Principles of Strategic Governance

1. Clear mission\(^1\), vision and values statements guide leaders and staff.

2. The strategic plan is the driving force for agendas, board discussions and the focus of successive leaders.

3. The goals and strategies are translated into a more precise (tactical) business or action plan by staff.

4. Performance measures are the basis for gauging progress.

5. The chief elected officer charges committees with work from the plan. Committees have access to the board through a director or staff liaison if they are chaired by other than board members. The board of directors does not do committee work at the board table.

6. When non-strategic discussions arise, a member of the board or staff is empowered to query the relevance of the discussion.

7. Board members remain responsible to each other – taking pride in their follow-through and achievements while serving in the leadership role.

8. The strategic plan is revisited annually, and updated every three to five years.

\(^1\) Statement of purpose.