

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE CHAIR OF THE NORTHERN HEALTH
MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT BOARD MEETINGS****BRD 170****INTRODUCTION**

The Board of the Directors of Northern Health (the “Board”) shall appoint a Northern Health Medical Advisory Committee (NHMAC)¹

The Chair of the Northern Health Medical Advisory Committee (“NHMAC Chair”) is appointed by the Board after consideration of the recommendation of the NHMAC²

The NHMAC Chair provides advice to the President and Chief Executive Officer of Northern Health (the “CEO”) and to the Board on:

1. The processes in place to manage the appointment of Northern Health Medical Staff, including credentialing and privileging.
2. The deliberations and recommendations of the NHMAC regarding appointments to the Northern Health Medical Staff.
3. The provision of medical care within the facilities and programs operated by Northern Health
4. The monitoring of the quality and effectiveness of medical care provided within the facilities and programs operated by Northern Health
5. The adequacy of medical staff resources
6. The continuing education of the members of the medical staff
7. Planning goals for meeting the medical care needs of the population served by Northern Health

The Chair or Vice Chair of NHMAC shall provide a report to the Board and to the CEO on a regular basis

THE ROLE OF THE NHMAC CHAIR AT THE BOARD

The role of the NHMAC Chair at Board meetings is to provide a report on the deliberations, motions, recommendations and decisions of the NHMAC. The NHMAC Chair will also inform the Board of any items of discussion from NHMAC meetings that are not included in the minutes as necessary to contribute to the Board discussion.

The Board will be provided with copies of the ‘draft’ minutes of the NHMAC meetings in order that the Board may independently review the issues discussed by NHMAC and to ensure that they are familiar with the NHMAC’s deliberations.

In addition, the NHMAC Chair may participate in Board discussions. The perspective of a practicing physician will be helpful to the Board when discussing certain issues.

¹ NH Medical Staff Bylaws Article 8.1.1

² NH Medical Staff Bylaws Article 8.2.2

Author(s): Governance & Management Relations Committee

Issuing Authority: Northern Health Board

Date Issued (I), REVISED (R), reviewed (r): April 14, 2025 (r)

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Because of the size and diversity of the region and the opinion of the various medical communities, it is important that the NHMAC Chair is explicit when they are reflecting the opinion of the NHMAC and when they are reflecting their own personal or professional opinion.

The NHMAC Chair will be encouraged to contribute to the Board agenda items that are related to quality of care and service delivery issues and items that are identified in the Medical Staff Bylaws.

The NHMAC Chair may request, or be requested, to attend meetings of Board committees to provide specific NHMAC advice and perspective to quality of care and service delivery issues being considered by Board committees. However, the NHMAC Chair is not expected nor entitled to attend Board committee meetings other than by specific invitation.

The Board recognizes and differentiates between advocacy for the interests of medical practitioners and the provision of professional advice regarding quality of care and service delivery issues of importance to patients. Advocacy for the former is a function of the Medical Staff Association, a companion to the medical staff organization. The NHMAC Chair is expected to differentiate between these perspectives and to restrict their function as NHMAC Chair to the provision of professional advice regarding quality of care and service delivery issues.

The NHMAC Chair will be excused from 'in camera' portions of Board meetings dealing with agenda items for which, in the opinion of the Board Chair, or of the Chairs of Board committees, the presence of the NHMAC Chair would create a conflict of interest for the NHMAC Chair, or which may prejudice the relationship between the Board and the NHMAC, medical staff or NHMAC Chair if the NHMAC Chair is present during discussions.

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