



















**Role of the Trustee**

Trustees are elected in accordance with the [School Act Part 4 Division 1 to 6](#). The oath of office taken by each trustee when that person assumes office binds that person to work diligently and faithfully in the cause of public education.

The [School Act Part 6 Division 1 Section 65](#) gives no individual authority to trustees. Each trustee is a member of a corporation – “The Board of Education of School District No.48 (Sea to Sky)”. The decisions of the Board in a properly constituted meeting are those of the corporation.

Trustees bring a range of skills, experience, knowledge, values, beliefs and opinions to their role. Their background does not necessarily include teaching, administration, or any other aspect of education. Their diversity ensures that Board processes are truly democratic and contributes to good decision-making. This diversity also helps trustees provide a balance between the interests of a broader community and the interests of those involved in the delivery of education.

The [School Act Part 6 Division 2](#) defines the powers and duties of the Board. Trustees have several responsibilities:

1. As an elected official, trustees have been charged with seeing that schools are well managed, tax dollars are wisely spent, and the investment and interests of the public are protected.
2. As an educational policy maker, trustees have a moral commitment to ensure the provision of the best possible learning experiences for all students, to meet the unique and separate needs of the individual, and to recognize and protect the rights and responsibilities of students.
3. As an employer, trustees are obligated to ensure fair and equitable practices for all employees, seek their professional advice and judgment, support and provide for their needs, and promote good relationships and a healthy morale among the staff. Trustees must be aware of the power and influence they have in the employer/employee relationship.

Trustees also have other major commitments to:

1. The Community  
Trustees are responsible to all citizens of the district and not solely to those who elected each trustee; nor to any organization to which they may be a member. Trustees must be accessible to the community in order to understand public sentiment.
2. Individuals  
Trustees have a direct concern for every individual in the community. As an integral part of trustee duties, each trustee represents the

