

<b>ISSUED BY:</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>NUMBER:</b>	<b>V-A-1</b>
<b>AUTHORIZED BY:</b>	Board of Directors	<b>REVISION DATE:</b>	February 9, 2010
<b>ISSUE DATE:</b>	July 8, 2003	<b>REVIEW DATE:</b>	February 16, 2017
<b>CATEGORY:</b>	Part V-A – Ensure Board Effectiveness	<b>PAGE:</b>	1 of 2
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE AND BOARD ACCOUNTABILITY</b>		

---

The Board of Directors (Board) governs Health Sciences North (HSN) through the direction and supervision of the business and affairs of the corporation in accordance with its articles of incorporation, bylaws, vision, mission and values, governance policies, and all relevant legislation.

- A. The Board adheres to a model of good governance through which it provides strategic leadership and direction to the Hospital by establishing policies, making governance decisions and monitoring performance related to the key dimensions of the Hospital's mission and mandate, as well as its own effectiveness.
- B. The Board acts at all times in the best interests of the Hospital, having regard for its accountabilities to its patients and the community served, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Ministry) and the North East Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). The Board understands the best interests of the Hospital to include the organization's place within the health system and the benefit to patients and the community of an improved continuum of care arising from collaboration and integration with other health service providers.
- C. The Board maintains a culture based on the values as approved by the Board and strives for a consensual approach to decision-making, based on evidence and best practice, while respecting and valuing dissenting views.
- D. The Board maintains at all times a clear distinction between the governance and operation of the Hospital, while recognizing the interdependencies between them.
- E. When considering conflicting issues, the Board acts at all times in the best interest of the Corporation, having regard for its accountabilities to its patients and the communities served, the North East Local Health Integration, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.
- F. The Board is accountable to:
  - i. its patients and community for:
    - the quality of the care and safety of patients;
    - engaging the community when developing plans and setting priorities for the delivery of hospital-based health care;

- operating in a fiscally sustainable manner within its resource envelope and utilizing its resources efficiently and effectively across the spectrum of care to fulfill the Hospital's mission and mandate;
  - the appropriate use of community and donor contributions and resources.
- ii. the North East LHIN (NE LHIN) for:
- building relationships and collaborating with the NE LHIN, other health service providers and the community to identify opportunities to integrate the services of the local health system for the purpose of providing appropriate, coordinated, effective and efficient services;
  - ensuring that the Hospital operates in a manner that is consistent with provincial policies, the NE LHIN's Integrated Health Services Plan and its Hospital Services Accountability Agreement (HSAA) with the NE LHIN;
  - achieving the goals, objectives and performance targets as negotiated in the HSAA and measuring the Hospital's performance against accepted standards and best practices in comparable organizations;
  - providing an evidence-based business plan in support of requests for resources which are required to fulfill the Hospital's mission and mandate; and
  - apprising the NE LHIN and the community of Board policies and decisions which are required to operate within its HSAA; and to
- iii. the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) for:
- compliance with government regulations, policies and directions and implementation of MOHLTC approved capital projects.
- A. Consistent with the Board's commitment to good governance practices the Board will make available to the public:
- i. the statement of Board and Director roles, responsibilities and accountabilities;
  - ii. a list of the members of the Board of Directors and Board committees and their attendance records;
  - iii. policies governing the Board and Board Standing Committees;
  - iv. a report on the Hospital performance as part of the Hospital annual report.