

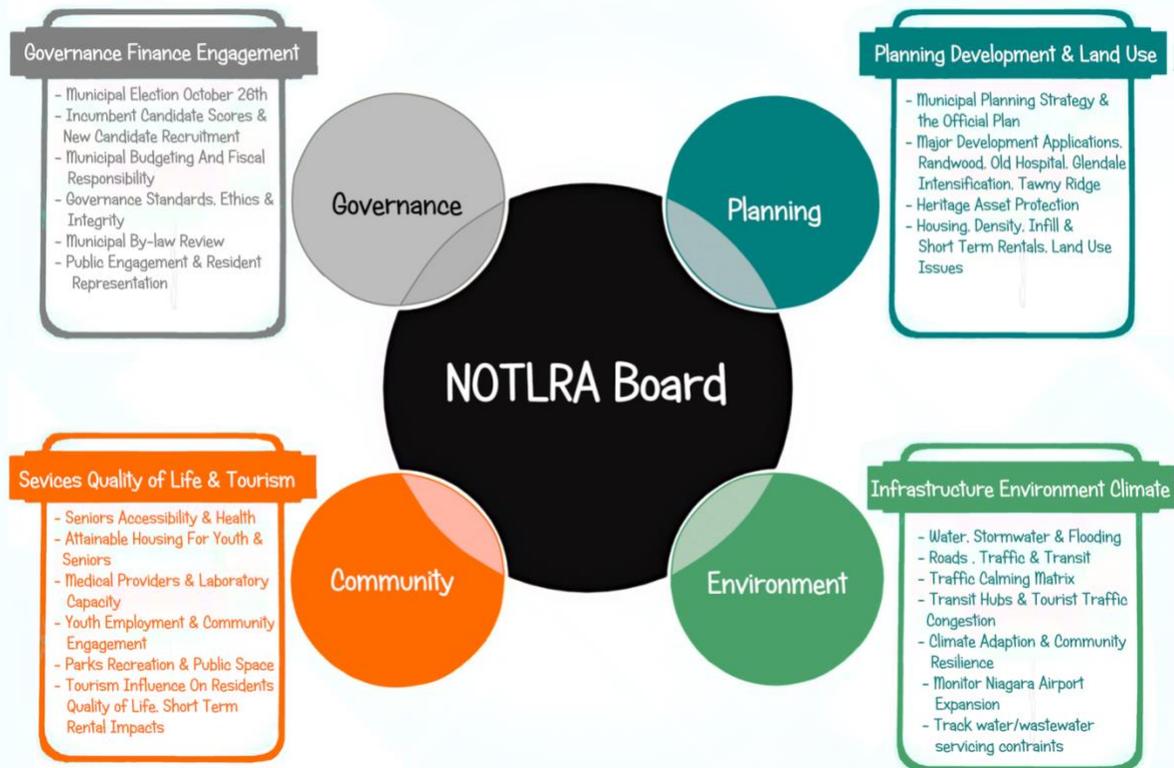
# NOTLRA 2026

## Call for committee volunteers



**The NOTLRA Board of Directors met on December 11th to approve our refined committee structure for launch in the New Year 2026.**

# NOTLRA Committee Structure



**There are four committees in the structure, each with seven committee members including a chair. The chair will be appointed by the committee members. Committee members can assemble working groups for specific issues that may require a narrow focus and timeline.**

**In order to launch and guide the direction of each committee successfully, the Board of Directors have assigned one of the member directors to individually liaise with one of the four committees to provide initial training and assistance as well as providing two-way communication between the NOTLRA Board and the committees on policies and strategies. The assignments are as follows:**

- Governance, Finance and Civic Engagement:  
NOTLRA Board Chair Stuart McCormack**
- Planning, Development and Land Use: NOTLRA  
Director Peter Neame**
- Infrastructure, Environment & Climate  
Resilience: NOTLRA Co-chair Steve Hardaker**
- Community Services, Quality of Life and Tourism:  
NOTLRA Director Andrea Leja**

**The expectation is that multiple Board directors will attend committee meetings initially to provide guidance and clarity.**

**The detailed descriptions and mandates for the respective committees are listed on the [NOTLRA.COM](http://NOTLRA.COM) website along with this call for volunteers to fill the committee positions.**



Pick One

<input type="checkbox"/>		Planning
<input type="checkbox"/>		Environment
<input type="checkbox"/>		Community
<input type="checkbox"/>		Governance

**We are looking forward to participation from residents in all Niagara-on-the-Lake districts because the NOTLRA wants to reinforce to every group that the Association is not just an 'Old Town' organization.**

**We are endeavoring to cultivate a more strategic view of issues in our community by getting residents from the various parts of Niagara-on-the-Lake to discuss issues that are common to virtually every district.**

**The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake is endowed with a wealth of skilled people who have chosen to either retire here or to work in a community that is steeped in heritage in the midst of a strategic economic region.**

**The NOTLRA is also making it a top priority to establish a cooperative working relationship with the town's staff, because the new CAO is currently restructuring almost every senior position in the organization. This is a prime opportunity for a fresh start, abandoning past history and grievances and taking a forward-looking approach to getting positive things done in our community.**

✓ What can I contribute?



The task of selecting 28 committee members from a pool of over 100 volunteers inspired the board to ask

**potential committee members to look inward and consider “What can I contribute”?**

**Answering 3 simple questions helps:**

- **What are my skills? One committee mandate invites the input of lawyers and accountants while others look to engineers or environmentalists or seniors care specialists.**
- **What competencies do I possess? Although age suggests wisdom gathered from years of accomplishment, other competencies source from unique experiences such as students and others working in new fields such as AI.**
- **What are my attributes? To move forward and actually get things done, we’re asking for candidates who are open-minded, patient, good listeners, pragmatic, ethical and prepared to engage in issues that are outside of their personal silos.**

**If the NOTLRA really wants to achieve something, we have to spend 5% talking about yesterday, 10% about today and 85% about the future.**

**The practice of making delegations to Council to hopefully have those elected officials solve our problems has proven to be exhausting and flawed. The decisions which council makes are guided by recommendations from Town staff, so the focus has to be on staff to make better informed recommendations that align with residents' needs. A councilor must never be asked to read multiple reports that total hundreds of pages of technical word salad, only days before their meeting and expect an informed outcome. The task for staff is to thoroughly and professionally perform their duties, distill their work into readable, short-form recommendations that councilors can trust and rely on and then vote on. Otherwise it's just garbage in - garbage out.**

**For the sake of not overloading the launch of committees in the New Year, the NOTL Board of Directors agreed that a 'short-list' of 4 priorities for 2026 will be:**

- 1. Municipal Election October 26, 2026 (Reviewing incumbents' performance & seeking interested candidates)**

**2. Development (planning, infrastructure, seniors and youth support, schools)**

**3. Finance (budgets - local & regional, revenue streams, stormwater, roads, and infrastructure)**

**4. Tourism (parks, recreation facilities, roadways, noise, airport, 'Destination Niagara Strategy')**