



The Ontario Sheep Farmers (OSF) is a producer operated organization which represents all aspects of the sheep, lamb and wool industry in the Province of Ontario. It was established to encourage, promote and represent the industry by working to improve the marketing of sheep, lamb and wool through producer education, promotional campaigns, consumer education and public awareness.

The Executive Director is responsible for effective operation, team leadership, industry and government relations, and providing guidance for the direction and implementation of the strategic plan. Accountable to the Board of Directors, the Executive Director will create a highly motivated, diverse and engaged work environment as a thoughtful and confident industry leader.

Executive Director

Guelph, Ontario

Reporting to the Board of Directors, you will:

- Oversee the administration and governance of the OSF, including organizational compliance with all applicable laws, acts, regulations, and by-laws, all OSF human resource management, such as hiring and policy development, and the Board election process to ensure functioning Board and district committees.
- Work closely with the Board to establish measurable and attainable strategic and operational plans for the organization and sector that are developed from sound data and analysis, critical assessment and creative problem solving.
- Manage, coach and mentor OSF staff and collaborate with the team when setting annual operational goals and objectives, strategic planning development, and review program results and individual performance.
- Build a diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace at OSF while fostering a transparent, trusting, and accountable culture for staff, stakeholders and members at the district and local levels.
- Support the Board of Directors in monitoring and mitigating risks to the organization and strategic plan, while being a trusted spokesperson representing the Board and their decision-making.
- Encourage the OSF staff and Board members to participate in professional development and training opportunities that focus on organizational effectiveness and continuous improvement to support succession planning for all key roles within the organization and at the district and local levels.
- Manage the organization's financial controls, prepare draft budgets for board review and approval, and ensure financial statements are accurate, consistent, and prepared each year for annual audits.
- Work with the OSF accountant on the preparation of monthly statements for board review, revenue assessments to ensure compliance with Provincial legislation, and coordinate with Licencing Relations officers on activities related to revenue collection.
- Lead the OSF industry and government relations portfolio by communicating with other industry groups, government stakeholders, and Provincial and National committees as it relates to policy issues that impact the organization, its members, and other producers.
- Attend and represent OSF at a broad range of agricultural, financial and/or sheep legislative committees and/or industry meetings, as well as participate on provincial and national committees, and deliver presentations at district and local meetings and the OSF Annual General Meeting.
- Provide analysis, develop briefs and speaking notes for the OSF Chair and Vice-Chair(s), and make recommendations to implement appropriate and strategic lobby activities.

- Develop and maintain a positive rapport with a variety of industry, government, and media organizations and representatives to understand and anticipate emerging issues and opportunities related to OSF, and respond to media as needed.

Your background includes:

- An undergraduate degree in Agriculture, Agri-business or Agriculture Economics, or a related discipline. A graduate degree in Agriculture, a related field, or an MBA is an asset
- 5+ years of senior management experience within the private, public and/or non-profit sectors, combined with experience navigating complex regulatory environments and government relations
- A broad network of contacts across the agriculture industry and within various Canadian academic institutions, government agencies and business communities
- A proven capacity to collaboratively develop and advance strategic initiatives with a Board of Directors, and a good understanding of governance best-practices
- Experience in business administration, fiscal management, organizational leadership, and staff development
- Excellent oral and written communication abilities, presentation skills and experience with media relations and public relations.

LITHERLAND & CO

To learn more about this position and our client, contact Brook Coatsworth at bmc@litherlandco.com or by phone at 416-868-4888 Ext. 5 quoting “Executive Director - 220328”

Litherland & Co. is dedicated to fair and equal opportunities for all applicants. Candidates are selected upon the highest level of equity, diversity, and inclusion across the organization and throughout its hiring process. If you are selected for an interview and require accommodations, arrangements will be made for your convenience throughout the recruitment.