

BOARD POLICIES AND BOARD POLICY DIRECTIONS

Primary Contact	Board of Governors
Related Policy / Legislation	<i>University Act, s. 27(2)</i>

PURPOSE/PHILOSOPHY

Board policies and Board policy directions guide the Board in meeting its responsibilities and provide the President direction so that they have the freedom to take action within defined parameters and in keeping with the university's values.

A Board policy direction establishes in broad terms Board and university values; how the Board will meet its responsibilities; expresses parameters for the Board's and university's relationships; gives some direction on expected outcomes; sets general limitations on the university's actions; and states, where appropriate, expectations for accountability to the Board.

A Board policy includes more in-depth Board statements about specific areas of responsibility delegated to the Board by the *University Act* and other legislation and implicitly meets good governance standards. Within these specific areas, the Board may choose to maintain more control over the actions of the university by stating additional directions and expected outcomes, setting further limitations, and defining more specific accountability to the Board. The Board may delegate to the President additional or more defined authority to act on its behalf.

BYLAW

Board policies and Board policy directions:

1. Have clear statements expressing the university's values and beliefs in specific areas of Board responsibility.
2. Are authorized and limited by the mandate conferred upon the Board of Governors and the university through provincial direction and by regulatory legislation.
3. Receive regular consideration and oversight by the Board to ensure continuity with the university's mission, mandate, plans, directions, and other policies. The normal cycle for review is every seven years. Policies are reviewed sooner than this time frame when circumstances require it (e.g. changes to legislation; events that reveal gaps or deficiencies in policy; etc.).

4. Have clearly expressed statements of the Board's expectations for itself or the university for actions and outcomes.
5. Have clearly expressed statements of how the Board and the university will be measured or held accountable for its actions or outcomes.
6. Within a Board policy, steps for implementation include only those elements that require Board participation or where the Board states its need to remain in control of specific issues or actions to be taken.

The President establishes and approves administrative policies that give directions to the university on how it will meet the values, standards and expectations established by the Board.
