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Authority: Board of Regents

Board of Regents Policy

Continuing Education and Professional Development Policy

Purpose

To outline the Board of Regents' commitment to the development of its Members and set out the authority and responsibilities, relating to continuing education and professional development opportunities for Members of the Board of Regents.

Scope

Members of the Board of Regents.

Definitions

Board – The Board of Regents of Memorial University of Newfoundland.

Governance Committee – The committee or subcommittee of the Board of Regents responsible for matters related to Board governance. This is a functional description, not a formal title.

University – Memorial University of Newfoundland

Policy

University Board Members should remain informed concerning governance in higher education, the University's unique context and culture, their fiduciary roles, and good governance practices. Learning about governance in higher education and about topics related to Board of Regents' roles is considered an important and on-going responsibility for Members, one which can enhance their ability to effectively govern.

Continuous education is a shared responsibility between the Board Governance Committee, the Office of the Board of Regents, and individual Members.

The Board Chair, Governance Committee and/or the Office of the Board of Regents will identify and bring forward available continuing education and professional development opportunities to Board Members. Individual Members are encouraged to identify and bring forward possible continuing education and professional development opportunities to the Office of the Board of Regents.

For workshops, conferences, sessions, etc., delivered in-person or virtually, without associated costs, Members will be offered the opportunity to attend. For workshops, conferences, sessions, etc., delivered in-person or virtually and with associated costs, Members may attend at the University's expense if within the Board of Regents operating budget, and meeting the criteria below.

For workshops, conferences, sessions, etc., which require travel, consideration will be given in light of the Board of Regents operating budget and in accordance with the [Travel - Regents Policy](#).

The Office of the Board of Regents also offers a suite of other initiatives to assist Board Members in continuing their education, these included but are not limited to:

- Comprehensive orientation, including a detailed Board handbook and
- Access to resources on governance best practices in the post-secondary education sector.

The Board of Regents Office and the Governance Committee will prioritize offerings that benefit the Board of Regents collectively. For individual training opportunities they will be assessed based on:

- who may have interest in taking on a committee Chair,
- Board Committee leadership succession planning goals,
- the length of time service on the board, with priority given to new developing members,
- or relevance to the overall mission, vision and/or the needs of Memorial University,
- remaining funding once collective Board development initiatives have been considered,

When a request for funding is received, the request will be approved by the Governance Committee and the Chair of the Board who will consider the remaining budgeted funds for board development in making their decision.

The Office of the Board of Regents will regularly review education and professional development opportunities for additions and share the findings with the Board for review. Board Members may periodically be asked to provide reflections on their experience in education and professional development to inform future offerings.