

ADVOCACY POLICY

Approved by: Board of Governors
Authorizer: Governance Committee
Version: V1
Date of Approval: July 30, 2026

POLICY STATEMENT

The purpose of this policy is to outline the Board and administrative roles in advocating for the plans and priorities of the college to the provincial and federal government and any other relevant parties.

SCOPE

This policy is to outline the role of the Board in advocacy for the College in order to further the College's ability to realize its strategic plan.

DEFINITIONS

Board: The board of governors of the College.

College: The Conestoga College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning.

President: The president of the College.

POLICY

1. Annually, the College will provide positions statements and briefings on advocacy issues to the Board, including position statements that can be used by Board members in speaking engagements or other advocacy activities.
2. Each Board member shall promote the College's plans and priorities through personal networking and identify outreach events where governor representation would advance the College.
3. The primary responsibility for advocacy rests with the President and senior administration. Members of the Board may be engaged by College administration to collaborate on strategic advocacy issues.
4. The College is a legal corporate entity and, as such, individual Board members shall represent the views of the Board as a whole when speaking on an advocacy issue, rather than presenting their individual positions.

MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE

1. Given that the College is a registered charity under the *Income Tax Act* (Canada), the College may only engage in advocacy if it furthers its charitable purpose provided that the College never directly or indirectly supports or opposes a political party or candidate for public office. The College must adhere to the Canada Revenue Agency's Guidance CG-027 on public policy dialogue and development activities by charities.
2. If a member of the College makes representations in writing or verbally to elected officials, public officials, political parties, and candidates, and/or appears at parliamentary committees, to bring their views to the public policy development process, the College may be required to register as a lobbyist organization under federal, provincial, and municipal laws that apply to these types of activities, such as the *Canada Elections Act*, the *Lobbying Act*, the *First Nations Elections Act* and provincial lobbying and election legislation. The College should obtain legal advice to confirm the nature and extent of its obligations under these laws.
3. This policy shall be reviewed periodically and updated as required to reflect legislative and regulatory changes.