

**Board/Senate Task Force on Bicameral Governance**

**PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUCCESSFUL MODEL OF BICAMERAL  
GOVERNANCE AT KWANTLEN POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY**

The following principles have been prepared to guide the development of a successful model of bicameral governance at the University. These principles are broad and will assist in developing policies in all areas involving both the Board and Senate.

**1. EDUCATION**

The Board and Senate will develop, through ongoing educational opportunities, a common and solid understanding of the University Act, the powers assigned to each of the bodies, the spirit and intent of the Act, its limitations and uncertainties and options to address these limitations and uncertainties.

**2. MUTUAL TRUST, RESPECT AND GOODWILL**

The Board and Senate recognize the need to develop and maintain an attitude of mutual trust, respect and goodwill, both in their collective roles as two critical bodies within the University and as individual members within those bodies; the Board and Senate recognize that maximizing the potential of the University requires building on the strengths and abilities of each of these bodies.

**3. STRATEGIC ADVICE**

Both the Board and Senate recognize that their role is to provide broad, strategic\* direction to the University, leaving operational\*\* issues to University management.

**4. MULTI-YEAR PLANNING**

Planning and consultation between the two bodies will involve both immediate and long-term issues, using the approach of revolving, multi-year plans.

**5. ONGOING COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board and Senate recognize the need to strive, on an ongoing basis, to share, understand and solicit feedback on the issues that each body is responsible for as well as the issues for which they bear joint responsibility; both bodies also recognize the importance of timely feedback allowing sufficient time for response and, where necessary, action.

**6. BROAD CONSULTATION**

Both parties recognize the desirability of soliciting and encouraging the feedback and advice of the broader University community regarding those matters that relate to bicameral governance issues.

**7. ACCOUNTABILITY**

The University will provide Senate, on a regular basis, with a report that summarizes actual versus planned results on those strategic issues that are within the purview of Senate.

**8. REGULAR MEETINGS**

The Board and Senate and the appropriate committees of each will establish regular, face-to-face meetings in a manner that will permit meaningful dialogue, representative of the broader University perspective.

**9. DOCUMENTATION**

Requests for information, decisions and other forms of communication will be documented in writing with reasonable expectations for timely feedback.

**10. POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

The Board and Senate will develop a protocol that, while acknowledging the ultimate authority of one body or the other with respect to certain issues, opens up meaningful opportunities for dialogue and exchanges of information so that each body makes the most informed decision possible.

\*Strategic planning involves thinking about issues that are long-term, that are fundamental to the University and that set broad directions for the institution.

\*\*Operational decision-making involves the day-to-day implementation of strategic decisions.