

Clean Air Partnership:

Lessons from Advancing Clean Air and Climate Action in the NGO sector



Clean Air Partnership



Clean Air Partnership Mandate

1. To promote global climate stabilization by the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases and greenhouse gas precursors into the atmosphere through public education, scientific research and technology development.
2. To promote air quality improvement.
3. To promote public understanding of global warming and air quality problems and their implications for the urban environment.
4. To create and preserve carbon sinks.
5. To promote energy conservation and efficiency.
6. To provide support and funding for projects related to energy efficiency, global climate stabilization and air quality improvement in co-operation with non-government organizations, governments, industries, corporations, official committees, neighbourhood organizations, universities and public and private schools.



Strategic Directions

- How to avoid scope creep (this will inevitably happen)
- What is the value proposition for the organization
- What is the values that the organization will hold dear and why
- What will be the priority actions/outputs/hoped for outcomes
- What do you say yes to and what do you say no to?
- Having clarity on what the main to dos of the organization is will help you maintain focus
- Values will inform how you approach your priorities



Values and Culture

- What are the core values that the organization will bring to its work?
- For example, at CAP we have determined that a core value of our work will be collaboration. When we identify a priority action area, we research who is doing what and we determine gap and then see how it may make sense to support collaboration across partners working to advance this priority. Reducing duplication and fostering synergies is a core value that we embed in each of our projects.
- Is it the organization or the outcome that takes priority? How do you balance those?



Governance

- The TAF Act established the Clean Air Partnership as a statutory corporation without share capital, composed of the members of its boards of directors.
- As a charitable organization, CAP operates at arms-length from the City with a considerable degree of independence.
- At the earlier stage of the organization's development the City of Toronto did appoint 2 board members.
- This created a few issues re receiving funding from foundations.
- The City of Toronto allocated governance of the organization to the CAP board.



Organization Board Questions

- How large a board? More board members more support/admin burden.
- May want to consider the role of the board versus an Advisory Group.
- Who should be on it (what stakeholders are critical?)
- What does diversity look like (gender, geography, sector, race, background, age, etc)
- How to recruit board members (public or recruitment effort)
- Time period on board, balance between new perspective and institutional history
- Quorum rules?
- Consensus, majority rule?
- Renumeration?
- Delegation to alternate for board members?



Thank You & Questions

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