

Board Governance Policy Manual

POLICY CATEGORY: GOVERNANCE/BOARD PROCESS POLICY NUMBER: B04

POLICY TITLE: THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNOR EFFECTIVE: JUNE 11/08

REFERENCE (MOTION): 401.c.6.2 (EST. OCT. 2005)

PURPOSE

This policy identifies the roles and responsibilities of individual Board members.

APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This policy applies to individual members of Mohawk College's Board of Governors.

PRINCIPLES

Each member of the Board has a responsibility to contribute positively to the operation of the Board and the achievement of the Board's objectives and mandate.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Each Governor has a responsibility to:

1. Adhere to the principles of governance and the College's Strategic Plan, vision, mission and values;
2. Work positively, co-operatively and respectfully as a member of the whole Board;
3. Respect and abide by decisions of the Board, even in situations where the individual Board member did not support the decision in the voting process;
4. Act in the best interest of the College rather than acting in the best interest of the individual Governor or on behalf of a constituency or group;
5. Keep the Board, including the President and Chief Executive Officer, informed of matters relevant to the College;
6. Exercise the same degree of care, diligence and skill that a reasonably prudent person would show in comparable circumstances;
7. Keep informed about:
 - Board and Committee matters;
 - Matters relating to the College;
 - Legislation governing the College;
 - The educational needs of the communities served by the College; and
 - Other educational services provided by the Region.
8. Participate in any initial orientation to the role of Governor and in ongoing professional development opportunities;
9. Regularly attend and participate in all Board and Committee meetings, as assigned (see also Policy B07);

10. Complete preparatory work necessary to participate effectively in meetings of the Board and its Committees;
11. Serve on a Standing Committee(s), as assigned or otherwise in accordance with Board ByLaws;
12. Participate in the Board's annual evaluation of overall Board effectiveness and planning efforts;
13. Exercise vigilance for and declare any potential, perceived or actual conflict of interest in accordance with Board ByLaws and policies;
14. Abide by the ByLaws and policies of the Board; and to
15. Represent the Board when requested.

MONITORING

Governors are responsible for monitoring their own performance to ensure that their actions are in compliance with the duties and statutory obligations associated with the position of Governor.

A governor who has concerns about the conduct of another may discuss the matter in confidence with that Governor and may also initiate the protocol referenced in Policy B03 ad B08. A Governor who has concerns regarding conduct may also bring the matter to the attention of the Board Chair or the Governance and Human Resources Committee who may choose to resolve the issue informally or initiate the protocol.

POLICY REVIEW DATE

April 20, 2022