

# Governance Committee

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Terms of reference / Mandate

**Approved September 2022**



## **1. Introduction**

Good governance forms the foundation of organizational excellence. In accordance with Nordiq Canada's Board Policy Manual, the Governance Committee was established by the Board of Directors of Nordiq Canada as an official Board Committee.

## **2. Purpose**

To guide Nordiq Canada in the development, evaluation and continuity of a culture of governance excellence to achieve our organizational objectives.

## **3. Accountability**

The Committee reports to the Nordiq Canada Board of Directors.

## **4. Mandate**

To ensure that Nordiq Canada consistently maintains excellent standards of governance that allow us to meet our organizational objectives. This will involve:

- a. reviewing and updating of and ensuring compliance with the Nordiq Canada Board Policy Manual;
- b. monitoring Board performance through measures committed to under Sport Canada Sport Funding Accountability Framework, as outlined in Section 2 of the Board Policy Manual and ensuring compliance with all relevant nonprofit governance regulations;
- c. monitoring not-for-profit industry best practices to identify governance standards and practices applicable to Nordiq Canada and the development of governance knowledge of the Board;
- d. recommending measures to build and enhance Board governance capacity through skill development, orientation, seminars, expert presentations;
- e. assessing the skills and experience of Board members and provide guidance to the Nominating Committee regarding the desired skill profiles of potential future Board members;
- f. reviewing and updating the Board Orientation Package and ensuring new Board members are appropriately mentored;
- g. developing, reviewing and updating the annual Nordiq Canada Board forward agenda;

- h. considering and recommending outside monitoring assistance;
- i. considering formal professional development framework for staff, leaders and Board members;
- j. reviewing the Nordiq Canada Board committee structure and committee terms of reference to consider mandate and effectiveness;
- k. reviewing the roles and responsibilities of the Board overall, Directors and the CEO;
- l. ensuring that appropriate reporting frameworks are in place to establish Board effectiveness and accountability with respect to stakeholders.

## 5. Membership

- a. The Governance Committee shall be composed of:
  - i. a minimum of three members of the Board of Nordiq Canada, including the Chair or Vice-Chair;
  - ii. the DCC Chair or delegate;
  - iii. the CEO and/or delegate; and
  - iv. other individuals whom the Board feels will bring value to the Committee.
- b. Those committee members referred to in subsection 5.a) shall be appointed by the Board.
- c. The term of a Committee member appointment is one year and is renewable.

## 6. Chairperson

- a. The Chair of the Committee shall be an independent Board member appointed by the Nordiq Canada Board on the recommendation of the Board Chair.
- b. The Committee Chair is responsible for:
  - i. providing leadership to the Committee (i.e., convening meetings; developing agendas; assigning, supervising and coordinating the Committee work); and
  - ii. representing the Committee in communication.
- c. The Committee Chair shall report to the Nominations Committee and the Nordiq Canada Annual General Meeting on the governance process and evaluation measures put in place, including Director and Board Evaluation Survey, Director Experience summary, Chair Evaluation and Directors' Attendance.

## **7. Decision-Making**

The Committee shall endeavour to make decisions by consensus. In case of disagreement, all Committee members shall cast votes.

## **8. Meetings**

- a. The Committee shall determine a meeting schedule that will facilitate achievement of the Committee's work plan, which should include at least four meetings per year. Committee meetings may be in person or by any other means that facilitates communication of all attending Committee members simultaneously. Minutes that reflect all significant decisions of the Committee shall be kept at all regular meetings. Minutes shall be available to the Nordiq Canada Board.
- b. The Committee will report to all Nordiq Canada Board meetings.
- c. The Committee shall lead governance sessions at all Nordiq Canada Board meetings and the AGM. These sessions may include Director education and orientation, panel discussions, expert guests, and survey reviews. The intent is to foster a culture of world-leading governance supporting the Nordiq Canada Governance Policy and accountable management of a National Sport Organization.

## **9. Review**

The terms of reference shall be reviewed and approved annually.