

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS CODE OF CONDUCT**

Board Members need to demonstrate ethical and professional conduct to maintain the confidence of the membership and the public. This commitment includes proper use of authority and appropriate actions in group and individual behaviour when acting as board members.

- 1. Board members must be loyal to the interest of the membership over and above any:
  - a. Loyalty to advocacy or interest groups, and membership on other boards or staffs.
  - b. Personal interest of any Board Members acting as an individual consumer of this organization's services.
- 2. Board members are trustees of public confidence and securities. They must avoid any conflict of interest.
  - a. There must be no self-dealing or any conduct of private business or personal services between any Board Member and the Society. Exceptions can occur only when there is openness, competitive opportunity, and equal access to information.
  - b. Board Members must not use their positions to obtain employment within the Society for themselves or their family members.
  - c. If a Board Member is considered for employment, he or she must temporarily withdraw from deliberation, voting and access to applicable Society information.
- 3. Board Members must not exert any individual authority over the Society except as stated in the Society's policies.
  - a. Individual Board Members do not have any authority to speak for the Society when they interact with staff, the public, the press and other entities unless granted this authority by the whole board.
  - b. Board Members must not make any judgments of staff performance except if the performance is officially assessed against Society policies.
- 4. Board Members deal with outside entities or individuals, with clients and staff, and with each other using fair play, ethics and straightforward communication.

## Resources

The Muttart Foundation and Alberta Culture and Community Spirit.

*Board Development: Developing Job Descriptions for Board Members of Nonprofit Organizations.* The Muttart Foundation (2008)

Approved: August 24, 2020

Review: