

Governance Policy: Virtual/Remote Meeting Protocols

Purpose:

The North Peace Housing Foundation holds the highest ideals of fostering strong relationships, constructive conversations, and maximizing opportunities for collaboration. Recognizing the importance of in-person interactions, the Board of Directors prefers face-to-face meetings as they allow for the development of relationships, rapport building, and a deeper understanding of our facilities and assets.

Scope:

Meeting attendance is specific to Board members as outlined in the Foundation's Ministerial Order.

Exceptions:

While in-person attendance is preferred, the Board acknowledges that certain circumstances may necessitate virtual participation. The following exceptions for attending meetings virtually are acceptable:

1. Inclement Weather: When severe weather conditions pose risks to travel safety, members may choose to attend meetings virtually instead of commuting.
2. Ill Health: In cases where a member's, or a family member's health condition prevents them from attending in person, virtual meetings can be utilized as an alternative.
3. There may be instances where the Board Chair, in consultation with Administration, may determine that a virtual/remote meeting is more appropriate than an in-person meeting.

Virtual Parameters:

For those participating in meetings virtually, the following parameters must be adhered to:

1. Camera On: All participants are required to have their cameras turned on throughout the duration of the meeting, ensuring visual engagement and facilitating effective communication.
2. Bandwidth and Meeting Requirements: It is the responsibility of each member to ensure that they have sufficient bandwidth and technical capabilities to meet the requirements of participating in virtual meetings effectively.
3. Voting: Voting during virtual meetings will only be valid when cast in the affirmative, ensuring transparency and accountability in decision-making processes.
4. Closed Sessions: In cases where closed sessions are necessary, individuals must keep their camera on to ensure that they are in a private and confidential setting.

Remuneration for Virtual Meeting Attendance:

To strike a balance between the importance of in-person interactions and accommodating virtual participation, the following split rate remuneration policy will be implemented:

1. Full Remuneration: Each Board member will be allowed a maximum of two virtual meetings per term year, where they will be eligible for full remuneration.
2. Half Rate Remuneration: Any virtual meetings attended beyond the two allowed per term year will be remunerated at a reduced rate of 50% of the normal remuneration.

This policy aims to incentivize in-person attendance while still acknowledging the need for flexibility and remote participation.

The Board of Directors is committed to upholding the highest standards of engagement and collaboration, ensuring that all members have equal opportunities to contribute effectively.

This policy shall be reviewed periodically to ensure its continued relevance and effectiveness.