



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MANUAL

CATEGORY:	GOVERNANCE	NUMBER: I-003
ISSUED BY:	GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE	
APPROVED BY:	BOARD OF DIRECTORS	PAGE: 1 of 3
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PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Purpose:

To provide the Board of Directors direction on their accountability and governance principles in accordance with its by-laws, shared purpose and values, governance policies, applicable laws and regulations and Articles of Incorporation.

Policy:

The Board adheres to a model of good governance through which it provides strategic leadership and direction to NHH by establishing policies, making governance decisions and monitoring performance related to the key dimensions of the hospital's shared purpose and values, as well as its own effectiveness.

The Board acts at all times in the best interests of NHH, having regard for its accountability to its patients and the community served, the Ministry of Health (Ministry) and Ontario Health.

The Board understands it is in the best interests of NHH to continue to participate in collaboration and integration with other health service providers. Patients and the community benefit from an improved continuum of care.

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.

The Board maintains at all times a clear distinction between the governance and operation of NHH, while recognizing the interdependencies between them.

NOTE: This is a CONTROLLED document as are all management system files on this server. Any documents appearing in paper form are not controlled and should ALWAYS be checked against the server file version (electronic version) prior to use.

The Board is accountable to:

Patients, families 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;
- the appropriate use of community and donor contributions and resources;
- actively participating in the work of the Ontario Health Team of Northumberland.

Ontario Health for:

- building relationships and collaborating with Ontario Health, other health service providers and the community to identify opportunities to partner with other health service providers for the purpose of providing appropriate, co-ordinated, effective and efficient services;
- ensuring that NHH operates in a manner that is consistent with provincial policies, and its Services Accountability Agreements;
- achieving the goals, objectives and performance targets as negotiated in the Services Accountability Agreements and measuring NHH'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 NHH's shared purpose and mandate; and
- apprising the Ministry and the community of Board policies and decisions which are required to operate within its Services Accountability Agreements.

The Government of Ontario for:

- compliance with government regulations, policies and directions;
- implementation of directly mandated programs;
- implementation of approved capital projects;
- fulfilment of obligations under formal agreements and grants; and

The employees, Professional Staff and volunteers for; striving to ensure:

- a safe workplace environment;
- a physically and psychologically safe workplace that is culturally sensitive, equitable and inclusive
- that the core values of NHH are promoted and encouraged in the workplace
- a workplace that fosters engagement, empowerment, and a culture of making NHH a great place to work.

Consistent with the Board's commitment to good governance practices the Board will make available to the public:

- the statement of Board and Director roles, responsibilities and accountabilities;
- a list of the Directors of the Board and Community members;
- policies governing the Board of Directors and Board Standing Committees;
- a report on NHH performance as part of the NHH annual report.

APPROVAL:

February 2020 (NEW)

March 2021 revised

May 2022 revised

March 2023 revised

March 2024 revised

March 2025 reviewed