

Policy Type: **GOVERNANCE PROCESS**

Policy Title: **Role of the Chair of the Board**



Policy Statement

The Board Chair assumes a leadership role for the Police Services Board and ensures the integrity and effectiveness of the Board's governance role and processes. The Chair presides at meetings of the Board and fosters and facilitates collaborative relationships with Board members, police leadership and Board staff. Serving as the spokesperson for the Board and representing the Board to internal and external audiences, the Chair conveys a positive and professional image of the Board and the Police Service, contributing to greater community trust in the DRPS.

Policy Application

1. The Board chair oversees the quality of the Board's governance processes including:
 - a) Ensuring that the Board performs a governance role that respects and understands the role of management;
 - b) Ensuring that the work of Board committees is aligned with the Board's role and priorities;
 - c) Ensuring that the Board's stewardship functions, including strategic planning, budgeting, risk management, and policy development are duly executed;
 - d) Ensuring that the Board and individual Board members have access to appropriate educational opportunities;
 - e) Overseeing the Board's evaluation processes;
 - f) Ensuring that the Board's governance structures and processes are reviewed, evaluated, and revised from time to time;
 - g) Signing such contracts, documents or instruments in writing as require his or her signature, and exercising authority that has been delegated through any Board by-law;

h) Keep Board members informed of significant matters between meetings;

i) Facilitating relationships with, and communication among, other Board members and with the leadership of the Police Service;

j) Maintaining a constructive working relationship with the Chief of Police, providing advice and counsel as required.

The Board Chair is further expected to make efforts to attend external meetings, consultations, and special events as part of his/her responsibilities.

Reporting

A report shall be provided to the Board at regular Board meetings detailing activities undertaken by the Chair to represent the Board.