

# Skills and qualities required as a potential Council Member

**Foresters**   
Financial

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There are many personal characteristics that are generally considered to represent excellence in a candidate for the Branch Council. While each candidate may not possess all the qualities listed, there should be evidence in their biographical details of a good number of these qualities. Remember, the present and future success of Foresters Financial™ member network depends on the strength and character of our volunteers.

The skills and qualities of a successful Council member may include, but are not limited to:

## **Enthusiasm for and commitment to the Council**

- Acting in the best interest of members in their Branch Council to support a strong member network and effective governance system by:
  - Having an overall interest and enthusiasm in serving on the Branch Council
  - Having the time availability to commit to the position
  - Showing an interest in contributing to the work of the Branch Council
- Understanding the mission of Foresters and helping to keep it current and relevant
- Being an advocate for the organisation

## **Effective leadership skills**

- Having leadership experience in either Foresters or other areas of their life
- Keeping a positive attitude and maintaining a calm and professional approach, especially during difficult or challenging times
- Being a person of integrity
- Possessing sound judgement
- Possessing the ability to think for the future
- Demonstrating fairness for all
- Being open minded
- Willing to dedicate their time each month to Forester Governance business

## **Team player and Foresters representative for all members**

- Having a strong sense of teamwork and camaraderie
- Having experience with teamwork in Foresters or other areas of their life
- Demonstrating relevant interpersonal and professional skills including but not limited to: reliability; good listener; cooperative; problem solver; respectful of others
- Engaging others in the work of the organisation
- Being able to get people interested in activities and working together
- Willing to help on ad hoc or established committees
- Being known as a people person
- Needing to be in the spotlight is not critical to desiring to serve

## **Effective communication skills**

- Responding to enquiries in a timely manner
- Demonstrating a good level of technical knowledge, particularly with email and computers
- Having good and polite meeting etiquette
- Possessing organisational skills to use communication tools as provided
- Willing to listen to other opinions and ideas
- Thinking about the future and being able to share forward thinking ideas
- Ability to express their thoughts well during meetings, as well as in a face-to-face environment

## **Demonstrated commitment to other volunteer organisations**

- Having logged volunteer hours that includes planning and mentoring
- Currently serving on a board or another service group
- Willing to go the “extra mile”
- Having been awarded for excellence
- Having received accreditation
- Demonstrate excellent time management skills