



JOIN THE RISE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

About Rise

Empowering People. Launching Ideas.

Rise empowers individuals with mental health and addiction challenges to become entrepreneurs and transform their lives. It invests in people and their potential nationwide. Through flexible financing, training, mentorship, and other tailored supports, Rise enables individuals to learn the skills and access the capital they need to build a small business for meaningful employment, economic empowerment and personal well-being.

Since 2010, Rise has disbursed more than 1,000 loans totaling over \$4.1 million. With the support of more than 675 volunteers, it has empowered 5,000+ people as entrepreneurs, strengthening communities across Canada.

Rise's impact lies in others' success. Our most recent Business Survivability Survey shows that **four out of five Rise lending clients are still operating a business five years after receiving a Rise loan.**

Learn more at www.risehelps.ca and follow us on social media ([@Risehelps](https://twitter.com/Risehelps) | [@rise-helps](https://www.facebook.com/rise-helps) | [/risehelps](https://www.instagram.com/risehelps)).

Vision for Deep Impact

In April 2024, we successfully completed a three-year Strategic Plan, achieving all goals. This milestone reflects the strength of our mission, our team's dedication, and the growing impact of our work. In 2025, we reached another pivotal moment: the installation of our new CEO, Adwoa K. Buahene, an innovative and strategic leader who is guiding Rise through its evolution, focusing on impact and sustainability.

With the ever-changing socio-economic landscape, Rise continues to adapt and respond to the priorities of our stakeholders – clients, government, grantors and impact investors. The board, in collaboration with Rise leadership, is finalizing a new three-year strategic plan that will begin on May 1, 2026. The plan will not change the mission of *what* Rise does; rather, it will focus on *how* the organization delivers on that mission. Our goal is to lay a solid foundation on which to fulfill the priorities of all our stakeholders.

Help Shape the Future of Rise

We are seeking passionate and diverse board candidates from across Canada who are committed to mental health and entrepreneurship. As a board director, you will help to guide Rise's strategic scaling and ensure we achieve our goals. Directors are responsible for acting in the organization's long-term best interests and bringing broad knowledge, diverse perspectives, and a willingness to learn. There are three board committees offering multiple opportunities to contribute:

- Finance, Audit & Risk
- Governance
- Fundraising

The ideal candidate(s) will bring some or all of the following to the Rise board:



- Strong networks and connections that can support Rise’s programs and operations, especially in Western Canada
- Fundraising expertise
- Financial acumen, including impact investment experience
- Experience serving on a not-for-profit or charitable board

Who We’re Looking For

Board directors serve a three-year term, with the opportunity to be re-elected up to three consecutive terms. Join us in expanding Rise’s impact and empowering more Canadians with mental health and addiction challenges to transform their lives through entrepreneurship.

Time Requirements

- 4 board meetings a year (2 hrs. per meeting), plus pre-reading.
- 3 to 4 committee meetings a year (1.5 hrs. per meeting), plus pre-reading; each director must serve on at least one committee.
- Occasional conference calls, ad hoc working groups, or auxiliary board meetings (30 to 60 minutes).
- Attendance and engagement with Rise events, including the Rotman Family Entrepreneurship Awards.

Qualifications

The following are considered key qualifications:

- At least eighteen (18) years of age.
- Availability of sufficient time to devote to board duties.
- Commitment to learning about the community and the field in which Rise operates.
- Capacity to contribute significantly to the organization’s vision, mission and strategic direction.

Further Reading:

- [Who We Are](#)
- [F2025 Impact Report](#)
- [Stories That Inspire](#)
- [Social Impact Results](#)

Application

This position is open to candidates from across Canada. Rise is committed to fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion within our leadership. We actively seek candidates who bring unique perspectives, champion equity and embody our dedication to creating a boardroom that mirrors the richness of our diverse stakeholders. Interested individuals should [complete an application here](#).

Deadline: May 1, 2026