

TRANSLATIONS

What board members do

English/Pitjantjatjara

Every organisation has a purpose – its mission. Between general meetings, the board runs the organisation. Board members have the responsibility of ensuring the organisation is on the right track – legally, financially, and in terms of its mission.

Walytja-walytja (Organization) tjutaku tjukurpa ngaranyi, ara tjana palyalkatinytjaku. Ka mimpa winkiku mitingi ngurur-ngururpa, board mimpa ngurkantankuntja tjutanku organization atunymankupai, ara uwankara nyakupai atunmankuntjikitjangku. Board mimpaku waaka ngaranyi purkarangku nyakukatinytjaku munu atunymanytjaku kutjupa tjutanku kurantjakutawara – tjana law-wanungku waakarintjaku, munu mani tjukururungku palyantjaku munu tjukarurungku ma-katintjaku organization-ku tjukurpawanungku.

As a board member, you're bound to do what's best for the organisation's mission – not what's best for any part of the organisation (like the people who voted you on) or what's best for any outside interest (like your friends or family or company) and certainly not what's best for yourself. In the board, you must set aside your other responsibilities and work for the general good.

Board mimpa nyinarampa, nyuntu uti organization-ku tjukurpawanu palyalkatima – anangu kutjupa tjaraku kutju kulira palyantja wiya (tjinguru nyuntunya ngurkantankuntja tjuta,) munu urilyitja tjuta kulu palyantja wiya (tjinguru nyuntumpa malpa munu walytja tjuta) munu nyuntu walytjangku kulu palyantja wiya. Board mimpa nyinanan, uti anangu uwankaraku kulira waakarima.

You're responsible to the members (at general meetings) and the regulators (when the board put in its reports) but nobody can tell you which way to vote. You must use your own judgement.

Mitingingka nyinara, nyuntu mimpa tjutangka kulintjaku ngaranyi, munu mayatja tjutanku report tjakultjunkunyangka kulintjaku, palu nyuntu walytjangku kulira vote-amilanma anangu kutjupangka kulilwiyangku.

Board members are expected to look after the business of the organisation with as much care and attention as they would look after their own affairs. In your own life, you would take care to be financially prudent, to comply with relevant rules and laws and agreements, and to make progress towards your set goals. That's what you're supposed to do in the organisation.

Board mimpa tjutanku uti tjukaruru waakarima walytja waakarinytja purunypa. Panya, nyuntu walytja waakarira mani nyuntumpa purkarangku tjukarurungku payamilalpai, munu law kalkuntjawanungku palyalkatipai tjukarurungku. Nyanga alatji nyuntu uti palyanma nyuntumpa organization-paku



The board, as a whole, has power over the organisation. The individual board member, by themselves, has no power at all. You yourself can't ask any employee to do anything: you have to go back to the board and get the whole board to ask the employee to do it.

Board mimpa tjutangku organisation-ku waakarira kunpungku tjungungku palyantjaku.
Palu nyuntu mimpa kutjungku putu palyalpai. Munu nyuntu kutjungku putu witu-wituni
organisation-ku waakaripainya (employee) kutjupa-kutjupa nyuntumpa palyantjaku.
Board-wanungku kutju, tjungungku witu-wituntjaku ngaranyi.

In any board, getting things done involves talking to the other board members and persuading them to work with you. This requires tact, flexibility, compromise, and understanding.

Board mimpa nyinarampa, nyuntu mimpa kutjupa tjutangka purkarangku wangkantjaku
ngaranyi tjana nyuntula kulira tjungungku palyantjaku. Utin ngapartji-ngapartjingku kulinma
kutjupangku wangkanyangka munu tjinguru kutjupa wayi palyanma.

The board works by majority vote. You shouldn't undercut the board's reputation with outsiders by campaigning against the decision in the community.

Board mimpa tjutangku palyanmankunyangka kutju kutjupa-kutjupa palyanma. Munta
tjinguru nyuntu board-mimpanguru pakala, munta mukuringkula board mimpa tjutangka
wangkama tjana ngula nyuntu kulintja uwanmankuntjaku. Palu utin urilitja tjutangka
kiminiringka para-wangkantja wiya

You're bound by the organisation's constitution, but that still gives you a wide range in which to operate. You should make life easier for yourself by having the board set policies and rules, so you don't have to decide things from the beginning every time, but the board can change any of these if you find they get in the way of the mission.

Nyuntunya organisation-ku rulebook-angka unngu ngarantjaku ngaranyi, munun rulebook-
wanungku tjuta palyalku. Board mimpa tjutankgu uti nganmanytju rule tjuta palyara tjunama,
palu palya wiya ngaranyangkampa, palya kutjupa ngurkantara tjunama.

The chair runs the meeting – but the board can overrule the chair if they think the chair is out of line. The secretary writes the records of the meeting – but the board can correct them at the next meeting. The treasurer keeps the accounting records – but has to report to, and be questioned by, the board members.

Chairperson-tu mitingi ranamilalpai, - palu board mimpa tjutangku kura nyaranyangka
palunya paintjaku ngaranyi. Secretary-ingku minutes walkatjungkupai- palu board-tu ngunti
walkatjungkunyangka mitingi kutjupangka tjukurpa tjukaruruntjaku ngaranyi. Ka treasurer-
angku (mani kanyilpaingku) manitjara walkatjura tjakultjungkupai – palu paluru board mimpa
tjutangka tjukarurungku manitjara tjakultjunktjaku ngaranyi.

You're there to keep an eye on things, and you must keep on top of the issues. If you don't understand something completely, ask questions. If you have bright ideas, contribute. If you think something's not being done right, speak up.

Nyuntumpa purkarangku nyakukatinytjaku ngaranyi. Munu nyuntu putu kulirampa tjapinma.
Munta tjingurun wiru kulirampa tjakultjunama tjana kulintjaku. Munu kura ngaranyangkampan
utingku tjakultjunama.



The Institute of Community Directors Australia (ICDA) is the best-practice governance network for the members of Australian not-for-profit and government boards and committees, and the senior staff who work alongside them – providing ideas and advice for community leaders.

This help sheet was produced as part of ICDA's commitment to making governance information more widely accessible.