LIFESAVING SPORT
CANADA
SAUVETAGE SPORTIF

Call for Candidatures: Inaugural Board of Directors

About Lifesaving Sport Canada
Lifesaving Sport Canada is a new not-for-profit corporation being established by the Lifesaving Society Canada to lead Canada's national lifesaving sport programs with clearer governance, faster decision-making and a stronger foundation for athlete development, safe sport and sport integrity.

Lifesaving Society Canada will be the sole Member of the Corporation. The Member will elect the Board on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee. This is an inaugural slate, so the directors appointed will shape the organization from its start. They will help bring the governance framework into operation, including the policies, committees and oversight practices of a new national sport organization.

The Board is intentionally small and competency-based, and is built to provide strategic oversight and guidance. At least 40% of directors must be Independent. Under the proposed Bylaws, "Independent" means free from any material relationship, financial interest, employment relationship, governance role, family relationship or representational obligation that could reasonably be expected to interfere with the individual's independent judgment in the best interests of the Corporation.

Positions available

- President
- Director at Large (minimum of three and up to five positions)
- Athlete Representative (one position)

Directors are elected for two-year terms and may serve a maximum of five consecutive terms (ten years). Initial terms may be staggered to support continuity and renewal.

Who we are looking for
We are building a small Board whose members bring complementary strengths. The Nominations Committee will assess candidates both individually and for how they contribute to the Board as a whole.

We welcome applicants with a diversity of expertise, including in governance, finance and risk oversight, safe sport, sport and organizational leadership, law, human resources, technology and data protection, and public funding and stakeholder relations. Experience in lifesaving sport is an asset, and so is a willingness to help build a new organization.

Candidates are asked to identify the competencies that apply to them in the application form.

We also seek a Board that reflects the diversity of the Canadian population and of the lifesaving sport community, including in terms of regional representation, gender, age, official-language capacity and equity-deserving groups. These factors are considered in assessing the Board's overall composition. They are not stand-alone eligibility criteria.

Eligibility
All candidates must:

- be at least 18 years old
- be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- not be bankrupt
- have legal capacity to contract
- not have been declared incapable by a court

President and Director at Large candidates must also meet two conditions:

- They have not taken part in, coached or managed a Canadian national lifesaving sport club in the past year.
- They are not an immediate family member of someone who has done so.

Athlete Representative candidates are exempt from those two conditions. They must instead meet all of these:

- They are retired as a high-performance athlete at the national and international level.
- They were a member of a National Team.
- They took part in the Lifesaving World Championships or the Commonwealth Lifesaving Championships within the past eight years.
- They did not take part solely on a Youth Team at the World Championships.
- They did not take part solely on a Development Team at the Commonwealth Championships.

How to apply
Complete the Inaugural Board Director Candidacy Form (attached). It covers eligibility, independence, board composition profile, lifesaving sport experience, competency self-assessment, governance experience, disclosures, a statement of interest of 250 words or fewer, and a signed declaration.

Support each competency you claim with a verifiable basis, such as education, a designation, a governance role or employment experience. Blank rows are treated as not applicable.

Submit the signed form to dvaillancourt@lifesaving.ca by 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time on November 22, 2026.

What happens next

The Nominations Committee will screen applications for eligibility and assess candidates against the Director Skills and Competencies Matrix and the Board's overall composition. It may request supporting information and, if needed, will hold interviews in December 2026 or January 2027. Completing the form does not guarantee a positive recommendation.

The Committee's recommendations for appointment will go to the Member on January 25, 2027. Because the Corporation is being established, certain inaugural documents may need to be reviewed by the incoming directors before the Member's decision. Candidates recommended for appointment may therefore be asked to review documentation or attend a meeting before the Member confirms the appointments. Any such request will be limited to what the transition requires, and it does not affect the Member's authority to make the final decision.

Time commitment and conditions of service

Directors can expect six to eight Board meetings per year, plus committee work. More meetings may be needed in the first year while the Corporation begins operations.

Directors serve without remuneration. They may be eligible for reimbursement of expenses incurred in the course of their duties, in accordance with a policy to be developed.

Directors must comply with the Code of Conduct, the conflict-of-interest and Safe Sport policies, and confidentiality obligations. These will be set out in the policy suite to be developed and approved for the new Corporation.

Questions

Questions may be directed to:

Dave Beaumont-Vaillancourt
Chief Executive Officer-Designate, Lifesaving Sport Canada
dvaillancourt@lifesaving.ca
819-801-1030

Lifesaving Sport Canada is committed to a diverse and inclusive Board. We welcome applications from all qualified candidates. Accommodations are available upon request during the process. Applications are accepted in English or French.