



**To:** Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Members  
**From:** Parisa Mehrfar, 2017 Nomination Committee  
Shira Tsinman, 2017 Nomination Committee  
**Date:** June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
**Re:** Upcoming Vacancies on the Board of Directors

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In September 2017, we will hold an election for Directors for the Board of New Visions Toronto. This year we will have four current Directors whose term will expire. They are as follows;

- **Marguax Peck, Vice President,**
- **Reshma Bhargave, Treasurer,**
- **Alicia Ali, Director,**
- **George Small, Director.**

All of these Directors have only completed one term and according to our By-laws are eligible to stand for re-election. All four Directors are prepared to stand for election in September for their second term. In February 2017, **Sandra Essex** was appointed by the Board to fill a vacancy and she is also prepared to stand for election for her first term in September. **Alina Antonie, Treasurer** of the Board has indicated that she will be leaving the Board after this year's AGM so this means in addition to the five current Directors we can elect up to two new Directors at the AGM taking place in September.

In our By-laws it states that the composition of the Board must have no less than three and no more than five Directors who are family members of people who are or, have been, supported by New Visions Toronto. At the September election we will have one Director standing for election who is a family member and we have one other Director on the Board who is a family member. The definition in the By-laws for family member is, "*someone acting in the capacity of Substitute Decision Maker, siblings, guardians or parents of people who are or, have been supported by the Corporation.*" **This means that at least one of the candidates who are prepared to stand for a Director's position at the AGM in September must be a family member.**

We are asking you to help us ensure we continue to have quality Directors on our Board. It is important for candidates to understand that the commitment to be on a Board should not be taken lightly. With the many changes that have occurred over the past ten years, Boards have a higher level of accountability and the requirements of Directors must be such that they are able to commit to a minimum of five hours per month, (preparing for and attending monthly Board meetings), and be able to attend agency functions from time to time. It is also important that the knowledge and expertise each new Director brings will benefit the agency and compliment the current Directors. For this reason we felt it would be advantageous to provide you with an outline of the skills we will need for our new Directors at this time.

Not for Profit agencies are all dealing with reduced Ministry funding. The most recent Provincial Budget (April 2017) confirmed that once again there will be no budget increases for organizations that receive their funding from the Provincial government. This is increasing the need to look for funding from other sources. New Visions Toronto will have no choice but to increase our fundraising activities now and for years to come. For this reason New Visions Toronto would benefit from Directors who have expertise in this area. This does not mean hands on fundraising but being part of a committee that would establish, monitor and maintain a fundraising plan and budget for the agency. If you or someone you know has strength in this area, or have connections or links to businesses and/or corporations that support charities, please consider being nominated for our Board.

If the timing is not right for you to consider being nominated as a Director, the Board of Directors from time to time introduces committees for specific tasks. At this time we have the Fundraising Committee and the Finance Committee. Joining one of these committees may suit your skill level and the time commitment that you have available. We would be happy to consider you for membership on one of our committees.

A nomination letter will be going out in early August asking members to nominate suitable candidates. Please take the time to help us ensure we have a strong Board. If you require any additional information or have questions about this letter, you can contact either one of us at our email below or Andy Rotsma our Executive Director at [arotsma@newvisionstoronto.com](mailto:arotsma@newvisionstoronto.com).

Please note that any Director must be a member of New Visions Toronto. If you are not currently a member, please consider joining. Memberships are for one year, but you can purchase up to five years if you prefer. The time period of the yearly membership coincides with our fiscal year, April 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>. We have attached membership forms for your convenience.

Thank you for your continued support.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

*Shira Tsinman*

2017 Nomination Committee  
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