

Section 2: Policies

1: Governance Policies

2.1.1. Role of the Board

Adopted: January 1, 2018, as What Are the Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards?

Last review: September 18, 2025

Background:

Generally speaking, the Board of an organization is there to guide or steer the organization. The Board is the ultimate governing body, responsible for providing strategic direction, ensuring legal and financial compliance, and overseeing the organization's mission and assets. The Board ensures that the organization fulfills its mission and maintains public trust. The board's focus is on the long-term direction and sustainability of the organization. The Board achieves this by acting as stewards of the organization's resources on behalf of its members and the community.

Policy:

The key roles of the Board of the Perth Seniors Fellowship are to:

- **Provide Strategic Direction:** The Board defines the overall vision and mission and develops a long-term strategic plan to help guide activities and future growth.
 - **Provide Financial Oversight:** The Board is responsible for approving the budget, establishing financial policies, and monitoring financial health to ensure the organization's stability and long-term sustainability.
 - **Ensure Legal and Regulatory Compliance:** The Board ensures adherence to all federal and provincial laws and regulations.
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- **Select and Support the Executive Director:** A core responsibility of the Board is hiring, evaluating, and setting the compensation for the executive director, who manages the day-to-day operations.
- **Manage Risk:** The Board identifies and addresses potential risks to the organization, developing policies to mitigate these.
- **Develop Policy:** The Board creates and approves policies that define the parameters for the organization's work and ensures ethical, legal, and sound governance practices.
- **Engage in Advocacy and Fundraising:** Board members play a role in advocating for the organization's mission and actively participate in fundraising efforts to secure necessary resources.
- **Monitor and Strengthen Programs and Services:** Through its oversight function the Board is responsible for ensuring that all programs and services offered through the Perth Seniors Fellowship are in line with the organization's mission.