

Council Commitment and Governing Approach

Policy Section: Governance Process	Policy Number: GP-1	Approved By: Council
Regular Council Policy Review Frequency: Every three years	Date Approved: June 1, 2002	Date Reviewed/Revised: September 15, 2022

Commitment:

The Council must carry out its mandate and govern its registrants in a manner that serves and protects the public interest.

The Council is accountable to the public and is responsible for ensuring that:

- its actions are consistent with the Regulated Health Professions Act and Council policies;
- its actions are consistent with the College's mandate;
- the College achieves the results described in its strategic plan ('the Public Benefit Policy');
- the College operates within risk parameters described in its Executive Expectations Policies; and
- College business is conducted in a transparent, legal, and ethical manner.

As a part of fulfilling these responsibilities, the Council is committed to continually improve its capacity to govern effectively through policy. Council is committed to addressing any concerns by defining values and using its strategic plan to define its vision.

Governing Approach:

Governance by Council is visionary, strategic, and focused on accountability. Leading by example, Council will set a standard of excellence and integrity for the organization. The Council is committed to functioning in a manner that fosters the public's trust and confidence in the organization.

Council's governance model will:

- Clearly distinguish between governance (Council) and operations/administrative management (CEO/Registrar);
- Emphasize strategic outcomes;
- Demonstrate forward thinking, and strategic leadership;
- Practice collaborative, collective decision-making;
- Encourage diverse perspectives;
- Be proactive rather than reactive; and
- Demonstrate a commitment to engagement with the public.

Accordingly:

1. The Council will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The Council will work in partnership with the CEO/Registrar, staff, registrants and the community. The Council, not the CEO/Registrar or staff, will be



responsible for excellence in governance. The Council will use the expertise of individual Council members to enhance the ability of the Council as a whole but will not substitute individual judgments for the Council's collective values and decisions.

2. The Council will hold itself accountable for excellence in governance. This self-discipline will apply to attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuity of governance capability.
3. The Council will direct and inspire the College by establishing written policies reflecting the Council's values and perspectives. The Council's major policy focus will be on long-term impacts (strategic outcomes) for the public, not on the administrative or programmatic means of achieving them.
4. Continuous Council development will include orientation of new Council members in the Council's governance approach and process. Periodic Council discussion/evaluation will ensure continuous improvement.
5. The Council will not allow any officer, individual, or committee of the Council to be an impediment to fulfilling its commitments.
6. The Council, by majority vote, may revise its policies at any time.
7. The Council will be an initiator of policy, not merely a reactor to staff initiatives. The Council is committed to due diligence through monitoring policy implementation to support the work of the organization. Public interest is foremost, and is achieved when competent, ethical practice is ensured.

Council Effectiveness:

8. The Council will enforce upon itself the discipline needed to govern with excellence.
 - a. The Council will ensure that it maintains a structure and processes that will enhance its effectiveness.
 - b. The Council is committed to evaluating its own performance, at least annually.
 - c. The Council's committee structure and membership will be reviewed on a regular basis.
 - d. The Council will speak with one voice once Council decisions have been made.