



Grain & General Services Union
Job Description – September 2021

Director – GSU Defense Fund

Description of Duties and Functions

The elected directors oversee the administration and investment of the GSU Defense Fund assets (current market value of \$5.4 million) and set policy for payment of strike/lockout pay for union members engaged in collective bargaining disputes.

The board meets three or four times a year (or more often, if required) to review the Fund's financial position, investment strategy and other administrative matters. Most meetings are held via conference call or video technology and paid union leave is arranged for participation in the meetings.

Every GSU member in good standing is eligible to be a candidate for a seat on the Board of Directors, although three seats are reserved for members from GSU Locals 1 (Viterra), 2 (Viterra), 14 (Richardson) or 15 (Nutrien). Union members who represent their Local on GSU's Joint Executive Council cannot also be a director of the Defense Fund.

It is useful to have knowledge of financial markets, but the main criterion to be on the board of directors of the GSU Defense Fund is a commitment to support union members' welfare and collective bargaining rights when they get into a dispute with their employer. Over the years GSU members have built up a sizeable resource to defend their interests, and the responsibility of Defense Fund directors is to ensure the money is managed well so it's available when needed.