

Value framework for Ontario's nonprofit sector

With 58,000 nonprofits and charities, fuelled by five million volunteers, every Ontarian is connected to the sector.

So, what's our collective story and impact? What value does Ontario's nonprofit sector bring to communities across the province?

What does Ontario's nonprofit sector mean to the economy, to democracy, to government and public policy, and to communities and the people in them?

Who this is for: Staff, Boards of Directors and other volunteers, and supporters of Ontario's nonprofit sector.

How to use it: Use the messaging to help tell your story and promote your work this election year. Political parties and candidates will be eager to hear effective solutions, great ideas for doing things differently, and success stories. Share the impact you're having. Talk about the issues your nonprofit and community care about.

Make it your own: You don't have to use the messaging word for word. Cut and paste and adapt it. Take what resonates with your organization and the people you work with. Add your local data and impact of your organization!

The key is to tell your story, and how collectively we are the sector that brings people and groups together to create thriving communities.



Nonprofits and Ontarians

Every Ontarian is connected to a nonprofit - whether through the cultural festival on the weekend, the environmental program at a local park, the social housing services, the hockey league at the town arena, the child care program, or the community research on food security.

The 58,000+ organizations contribute more to the province's GDP than the automotive and construction industries combined.

Nonprofits generate their own revenue, earning almost 50% of their income independent of government funding and grants.

Government of Ontario: Open for Business, Business Sector Strategy

The Nonprofit & Voluntary Sector in Ontario- Regional Highlights of the National Survey of NonProfit and Voluntary Organizations (2006)

Nonprofits and Ontario's economy

Ontario's nonprofit sector is a \$50 billion economic driver and employs over one million people.

Nonprofits, democracy and government

Nonprofits and democracy

Nonprofits make democracy stronger. They amplify our diverse voices to hold government accountable and reflect the real needs of people.

Nonprofits and public policy

A recent survey found that 61% of Canadians don't think current politicians have the solutions to address challenges in communities.

[2017 Edelman Trust Barometer- Canadian results](#)

Nonprofits play an active role in public policy, building bridges between communities and governments. They help people navigate complex systems and create effective solutions to challenges.

Nonprofits and volunteerism

Not found in any other sector are five million volunteers who are at the heart of Ontario nonprofits, donating 820 million hours to help organizations fulfill their missions—that's the equivalent of 400,000 full-time jobs!

5 million

Nonprofits and solutions building



We are the
microphone
and the
monitor.



Nonprofits have an ear to the ground and are positioned to see firsthand when communities are struggling, and to mobilize people to create bold and lasting solutions.

Nonprofits and inclusive economies



The nonprofit business model leverages public investment, donations, earned income activities, and the passion of volunteers into community wealth that stays in community hands.



Nonprofits create and distribute value and wealth in more inclusive and environmentally sustainable ways through decent work, social enterprises, co-operatives, community land trusts, and more.

Your turn:

Show your Nonprofit pride

What is the impact of your nonprofit or subsector?

How do you serve and support your community?

BIG DATA about
your sector

STATISTICS
about your
organization

STORIES
AND MORE