

SECTION: Board of Governors

DIRECTIVE: III-B-31

SUBJECT: Board Education

AUTHORITY: Board of Governors

EFFECTIVE DATE			REVISED DATE			POLICY	X	PROCEDURE
MON	DAY	YEAR	MON	DAY	YEAR			
11	28	2011				Applies to: Board Members		

POLICY

The Board of Governors recognizes that the continuing education of its members is an important requirement of effective governance and that it is essential that Board Members be fully informed with respect to the background and context of the issues they are called upon to address. A firm commitment to continuing education is the responsibility of each Governor. It is the policy of this hospital that each Board member take part in at least one educational program per fiscal year.

An ongoing Board education program will be established each year that is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Board for that year. It is expected that each Board Member will participate in the ongoing education process.

Components of the ongoing education process may include:

- i) **Assessment of Development Needs:** Board Members will be asked annually to identify their development needs. Mechanisms to identify those needs may include: survey of Board Members; feedback on previous education sessions; diagnostic questionnaires; feedback from Board Members' self-evaluations.
- ii) **Presentations at Board Meeting:** The Governance Committee, in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), will develop an annual program of information/education presentations which may be included as part of the Board's regular meetings or presented at scheduled times as the Board may direct.
- iii) **Ontario Hospital Association sponsored Education Sessions and Programs:** Members of the Board of Directors are encouraged to participate in educational opportunities offered by the Ontario Hospital Association. Reasonable expenses of attending and/or participating in such events will be reimbursed according to established policy.
- iv) **Other Relevant Education Programs:** Directors may attend relevant educational programs sponsored by organizations other than West Haldimand General Hospital. Reasonable expenses of attending and/or participating in such approved programs will be reimbursed according to the established policy.
- v) **Annual Board Retreat:** An annual Board Retreat should be scheduled. At each retreat, the Strategic Plan will be reviewed to ensure that progress is being made toward its achievement. Additionally, the retreat should focus on other relevant areas within the Board Roles and Responsibilities, reflecting the Board's annual work plan. The retreat should be conducted at a reasonable cost, and with clear deliverables.