

The South Slave Divisional Education Council is made up of representatives of each of the five Districts of the South Slave. The Council is the corporate body responsible for developing direction for the Division in keeping with the requirements of government legislation.

Government of the Northwest Territories legislation defines what school boards must and may do. Core governance functions, which the council has chosen to retain include:

**1) Accountability to the Territorial Government**

The Council shall:

- a) Act in accordance with all statutory requirements of the GNWT to implement educational standards and policies.
- b) Perform Council functions required by governing legislation and existing Council policy.

**2) Accountability to the Community**

The Council shall:

- a) Make decisions that take into consideration the interests of the entire region.
- b) Establish processes and provide opportunities for community input.
- c) Report Division results at least on an annual basis.
- d) Develop procedures for and hear appeals as required by statute and/or Council policy.
- e) Model a culture of respect and integrity.

**3) Planning and Reporting**

The Council shall:

- a) Provide overall direction for the Division by establishing mission, vision, and common essential understandings (values).
- b) Identify corporate Council key priorities to be included in Community Education Plans and individual staff Growth Plans.
- c) Monitor progress toward the achievement of student outcomes and other desired results.
- d) Evaluate annually the effectiveness of the Division in achieving established priorities and results.
- e) Approve the Annual Report and provide for its distribution to the public.
- f) Ensure the approved budget supports the key priorities.

**4) Policy**

The Council shall:

- a) Determine policies which outline how the Council is to function.
- b) Determine individual council member roles and responsibilities.
- c) Monitor policy impact to determine if policy has created the desired change.
- d) Delegate authority to the Superintendent and define commensurate responsibilities.

**5) Council/Superintendent Relations**

The Council shall:

- a) Select the Superintendent.
- b) Provide the Superintendent with clear corporate direction including directions stemming from the approved key priorities.
- c) Delegate in writing, administrative authority and identify responsibility subject to the provisions and restrictions in Territorial legislation and regulations.
- d) Evaluate the Superintendent in regard to the Superintendent's job description and additional Council direction in accordance with the approved process.
- e) Review superintendent compensation.

## **6) Political Advocacy**

The Council shall:

- a) Develop a yearly plan for advocacy which will include key messages and strategies.
- b) Meet with government agencies and neighbouring educational governing authorities to advance the Division's and mutual interests.

## **7) Council Development**

The Council shall:

- a) Evaluate the Council's effectiveness at least once every two years.
- b) Develop a yearly plan to improve or enhance trustee effectiveness.
- c) Provide opportunity for DEA development.

## **8) Fiscal Management**

The Council shall:

- a) Determine budget assumptions to be used in the preparation of the Division's budget.
- b) Approve the annual budget and ensure sufficient resources are provided to support the successful implementation of key priorities.
- c) Ensure the audit report and management letter are received annually and quality indicators are met.
- d) Monitor the fiscal management of the Division with timely financial reports that would alert the Council to unusual circumstances or when budget assumptions are no longer valid.
- e) The Council shall develop and maintain clear and enforceable internal controls for the protection of Division assets and resources.

References:      Education Act sections 101-112 and 117-125  
                          South Slave Divisional Education Council Regulations  
                          Public Service Act

Date:                February 2007  
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