



Revised (R) / Reconfirmed (RC) Dates

Oct 2012 (r); Nov 2013 (r); May 2019 (r); Oct 2023 (r), Nov 2025 (r)

POLICY

Continuing education for Board Directors is an essential component of effective governance. A Board Education Program is established to further that end.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Education program is to ensure Directors have access to current and emerging information respecting Hospital programs, health care policy and legislation, and Board Governance.

PROCEDURE

The Board and Management of the Hospital is committed to the education of its Board. Board Education needs will be identified, and guided by

1. The need to highlight important Hospital events and programs;
2. The needs of individual directors as identified or self-identified through Board assessment tools and/or observation;
3. The strategic goals and plan of the Hospital;
4. New and emerging directions in Health Care legislation and practices;
5. New directions in board governance.

On-going Educational Practices

1. Education topics s will be chosen by the Governance Committee in collaboration with the CEO; education sessions will take the form of:
 - a. an agenda topic at the beginning of a regular board meeting, or,
 - b. to accommodate more complex subjects, a stand alone meeting.
3. "Ontario Hospital Association Daily Clippings" will be forwarded to all Directors.
4. The "Monday Report", a newsletter highlighting events at the Hospital, will be forwarded to all Directors;
5. Directors will maintain a self-education plan, which includes becoming familiar with Board Policies and By-Laws, asking questions and researching;
6. The Guide to Good Governance, Latest Edition will be available to all Directors;
7. New Directors and Community Members will participate in a Board Orientation Session and be provided with a Board Orientation Handbook, a tour of the hospital, and a Mentor.

Formal Education

1. From time to time, the Board in collaboration with Management will provide access to a Webinar on relevant topics;
2. A Director may be asked by the Board or Management to attend a specific conference, workshop, or information session;
3. Directors interested in attending external conferences or Workshop, such as those provided through the OHA, or The Governance Centre of Excellence, should make this known to the Board Chair who, in collaboration with the Governance Committee, will consider the requests based on equal opportunity, value of the conference to organizational goals, and budget considerations. If the request is granted, the Hospital will cover all reasonable costs, including registration and travel expenses;
4. The Chair or CEO may be required to attend additional conferences or educational opportunities to support their roles;
5. Directors are asked to report to the Board on conferences and educational events that they attend on behalf of the hospital.