

Willy Van Klooster Nonprofit Governance Scholarship 2009/2010

The **Willy Van Klooster Nonprofit Governance Scholarship** was developed to honour Willy's exemplary leadership in board governance as the founding and long-serving chair of Pillar Nonprofit Network. It is awarded annually to build excellence in board governance for a member organization of Pillar Nonprofit Network.

Description:

This year's scholarship is aimed at organizations who wish to enhance the governance capacity of their board of directors and ensure a productive relationship between their board and executive director. The estimated value of the scholarship is \$5000. This program will be approximately 15 hours in total over 9 months. The scholarship is generously sponsored by Nathan Garber & Associates.

Nathan Garber, Nathan Garber & Associates, one of Canada's leading consultants on nonprofit governance, will:

- conduct a governance practices assessment and board development workshop for the recipient organization
- provide up to 5 hours of follow-up support for the board of directors, board chair, and executive director

The **governance assessment** has several purposes:

- to identify the areas of strength on your board and the areas where directors indicate a need for training or change
- to identify the training needs of new and experienced directors
- to develop the agenda for a board workshop based upon the results
- to help the board create a realistic plan for further training and/or enhancement of board structures, practices, and procedures

The **board development workshop** and **follow-up support** are intended to ensure that board members:

- have a good working knowledge of the role of the board, and their individual responsibilities as board members
- are clear about their legal obligations as directors and what the organization needs and expects from its board members
- have an understanding of how to maintain a productive and collaborative relationship with the Executive Director
- have some helpful tools and strategies for productive and engaging board meetings

Nathan brings to his work more than 35 years of experience in the not-for-profit sector. His consulting company, Nathan Garber & Associates, specializes in governance and strategic planning support exclusively for nonprofit organizations. He entered the field in 1971 and has been consulting in nonprofit management since 1986. Among his significant accomplishments are the following:

- Founding editor of Nonprofit Boards and Governance Review, a Charity Channel e-newsletter with more than 5,000 subscribers
- Developed and delivered university courses in Not-for-Profit Management and Arts Management programs
- Assisted hundreds of organizations with planning and governance in Canada and the United States

Willy Van Klooster, Past Board Chair of Pillar Nonprofit Network, will provide mentoring to the board chair.

Mentorship involves support from an experienced leader and learning and practising knowledge and skills. The areas of focus will be decided together by the mentor and board chair, based on the individual needs of the board chair.

Application eligibility requirements:

- The organization must be a Pillar Nonprofit Network member.

To apply:

Interested applicants should submit a letter of application. The letter should be submitted jointly from the board chair and executive director (or CEO, etc.), signed by both, answering the following questions:

- What is compelling about this opportunity?
- What will change in your organization because of this scholarship?
- Is the board and executive director both willing to invest the time: 15 hours over 9 months?

Mail applications to:

Pillar Nonprofit Network
251 Dundas Street
London, ON N6A 6H9

The process:

- Applications must be received by 5PM on May 31, 2009.
- Selection committee will review applications and identification of the recipients will be announced on June 15.