



Southwest Harbour **Community** Centre

Agreement to Serve as a Member of the Board of Directors¹

Having been selected to serve as a director according to the by-laws of the Association, I voluntarily agree, as a member of the Board, to:

1. Ensure that our vision, mission and goals are relevant and continue to inspire the work of the Association.
2. Abide by the by-laws and policies of the society.
3. Ensure that the Association is exemplary in providing services to the community, managing its money and employing staff and volunteers.²
4. Declare any personal or professional interest that may conflict, or be seen by others to conflict, with my ability to act in the best interests of the Association, and in such situations voluntarily withdraw from the discussion and decision making process.
5. Actively participate as a board member which includes regularly attending meetings, preparing for and contributing to board discussions and showing up for special events.
6. Refrain from giving direction, as an individual board member, to staff or volunteers
7. Support decisions of the Board even if I do not always agree.
8. Represent the Association actively and positively in the community.

Date _____

Signature _____

¹ This version of a board member's agreement is of symbolic value; it is not a contract. Some of the agreements to serve we have seen are intimidating, oriented as they sometimes are to the board's legal responsibility. This example could be used as the basis of an agenda for a board orientation session, concluding the session with a ceremonial signing of the agreement by both new and continuing board members.

² One could add here exemplary "within its means" but we do not think it is necessary. Even organizations with limited resources can be exemplary in these areas.