



Governance Structure

In April 2016, the Specialists Services Committee provided the following clarification on the governance and decision-making structure of the Physician Societies.

MEMBERS

Generally, all physicians who are members of the facility-based MSA will automatically become voting members of the Physician Societies and all other medical staff may become nonvoting members.

DIRECTORS

The role of directors and officers will also be held only by physicians, and in most cases, physicians who are executive members of the MSA will hold the same role in the Physician Societies.

GOVERNING DOCUMENTS AND LEGISLATION

Each Physician Society has a constitution and bylaws that set out key aspects of the governance framework, including the rights and responsibilities of members, directors, and officers.

The constitution and bylaws provide a standard framework for societies across the facility-based physician engagement initiative; however, specific provisions may be modified to fit the context of a given society. The bylaw references in the governance handbook refer to the template bylaws; check your bylaws for the specific rules that apply.

The key governing legislation is the Societies Act (British Columbia), which came into effect on 28 November 2016 and replaced the Society Act. It contains rules that apply to matters that may not otherwise be dealt with in the bylaws. Rules and requirements under other applicable legislation, such as the Income Tax Act for example, should be discussed with the society's accounting and tax advisors.