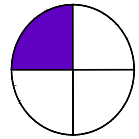


Board of Directors Policy



Policy Type: Governance Process

Policy #: GP6

Policy Name: Board Committee Principles

Page #: 1 of 1

Creation Date: December 3, 1993

Effective Date: November 17, 2008

Monitoring: November

The Board may establish committees to help carry out its responsibilities. To preserve Board holism, committees will be used sparingly, only when other methods have been deemed inadequate. Committees will be used so as to minimally interfere with the wholeness of the Board's job, and so as never to interfere with delegation from the Board to the Executive Director.

1. Board committees may not speak or act for the Board except when formally given such authority for specific and time-limited purposes. Such authority will be carefully stated in order not to conflict with authority delegated to the Executive Director.
2. Board committees are to help the Board do its job. Committees will assist the Board chiefly by preparing information, alternatives and implications for Board deliberations. Board committees are not to be created by the Board to advise staff.
3. If a Board committee is used to monitor organizational performance in a given area, the same committee will not have helped the Board create policy in that area. This is to prevent a committee from over-identification with an organizational part rather than the whole.
4. Board committees cannot exercise authority over staff. In keeping with the Board's broader focus, Board committees will ordinarily not have direct dealings with current staff operations. Because the Executive Director works for the full Board, the Executive Director will not be required to obtain approval of a Board committee before an executive action.
5. This policy applies only to committees which are formed by Board action, whether or not the committees include non-board members. It does not apply to committees formed under the authority of the Executive Director.
6. Board members may sit on staff committees as a resource to that committee; however, the person is acting in a volunteer capacity not as an official Board member.

Except as defined in written Terms of Reference, no committee has authority to commit the funds or resources of Thunder Bay Counselling.