



## Board Governance Policy Manual

**POLICY CATEGORY: OUTCOMES**

**POLICY NUMBER: A03**

**POLICY TITLE: PROGRAM QUALITY FOR PROGRAMS OF INSTRUCTION**

**EFFECTIVE: OCT.12/05**

**REFERENCE (MOTION): 374.O.8.1 (EST. OCT. 2005)**

### **PURPOSE**

As defined by MTCU, a Program of Instruction refers to a group of related courses leading to a diploma, certificate and/or applied degree. In addition, Mohawk considers similar guidelines for a joint degree with partnering universities or other documents awarded by the College. The delivery of Programs of Instruction is a core business of the College and Mohawk College is committed to ensuring that its Programs of Instruction meet and exceed standards and expectations for quality and relevance. Under the *OCAAT Act, 2002*, the Board of Governors is responsible for all aspects of program approval including approval of new programs, major program modifications and program cancellation. This policy outlines key Board responsibilities associated with program quality.

### **APPLICATION AND SCOPE**

This policy applies to all members of the Mohawk College Board of Governors.

### **PRINCIPLES**

Consistent with the MTCU's *Framework for Programs of Instruction* outlined in the Minister's Binding Policy Directive, the Board of Governors will ensure that:

1. Programs of Instruction that are developed and implemented will maintain consistency with provincial standards where they exist.
2. All new and modified post-secondary programs leading to an Ontario College Certificate, Diploma, or Graduate Certificate will receive system-wide validation that programming conforms to the Credentials Framework and is consistent with accepted college system nomenclature/program titling principles. In addition, Applied Degrees will receive approval through the Postsecondary Education Quality Assessment Board (PEQAB) and joint degrees with partnering universities will receive appropriate credential validation.

3. Credentials awarded to students on successful completion of their Programs of Instruction are consistent with the Credentials Framework.
4. Linkages/communication with the employer community are facilitated through the establishment of program advisory committees.
5. Protocols for grading, advancement and dispute resolution are established and publicly communicated.
6. A regular program review cycle is implemented and that Programs of Instruction offered by the College are reviewed and revised or suspended as appropriate.

## **MONITORING**

The authority to develop and administer policies and procedures to ensure program quality has been delegated by the Board to the President. Within that context, the Board will monitor compliance with the Minister's Binding Policy Directive and Framework for Programs of Instruction through the following:

- review and approval of new program proposals;
- annual review of Enrolment Management Plans;
- review and monitoring of program quality through various data sources, including academic program scorecards, annual program review, and comprehensive program review and other appropriate indicators of programming performance;
- annual review of summary reports of program reviews completed during the year.

The Program Development and Renewal Committee will be responsible for these review and monitoring initiatives, with regular feedback to the Board as a whole.

### **POLICY REVIEW DATE:**

**September 2013**

**Annual**

**Next Review – September 2014 (By Program Development & Renewal Committee)**