generally are of three hours duration. Agenda items are provided in advance of the meeting to allow for review of documentation. Meetings may be called on a more frequent basis at the discretion of the Chair.

Meetings:

Frequency: 10 meetings per year
Location: Virtual/ In-person (Winnipeg)

Remuneration:

Chair: \$233.75 per full day meeting; \$132.75 per meeting of ½ day or less.
Members: \$133.75 per full day meeting; \$76.00 per meeting of ½ day or less.

Eligible out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the members in the performance of their duties will be paid in accordance with the provisions outlined the Province of Manitoba General Manual of Administration.