

Finger Lakes Visitors Connection
Board of Directors Policy Notebook

119. Internal Control Policy

Finger Lakes Visitors Connection recognizes that Internal Controls are an integral part of our organization's financial and business policies and procedures. Internal controls consist of all the measures taken by our organization for the purpose of: (1) handling funds received and expended by the organization; (2) preparing appropriate and timely financial reporting to board members and officers; (3) conducting the annual audit of the organization's financial statements; (4) evaluating staff and programs; (5) maintaining inventory records of real and personal property and their whereabouts; and (6) implementing personnel and conflicts of interest policies.

The organization will maintain a set of internal controls that are inclusive of the policies and procedures established by the organization and consistent with GAAP and in alignment with the Public Authorities Accountability Act.

The President shall develop and maintain an internal control checklist. At least annually the organization will compare operations to the established policies and procedures through the use of an internal control checklist. Should management become aware of any significant deviation from this policy, it should be addressed immediately by the President and reported to the Board of Directors Audit and Finance Committee. The committee has the responsibility to determine the appropriate action as a result of the reported incident.

Management and Oversight

The Board of Director members are elected to their positions and are expected to serve as independent of management. The board also reviews financial statements on a regular basis through financial reports provided at the scheduled meetings. The board of directors meets annually with the external auditor and appoints the auditor. Because the board of directors is such a diverse group, with skills related to the industry, their oversight of the organization and understanding of the transactions is effective, appropriate and valued.

Authority and responsibility for appropriate financial reporting is held by the President, who is charged with analyzing the effects of any changes on the organization with respect to risk. The President consults with its auditors on an as needed basis regarding pronouncements and regulations regarding financial reporting. The accounting professional utilized by the organization also consults with the auditors on an as needed basis.

Professional Assistance

The board desires that the President have competency in financial matters, and recognizes that special skills are required to meet the financial reporting requirements for a not-for-profit organization operating under the rules of the Public Authority Accountability Act (PAAA). This policy authorizes the President to acquire such additional expertise as may be necessary, within the budget plan, to prepare the financial records for the audit and for reporting on PARIS (Public Authority Reporting and Information System).

See Procedures

See President's Internal Control Checklist

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December 6, 2017