College of Nurses of Ontario
Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers de l'Ontario
THE STANDARD OF CARE.

Council Member Role

Overview

Council defines the stewardship role and responsibilities of its members to support Council's accountability to the public. Council members contribute directly to effective governance by:

- actively understanding and effectively fulfilling their role and responsibilities
- demonstrating responsible actions and behaviours and
- demonstrating an unwavering understanding of and commitment to CNO's public protection purpose

Council members will:

- understand and respect Council's purpose, role and the distinction between Council and staff responsibilities, as outlined in Council's approved role descriptions and governance policies
- comply with individual and collective fiduciary duties as outlined in the Council and Committee Code of Conduct (Code) and execute them with integrity
- act in good faith (in accordance with the Code and CNO's statutory and legislative requirements) to support a Council member's actions being covered by the immunity provisions of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991 (RHPA), CNO's by-laws and insurance coverage
- participate in Council orientation, and ongoing education and development
- participate in Council evaluation activities as set out in Council's Evaluation Policy
- prepare for and attend meetings, to support informed engagement and meaningful discussions to contribute to Council's decision-making process
- communicate inclusively, clearly and respectfully in Council discussions (e.g., avoid side conversations, interruptions, repetition)
- support the Council Chair in facilitating productive and efficient meetings
- respect and support the decisions made by Council, recognizing that individual Council members have no independent authority. Council members are expected to speak with one voice, upholding the collective decisions and actions of the group
- maintain constructive, collaborative and mutually respectful relationships with other Council members and CNO staff

- respect that no one individual member can speak on behalf of Council or provide direction, including to the Registrar & CEO or staff

Role Revision Process

This role is approved by Council. To maintain currency, a review of this role takes place every three years, with the exception noted below.

Where there is a substantive legislative change in regulatory or societal expectations, a review will be undertaken to determine if the role needs interim amendment.