

GEORGE JEFFREY CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION



Policy Type: **Governance Process**

Policy Name: **Board Member's Code of Conduct**

Date Approved: **September 19, 2016**

The Board of Directors is committed to effective decision-making and, once a decision has been made, speaking with one voice. Towards this end board members will:

- ❖ Represent one's own view as an individual view ("my own way of thinking on this is that...")
- ❖ Endeavour to build on other's ideas or offer alternative points of view as options to be considered and invite others to do so
- ❖ Refrain from trying to influence other board members outside of board meetings that might have the effect of either creating factions or limiting open discussion
- ❖ On important issues, be balanced in one's effort to understand other board members and to make oneself understood
- ❖ Once made, support, indeed defend board decisions, even if one's own view is a minority one
- ❖ Not disclose or discuss differences of opinion on the board outside of board meetings, especially with staff, donors, sponsors or volunteers (for this reason information on who votes for and against any particular motion will not be recorded in meeting minutes unless a director requests it)
- ❖ Board Members shall respect the confidentiality of matters brought before the Board, keeping in mind that unauthorized statements could adversely affect the interests of the Foundation
- ❖ Disclose one's involvement with other organizations, businesses or individuals where such a relationship might be viewed as a conflict of interest (See Conflict of Interest Policy)
- ❖ Do not seek information for the purpose of evaluating the performance of the executive director without his/her knowledge
- ❖ Individual board members have no authority to approve actions by the Foundation, to direct staff or to speak on behalf of the Foundation unless given such authority by the board.