POLICY TITLE: GOVERNANCE PHILOSOPHY AND APPROACH
POLICY SECTION: SECTION 2 – GOVERNANCE PROCESS
POLICY NO: 2.1
APPROVED BY: BOARD
REGULAR BOARD POLICY REVIEW FREQUENCY: EVERY 2 YEARS
FREQUENCY OF BOARD MONITORING BOARD ACHIEVEMENT: EVERY 2 YEARS
DATE ORIGINALLY APPROVED: 4/9/2006
DATE REVIEWED/REVISED: 6/9/2016, 8/10/2023
BOARD CHAIR'S SIGNATURE:

2.1 Governing Style
The board will govern lawfully and consistently with the principles of Policy Governance, with an emphasis on:
(a) outward vision rather than internal preoccupation,
(b) encouragement of and a commitment to equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice (EDIJ),
(c) clear distinction of board and executive roles, (even when the latter are performed by board members),
(d) collective rather than individual decisions,
(e) future focus rather than past or present, and
(f) proactivity rather than reactivity.

2.1.1 Group Responsibility
The board will cultivate a sense of group responsibility. The board will initiate policy, rather than merely reacting to others' proposals. The board will not use the expertise of individual members to substitute for the wisdom of the board, although the expertise of individual members may be used to enhance the understanding of the board as a body.

2.1.3 Written Policies
The board will direct, control and inspire the Association through the careful establishment of broad written policies reflecting the board's values and perspectives. The board's major policy focus will be on the intended long-term external impacts of the Association.

2.1.4 Board Discipline
The board will enforce upon itself whatever discipline is needed to govern with excellence. Discipline will apply to matters such as attendance, preparation for meetings, policymaking principles, respect of roles, and ensuring the continuance of governance capacity. Although the board can change its governance process policies at any time, it will observe them scrupulously while in force.

2.1.5 Board Development
Continual board development will include orientation of new board members in the board's governance process and periodic board discussion of process improvement.

2.1.5.1 Orientation of New Board Members
Orientation of new board members will include: an introduction to the organization, an introduction to board members and the CEO, an orientation to the governance model and governance processes.