



Board Governance Policy Manual

POLICY CATEGORY: GOVERNANCE/BOARD PROCESS	POLICY NUMBER: B02
POLICY TITLE: THE ROLE OF THE BOARD	EFFECTIVE: NOV. 14/12

1. PURPOSE

The Board of Governors is committed to enlightened, consistent leadership on behalf of Mohawk College's students, employees, industry partners and the communities it serves. To accomplish these purposes, the Board will govern with an emphasis outward vision, sound financial oversight, encouragement of participation and diverse viewpoints, strategic, transparent, accountable and proactive leadership. The Board will observe and maintain a clear distinction between Board and management roles.

Board decisions are to be strategic, and shall be aligned with the vision, mission and values of the College. The Board focus is on visioning, measuring, monitoring, oversight and achieving outcomes.

The Board will govern with excellence.

Recognizing that the Board's role is governance, this policy is intended to outline the specific responsibilities of the Board as a whole. The roles and responsibilities of individual Governors are defined in other policies (B04 and B05).

2. APPLICATION AND SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the Board of Governors.

3. PRINCIPLES

- a) The Board and individual Governors have a commitment to discharge their responsibilities and duties in a manner that inspires respect and adheres to the highest standards of conduct.
- b) The Board of Governors of Mohawk College is responsible for the governance of the college and as such owes a duty towards all the college's stakeholders including its students, employees, prospective employers, and the communities we serve.
- c) Colleges, as agencies of the Crown and as recipients of transfer payments are also accountable to the broader public and the government for their actions.
- d) Once Board decisions have been made, the Board shall speak with one voice.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

Board responsibilities include the following:

- Establishing governance structures to enable the achievement of expected institutional outcomes with clear lines of communication and internal accountability.
- Setting the eCollege's vision, mission, strategic directions and overall goals and outcomes within the context of appropriate laws, government policy and local need,
- Recruit, incent, and retain, and, if appropriate, dismiss the President.

- Delegating to the President accountability for the performance and operation of the College.
- Monitor and evaluate the President’s performance on an annual basis.
- Oversight of College Enterprise Risk Management framework and establishment of risk tolerance.
- Approve any changes to the President’s contract of employment, changes in compensation levels, including annual merit pay, and changes in perquisite amounts.
- Approving the college’s annual business plan, budget and annual report.
- Oversight of the financial stewardship of the College.
- Ensure that the College operates in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements.
- In consultation with the President, monitor and evaluation the College’s outcomes and performance annual in reference to agreed upon metrics.
- Ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken where expected outcomes or quality of performance is not being achieved.
- Manage its own internal affairs by determining Board and committee structure, composition, mandate and membership; recruiting and recommending the selection of Board members.
- Assess periodically the effectiveness of the Board with respect to governance, accountability, and the attainment of corporate goals and outcomes.

5. MONITORING

The Board will review its own performance in an annual self-evaluation. The Board will also monitor its performance regularly. The Board Chair will be responsible for ensuring the integrity of the Board process, including the effectiveness of Board meetings and Board decision-making, and adherence to College By-Laws and Board policies.

6. POLICY REVIEW DATE

6.1 Last Reviewed

November 11, 2020

6.2 Next Review

November 2025