

Policy Name: GOV-01 Governance Policy - Purpose of the Board

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The purpose of the library board is to govern the affairs of the public library in service to the residents of Kitchener, as set out in the Ontario Public Libraries Act and/or as defined by board policies.

This policy sets out the work of the library board and the ways in which the library board achieves its purpose.

1. The library board oversees the development of a comprehensive and efficient public library service by:
 - a) developing and expressing the library board's philosophy and values
 - b) articulating mission, service priorities, and long-term strategy
 - c) setting policies on governance
 - d) delegating authority to the chief executive officer (CEO) and evaluating her/his performance
 - e) planning for further library development
 - f) advocating for library service
 - g) securing the resources to achieve the intended results
 - h) exercising financial control
 - i) evaluating results and assessing outcomes and impact

2. The library board governs effectively by:
 - a) setting a library board agenda that reflects current goals and strategic issues
 - b) working proactively and making decisions that focus on the library's future and place in the community representing the interests of the community
 - c) providing opportunities for board development and training
 - d) working effectively as a team
 - e) working collaboratively with the CEO and the council
 - f) evaluating the board's performance
 - g) behaving with integrity