

FANSHAWE COLLEGE BOARD OF GOVERNORS' POLICY MANUAL

CATEGORY B - BOARD PROCESS

TITLE: ROLE OF THE GOVERNOR

POLICY NUMBER: B-25.10
EFFECTIVE DATE: 2017 11 19
REFERENCE: 35804, 40804, 41813, 43104, 47905, 48804, 49303, 50803,
55801

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Role of the Governor identifies the expectations of the Governor, By-Law #1 describes the composition of the Board of Governors and the Governor's Code of Conduct (Board Policy B-25.10.05) describes how these responsibilities should be performed and outlines the process for censure.

THE POLICY:

The function of the Fanshawe College Board of Governors is to act on behalf of the *Ownership* of the College, as specified in the Terms of Reference of the Board of Governors (Policy B-05). The primary role of the Board of Governors is therefore one of governance. More specifically the role of the Governor is to:

1. represent the College as a whole, and act as a steward, on behalf of the *Ownership*, to ensure effective use of College resources.
2. comply with a legal *Duty of Loyalty* to act in the best interest of the College rather than acting in the best interest of the individual Governor or on behalf of a constituency or group.
3. comply with a legal *Duty of Care*.
4. bring a broad range of perspectives to Board decisions and use knowledge and expertise to ensure that Board decisions are in the best interests of the *Ownership* and are in keeping with the Fanshawe College Vision and Mission (Board Policy A-05).
5. govern efficiently and effectively in accordance with the Governor's Code of Conduct Policy (Board Policy B-25.10.05) and measured in accordance with the Monitoring section of this policy.
6. represent the Board of Governors on civic occasions or at meetings of other agencies or government on behalf of and at the request of the Chair.

7. keep the Board, including the President, informed of matters relevant to the College.
8. refer all matters that may be of an administrative nature through the Chair of the Board to the President.
9. serve on at least one of the committees or task forces of the Board as the need arises, and if requested, consider accepting special assignments such as leading a task force, preparing a discussion document for Board consideration, or leading a Board discussion.
10. participate in ongoing education and professional education in matters directly related to the effective operation of the Board.
11. attend meetings of the Board, including task force meetings and committee meetings, and participate by discussing and questioning Board business, and openly expressing their opinions.
12. be prepared for meetings and have reviewed pre-circulated Board, committee or task force materials prior to each meeting. If a Governor requires additional information necessary for governance decision-making, the Governor should request the information in advance of the meeting.

MONITORING:

A Governor's performance may be monitored by any one, or both, of the following approaches:

1. Self Assessment – Governors shall assess their own performance at least annually, and are encouraged to seek feedback from other Board members in this process.
2. Board Assessment – The Chair, and/or designate, may discuss with an individual Governor his/her performance at any time.