

THE CANON — GOVERNANCE DIAGNOSTIC TOOLKIT

Full Inner-Circle Edition

1. Purpose & Alignment

A governance structure must begin with clarity of ultimate purpose. Misalignment in purpose creates drift, fragmentation, and institutional fatigue. Assess whether your institution has a clearly articulated mandate that is understood and internalized at all levels.

2. Authority & Accountability

Authority flows from responsibility. This section evaluates the coherence of authority lines, escalation paths, and accountability systems. Weakness here leads to invisible power, shadow leadership, and governance decay.

3. Structural Integrity

Institutions rise or collapse on structure. Review role clarity, boundary enforcement, cultural norms, and decision-making architecture. Structural softness is one of the earliest signs of institutional decline.

4. Moral & Ethical Order

Governance without moral order becomes technocratic manipulation. Evaluate ethical foundations, value transmission systems, and the institution's historical conscience.

5. Leadership Cadence & Rhythm

Every institution has a rhythm — healthy or chaotic. This section examines decision cycles, communication loops, cultural rituals, and operational pacing across the organisation.

6. Crisis Preparedness

A mature institution is not measured by days of peace but by the sophistication of its response to volatility. Assess your contingency frameworks, escalation matrices, and crisis doctrine.

7. Stewardship Index

Stewardship extends beyond financial management. Evaluate stewardship of people, culture, assets, mission, legacy, and future generations.

8. Renewal Capacity

Every institution ages. The question is whether it decays or renews. Measure innovation discipline, succession planning, cultural reform, and governance adaptability.

APPENDIX A — GOVERNANCE SCORECARD

Use this scorecard to quantify institutional health across the eight Canon governance pillars.
Rate each dimension from 1 (Critical Failure) to 5 (Excellence).

1. Purpose & Alignment: _____
2. Authority & Accountability: _____
3. Structural Integrity: _____
4. Moral & Ethical Order: _____
5. Leadership Cadence & Rhythm: _____
6. Crisis Preparedness: _____
7. Stewardship Index: _____
8. Renewal Capacity: _____

APPENDIX B — INTERPRETATION GRID

- 35–40: Canon-Grade Integrity — institution is structurally sound and future-ready.
- 25–34: Stable but Vulnerable — requires targeted reform.
- 15–24: High Risk — governance decay is already present.
- 0–14: Crisis Zone — urgent structural intervention required.