

**POLICY NUMBER:** GP - 7  
**ISSUING AUTHORITY:** Board of Directors  
**Date:** Issued December 19, 2012  
Reviewed December 6, 2023  
Revised December 19, 2023



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**SUBJECT:**

Governance Process

BOARD COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**POLICY:**

1. The Southern Health-Santé-Sud Board of Directors governs on behalf of the residents of the region [the community].
2. When making governance decisions, the Board maintains a distinction between personal interests and its obligation to speak on behalf of or identify the needs of the community as a whole.
3. The Board gathers data that reflects the health of Southern Health-Santé-Sud's communities to inform engagement.
4. The Board meets with, gathers input from, and otherwise interacts with the broad base of communities through a variety of methods, including, but not limited to, surveys and community/stakeholder engagement.
  - 4.1. Board members must observe principles outlined in GP-11.
5. The Board as a whole considers the merits of official Regional Health Authority Board membership or appointments in other organizations.
  - 5.1. Any representations made on behalf of the Board adhere to the stated policies of the Board. Issues or recommendations to amend current policies will be submitted to the Board.
  - 5.2. Board member appointment to external committees is part of the inaugural committees' appointment process or upon receipt of a written request. The Board appointee reports as appropriate, and/or as determined by the Board at the time of appointment.
6. The Board as a whole identifies other stakeholders with which it requires good working relationships in order to achieve its Statement of Purpose. It establishes mechanisms for maintaining open communication with these organizations. Such mechanisms may include, but are not limited to:
  - 6.1. Inviting representatives of the Boards of those organizations to Southern Health-Santé Sud Board meetings.
  - 6.2. Meeting jointly with other Boards on occasion.
  - 6.3. Requesting the CEO to establish linkages at a staff level, and to report on areas of mutual interest and activity.

6.4. Board member attendance at health-related events as per Board policy.