Accountability Framework

Introduction

An Accountability Framework ensures that an organization is meeting the purpose for which it was created, reporting in a timely and efficient manner to its stakeholders regarding the initiatives and results that it undertakes in meeting its purpose.

The First Nations University of Canada Act states that First Nations University of Canada was created to “serve the academic, cultural and spiritual needs of First Nations and society in general”. To this end, First Nations University of Canada has developed a strategic plan, approved by the Board of Governors, to meet this broad purpose as to why it was created. This policy defines the Accountability Framework that FNUniv’s Board of Governors and senior management team will follow in reporting its progress in meeting its purpose.

Definitions

**Accountability Framework** – a statement defining the university’s commitments, that is, it’s aims, standards and procedures, and how it ensures it is accountable for them.

**PSPP** - The Post-Secondary Partnerships Program (PSPP) is being rolled out by AANDC to replace the Indian Studies Support Program (ISSP)

**Performance Measurement Framework** - the process whereby an organization establishes the parameters within which programs, investments, and acquisitions are reaching the desired results. This process of measuring performance often requires the use of statistical evidence to determine progress toward specific defined organizational objective.

**Stakeholder** – A person, group, or organization that has interest or concern in an organization.

**Strategic Plan** – A systematic process of envisioning a desired future, and translating this vision into broadly defined goals or objectives and a sequence of steps to achieve them.
University members - All Board members, employees, and students of the University, whether full-time, reduced, or part-time, and any other person acting on behalf of or at the request of the University

Policy

The Board of Governors has identified its primary stakeholders as defined in the following table and through this Accountability Framework holds senior management accountable for ensuring that reporting is done annually to these audiences assuring FNUniv’s stakeholders that First Nations University of Canada is accountable in achieving its overall purpose, mission and vision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder</th>
<th>Annual reporting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations</td>
<td>• Pursuant to the Act – the Board of Governors will report at every All Chiefs Assembly</td>
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<td>• Strategic Plan</td>
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<td>• Audited Financial Statements – <em>normally</em> provided in June</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Annual Report – which includes the annual Performance Measurement Framework reporting progress on the Strategic Plan and the annual Risk Register and key risk mitigation strategies</td>
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<td>• Pursuant to the Act – the Board of Governors will provide a status report at all duly convened meetings of the Education and Training Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ministry of Advanced Education and the Provincial Government</td>
<td>• Operations Forecast – <em>normally</em> provided by September 15</td>
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<td>• Strategic Plan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Audited Financial Statements – <em>normally</em> provided in June</td>
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<td>• Annual Report – which includes the annual Performance Measurement Framework reporting progress on the Strategic Plan and the annual Risk Register and key risk mitigation strategies</td>
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<td>• Quarterly reporting</td>
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</table>
### Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development and the Federal Government
- PSPP Application
- Strategic Plan
- Audited Financial Statements – *normally* provided in June
- Annual Report – which includes the annual Performance Measurement Framework reporting progress on the Strategic Plan and the annual Risk Register and key risk mitigation strategies
- Quarterly reporting with respect to results based on outcomes provided by the programs offered by FNUniv – student completion, convocation statistics, etc.

### Students
- Interactive website
- President visits every site and meets with students at least once per quarter
- Strategic plan
- Annual Report – which includes the annual Performance Measurement Framework reporting progress on the Strategic Plan and the annual Risk Register and key risk mitigation strategies
- Student observer on the Board of Governors

### Faculty and Staff
- Interactive website
- President visits every site and meets with faculty and staff at least once per quarter
- Strategic plan
- Annual Report – which includes the annual Performance Measurement Framework reporting progress on the Strategic Plan and the annual Risk Register and key risk mitigation strategies
- Faculty observer on the Board of Governors

### First Nations Communities in Saskatchewan
- Recruitment strategy
- Strategic Plan
- Annual Report
### Consequences for Noncompliance

Failure to report to the primary stakeholders of FNUniv could impact the community’s confidence in the institution. This Accountability Framework ensures that the Board of Governors and senior management report to its stakeholder aligning the work that it does to the achievement of FNUniv’s strategic plan and its overall purpose.

### Related Information

Identify related documents/information (acts, regulations, policies, strategies, procedures, forms, etc.):

- *First Nations University of Canada Act*
- First Nations University of Canada Strategic Plan
- First Nations University of Canada Performance Measurement Framework – UNDER DEVELOPMENT