

# **Our Mission and Guiding Principles of Conduct**

The purpose of this document is to create a statement of our Mission, building on the Objects in our Letters Patent, and to set out some key principles to guide the Board of OLRA as they serve the Association and its members.

## **A. OBJECTS**

The **Objects** of the Oakville Lakeside Resident's Association (OLRA) as set out in our **Letters Patent**, as amended, are as follows:

- (a) To protect and preserve the existing residential land uses within the area bounded on the north by (but including) properties fronting the north side of Robinson Street to and including the midpoint of Allan Street and east thereof by the south side of Lakeshore Boulevard East, bounded on the west by the midpoint of Sixteen Mile Creek, bounded on the south side of Lakeshore Boulevard East, bounded on the west by the mid point of Sixteen Mile Creek, bounded on the south by Lake Ontario, and bounded on the east by (but including) properties fronting on the east side of Chartwell Avenue, in the Town of Oakville.
- (b) To deal in all matters affecting this with the Town of Oakville, the Oakville Planning Board and any other municipal or provincial authority with respect to any proposed land use changes, assessments, installation of services and any other matter which may affect the general character of the area; and
- (c) To work for and with any other interested groups in preserving the aforesaid residential and general character of the area.

## **B. MISSION**

1. OLRA is a not-for-profit community organization that works through volunteers to promote the exchange of information on issues that impact the quality of life in the neighbourhoods, the broader community and the Town of Oakville with a particular focus on preserving and protecting the unique characteristics of the neighbourhoods in the boundaries set out in the Letters Patent with respect to their history, the surrounding streetscapes and natural environment, and the designated heritage districts and homes contained therein.
2. OLRA will actively communicate to its members to ensure that they are up-to-date on relevant issues and actions or plans that affect the interests of the members and the Board will actively seek member feedback through appropriate and varied channels in order to ensure that it fairly represents the views of the members of OLRA on any subject of general concern to a significant number of members in order to advocate those views to our municipal representatives, Town and Region staff, related Committees and other community organizations.

## **C. PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT**

### **1. Inclusivity and Engagement**

- (a) The Board and its volunteers will monitor the activities of any parties, agencies, councils or governments whose actions or plans affect the general interests of the residents/members of our community and will work constructively with them as appropriate.
- (b) The Board and its volunteers will foster a sense of community by engaging with residents/members in a variety of ways – newsletters, surveys, electronic media, door-to-door campaigns, general meetings, social media, neighbourhood events, surveys or other means or channels- with the purpose of ensuring that community/member views may be captured with confidence and that the community/members can be mobilized when necessary.
- (c) The Board will seek to work with any other similar groups in Oakville, and especially adjacent Residents' Associations, whose purposes are compatible with ours and directed towards to the good of our community and/or Oakville generally.

### **2. Integrity and Transparency**

- (a) Directors shall serve the members in a conscientious and diligent manner. They will take all reasonable steps to ensure their decisions and actions are consistent with the mission of OLRA and fairly represent the views of the majority of the membership. If the Board determines, after due consultation and acting reasonably, that the membership is strongly divided, the Board must refrain from stating a public position on a matter.
- (b) Directors should be committed to performing their functions with integrity, impartiality, and transparency.
- (c) All proceedings and decisions made by the Board will take place at duly constituted meetings at which a quorum of Directors is present.
- (d) Board meetings, and all decisions, especially those requiring action, shall be recorded in the minutes of the Board meeting. The number of votes for, against, and abstentions shall be recorded in the minutes. Any Director may request that the names of those voting and their votes be specified in the minutes by asking for a recorded vote.

### **3. Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest**

- (a) Directors shall avoid situations of actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest with respect to their service on the Board and follow the procedures for declaring interests outlined in the By Laws.
- (b) Directors shall avoid participating in or influencing a proceeding when the director or another person with whom the director has a close personal or professional relationship or has a financial or other private interest that may be affected by the proceeding or its outcome.

- (c) Conflicts of interest (actual or potential or perceived) should be declared early and in enough detail to understand the nature of the conflict or potential conflict, and that until the matter is fully concluded that board member will be recused from ongoing involvement in such matter as part of the Board, or otherwise on behalf of OLRA.