

BOARD MANUAL

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SUBJECT: Board Accountability Statement

Board Accountability

The duty of the Board is to make decisions that are in the best interests of the hospital. These decisions should further the hospital’s mission, move it towards its vision and be consistent with its values.

The Board is accountable to the hospital for acting consistently with the Letters Patent, the By-law, applicable legislation, and the common law as it governs hospitals, and for the achievement of its mission, vision and strategic directions. The Board exercises its powers in good faith and honesty in order to further the purposes for which the hospital was created. The Directors act in what they consider to be the best interests of the hospital, each exercising his or her unfettered discretion in decision making. *Ex-officio* Directors fulfill the same duty to the hospital, placing the interests of their nominator or group subordinate to those of the hospital. Directors do not place themselves in a position where their personal interests conflict with those of the hospital.

The Directors establish objectives that are within the capacity of the hospital's human and physical resources. The Board strikes to maintain a balance within its medical and other staff to ensure a broad base of expertise while attaining the most efficient utilization of the facilities and resources of the hospital.

To guide the Board in making decisions, the Board has confirmed the following accountabilities in no particular order:

To Directors who are members of the hospital Corporation	For complying with the By-laws and applicable legislation as they govern the hospital, and for the achievement of its mission and vision in a manner consistent with its values and accountabilities. For evaluation of board effectiveness.
To Patients	For quality services, patient safety, privacy, and confidentiality, patient- and family-centred care and best practices.
To Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care	For compliance with applicable legislation, regulation and policies, including funding policies for capital.
To Ontario Health	For performance of H-SAA, participation in WWLHIN-led initiatives, expenditure management and performance management.

To the Foundation and their Donors	For financial stewardship.
To Staff, Volunteers and Professional Staff	For establishing and communicating expectations and providing a safe work environment.
To Health System Partners	For cooperation and collaboration of service delivery and to work with healthcare partners to ensure a sustainable health system.
To Communities We Serve	For advocacy, efficient utilization of resources, clear communication, transparent processes and expectation management.

References:

- 3-A-1 Legislative and Regulatory Framework
- 3-B-10 Statement of the Roles and Responsibilities of the Board
- 3-B-14 Role Description – Duties and Expectations of a Director