



## **AFFILIATE STATUS INFORMATION**

The Ontario AIDS Network (OAN) is a province-wide coalition of diverse community-based organizations. The Members and Affiliates of the OAN work together to establish a just and effective response to HIV and AIDS in Ontario.

Through policy development, advocating, supporting, and caring, we enhance the ability of our members and affiliates both to continue to improve the quality and length of life of those infected and affected by HIV, and to prevent the spread of HIV.

All applications for Affiliate status shall be in writing, signed and submitted to the OAN Board of Directors and must be nominated by 3 Regular Members in good standing. All three nominating Regular Members must have a head office that operates within the same region that the applicant is situated. The application must be accompanied by the annual affiliate fee of \$1,000 (refundable in the event the application is not approved).

The Board shall review all applications to determine eligibility based on qualification requirements set out in By-Law #5 and such Affiliate policies, if any, that may be established by the Board from time to time. If the Board is satisfied that the applicant meets all of the requirements, the Board may recommend the application be presented to the Regular Members for approval at the next Annual General Meeting of the Regular Members.

## **THE BENEFITS OF AFFILIATE STATUS**

OAN Affiliate status has a number of benefits, including:

- The opportunity to be part of a provincial response to HIV
- The opportunity to receive training within the OAN's annual training roster, including the HIV Support Workers, and the Board Chair and Executive Director joint training workshop (travel, meals and shared accommodation costs will be covered by the OAN)
- Access to training and support on HR issues through our Ontario Resource for ASOs in HR (OPRAH) program
- Networking with other organizations engaged in similar work in local communities
- Community development with other organizations who share similar goals and philosophy

## **THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN AFFILIATE**

Affiliates of the OAN commit to the following responsibilities:

1. To support the mission, vision and statement of principles of the OAN as stated within the strategic plan.
2. Upon the request of the OAN Board to designate representatives to sit on OAN committees, with a frequency consistent with the Affiliate's experience, resources, and location.
3. To provide support for provincial fundraising initiatives in a manner that is appropriate to their experiences, resources, and location.
4. To meet the obligations they take on as an Affiliate of the OAN.
5. To pay the annual Affiliate fee in advance as stipulated by the OAN By-Law #5.

## **CRITERIA FOR AFFILIATE STATUS**

Affiliate status is available only to any non-profit/charitable organization that meets all of the following requirements:

1. Its head office is located in Ontario.
2. It accepts the scientific evidence that HIV is a contributing factor to the development of AIDS.
3. It supports the OAN's mission, vision and statement of principles contained within the strategic plan.
4. It has a significant volunteer component.
5. There is a demonstrated commitment to the Greater and Meaningful Involvement of People with HIV (the GIPA & MIPA Principle).

## **ADMISSION TO BE AFFILIATES**

The following applies to organizations applying for Affiliate status in the Ontario AIDS Network:

1. An application shall be in writing, signed and submitted to the Board of the OAN and must meet the nomination criteria.
2. The applicant must be nominated by 3 Regular Members in good standing within the same region in which the head office of the applicant is situated. A list of Regular Members in good standing can be found at [www.oan.red](http://www.oan.red).
3. The OAN Board shall review all applications to determine eligibility based on qualification requirements set out in Section 4.01 and 4.02 of By-Law #5.
4. If the OAN Board is satisfied that the applicant satisfies all of the requirements, the OAN Board may recommend the application be presented to the Regular Members for approval at an Annual General Meeting.
5. The OAN Board of Directors will notify the Regular Members of the OAN that the organization is applying for Affiliate status and will add it to the Annual General Meeting of the Regular Members' agenda.
6. At the OAN Annual General Meeting, one of the nominating Regular Members will introduce the applying organization which is encouraged to speak on its own behalf and a vote is taken regarding the proposed granting of OAN Affiliate status.

7. A 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote of those Regular Members present is needed for the application to be successful.

Ultimate responsibility for deciding whether an organization may become an Affiliate of the OAN lies with the membership of the OAN.

## **APPENDIX 'A'**

### ***Responsibilities of the Nominating Members***

1. To evaluate the applicant organization.
2. To submit a letter to the OAN's Board of Directors demonstrating how the organization has met Affiliate status criteria.
3. To introduce the organization at the OAN meeting where Affiliate status is requested and to speak in support of their application.

Only Regular Members of the OAN may nominate organizations for Affiliate status.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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