

Australian College of Ministries (ACOM) offers a module in Non-Profit Governance as part of their Master of Church Leadership programme. This governance guide was developed by the 2018 cohort as a part of their facilitation experience.

## BUILDING CHURCH BOARD RESILIENCE

1. Share stories about the faithfulness of God as experienced through the history of the Board. Remind one another often about how God has worked and therefore is able to work.
2. Frequently review the purposes and values of the Church.
3. Remind one another of the fundamentals:
  1. That Jesus is Lord.
  2. That Jesus has already done all that is needed.
  3. As Church leaders, we are not alone.
  4. That the Church is Christ's Body through which He speaks and acts and by which He fills everything with His presence (Ephesians 1).
4. Ensure that each board member is proactive in accessing personal spiritual/pastoral mentoring and support.
5. Hire a coroner to conduct good autopsies after crisis. Someone to say why something went wrong, clearly and objectively give insight and confirm that death has happened (the situation is over).
6. Champion the Chair. "You handled that really well."
7. Making it emotionally 'ok' for board members who need to take a break after a crisis. "Well done good and faithful servant" perspective. Doing this well and without pressure can allow members to return to the board with great resilience and calm.
8. A good induction and exit process for board members. Clarity around tenure ensures the retention of corporate knowledge in the culture of the board.