

The South Slave Divisional Education Council (SSDEC) is composed of representatives from each of the five districts of the South Slave. The Council is the corporate body responsible for setting strategic direction for the Division in accordance with government legislation and community needs.

Legislation from the Government of the Northwest Territories (GNWT) defines the mandatory and optional roles of school boards. Core governance functions retained by the Council 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 reflect the diverse interests and needs of the entire region.
- b) Establish processes and provide opportunities for community input.
- c) Report Division results on an annual basis.
- d) Develop fair and accessible appeal procedures as required by statute or policy.
- e) Foster a culture of inclusivity, respect, and integrity in all Council activities and communications.

**3) Planning and Reporting**

The Council shall:

- a) Establish the Division's mission, vision, and core values, ensuring they reflect regional priorities and GNWT mandates.
- b) Set corporate key priorities to guide 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) Develop and approve policies that define how the Council operates and governs.
- b) Clearly outline the roles, responsibilities, and ethical standards expected of individual Council members.
- c) Regularly review policies to ensure effectiveness and alignment with strategic goals.
- d) Delegate authority to the Superintendent and define commensurate responsibilities.

**5) Council/Superintendent Relations**

The Council shall:

- a) Appoint the Superintendent.
- b) Provide the Superintendent with clear corporate direction based on approved key priorities.
- c) Delegate, in writing, administrative authority and responsibilities as outlined in applicable legislation.

- d) Evaluate the Superintendent's performance annually using agreed-upon metrics and processes.
- e) Regularly review and update the Superintendent's compensation.

**6) Political Advocacy**

The Council shall:

- a) Develop an annual advocacy plan that includes key messages, strategies, and objectives.
- b) Engage with government agencies, Indigenous organizations, and neighbouring education authorities to advance Division interests and foster collaborative relationships.

**7) Council Development**

The Council shall:

- a) Evaluate the Council's effectiveness at least once every two years, identifying areas for improvement.
- 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) Review the audit report and management letter annually to ensure financial accountability.
- d) Monitor fiscal management through regular financial updates and take corrective action as necessary.
- 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

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