

Governance Committee Report

The CDSS has engaged Irene Seiferling of Board Dynamics to enable best practices for our Council. With the dynamic nature of governing principles and council membership, it is important to continue this mentorship. Attached to this report is some of the material Irene has provided for guidance.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Louie Kriel

Good Governance 12 Principles

1. Constructive Partnership

Exceptional boards govern in constructive partnership with the chief executive, recognizing that the effectiveness of the board and chief executive are interdependent.

2. Mission Driven

Exceptional boards shape and uphold the mission, articulate a compelling vision, and ensure the congruence between decisions and core values.

3. Strategic Thinking

Exceptional boards, allocate time to what matters most and continuously engage in strategic thinking to hone the organization's direction.

4. Culture of Inquiry

Exceptional boards institutionalize a culture of inquiry, mutual respect, and constructive debate that leads to sound and shared decision making.

5. Independent-Mindedness

Exceptional boards are independent-minded. When making decisions, board members put the interests of the organization above all else.

6. Ethos of Transparency

Exceptional boards promote an ethos of transparency by ensuring that donors, stakeholders, and interested members of the public have access to appropriate and accurate information regarding finances, operations, and results.

7. Compliance with Integrity

Exceptional boards promote strong ethical values and disciplined compliance by establishing appropriate mechanisms for active oversight.

8. Sustaining Resources

Exceptional boards link bold visions and ambitions plans to financial support, expertise, and networks of influence.

9. Results-Orientated

Exceptional boards are results-oriented. They measure the organization's advancement towards mission and evaluate the performance of major programs and services.

10. Intentional Board Practices

Exceptional board intentionally structure themselves to fulfill essential governance duties and to support organizational priorities.

11. Continuous Learning

Exceptional boards embrace the qualities of a continuous learning organization, evaluating their own performance and assessing the value they add to the organization.

12. Revitalization

Exceptional boards energize themselves through planned turnover thoughtful recruitment, and inclusiveness.