

**BC POST-SECONDARY WORKSHOP
OCTOBER 5-7, 2016**

SUMMARY WORKSHOP EVALUATION

Approximately 50 people attended the workshop representing the Ministry of Advanced Education, 14 colleges and higher educational institutions from the BC Research Universities Council and the BC Colleges Association. Both the Minister of Advanced Education and the AGB President addressed the group via teleconferencing.

33 (66%) of the 50 attendees completed a workshop evaluation. However, not all commented on every question. Below is a general summary of comments.

1. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not an objective
a. My expectations of the workshop were met.	11	22	0	0	0
b. The content of the workshop was relevant to my specific needs.	12	20	0	0	0

2. Overall, I rate the quality of the workshop's information:

- 20 Very helpful
- 13 Helpful
- 0 Not very helpful
- 0 Disappointing

3. Please rate the degree to which you agree with the following statements.

As a result of this workshop, I...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not an objective
a. Gained a better understanding of governance challenges	12	20	0	0	0
b. Gained a better understanding of an important issue facing higher-education	6	25	1	0	0
c. Found solutions and promising practices to consider using	13	22	0	0	0
d. Will change or modify a practice, policy, or process as it pertains to my board or institution	16	15	2	0	0
e. Met and interacted with leaders from other institutions	26	10	0	0	0
f. Realized that my concerns were common to those of other boards and institutions	22	11	0	0	0
g. Learned that AGB has additional resources for me and my board	17	15	0	0	0

4. Please rate the degree to which you agree with the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not an objective
a. The speakers were well prepared and organized.	13	12	4	0	0
b. The speakers were very knowledgeable about the subject matter	13	11	2	0	0
The speakers effectively engaged the attendees.	9	20	0	0	0

5. Additional comments about speakers?

- Respectful, interesting, well prepared and articulate well.
- Good variety of speakers (Presidents, Chairs & Board Members).
- Sometimes the focus wasn't clear – more preparation
- Enjoyed most of the topics.
- Good at judging time needed to lecture and time needed to discuss in our groups.
- Like the combination of panel discussion and small table discussion.
- Need to enforce speaking time limits.
- Obvious passion and commitment to good governance; finding solutions; also openness regarding challenges and seeking advice and help. Diverse perspectives and experience valuable.

6. What was the most valuable component of the workshop?

- Networking/different point points of view and perspectives on challenges.
- Meeting other board members and Presidents and listening to expertise and seeing that some challenges were universal. Solutions and ideas on board operations helpful.
- Fundraising/Foundation
- Strategic Plan and staying focused on plan ie: 5 goals.
- The notion of evolution and change of governance process (i.e. -consequential boards).
Concept of balance of the role of the board member.
- Perhaps focusing the panels more - single issue/question.
- Having AGB moderate and the Government Ministry representative in attendance.

7. How could we have improved the workshop or your experience?

- Basics of governance for new board members.
- Case studies, small group responses to the issues/cases presented following some theoretical background.
- Thought there was a bit too much time at tables/small groups on first day.
- Strategy for retention of Presidents as a separate topic (spend more time on that).
- Have Rick Legon appear in person.
- Provide slides ahead of time for easier reference and easier note taking.
- More focus on how best to be future focused, and how to create effective board culture.
- Perhaps include more best practices from outside BC - through AGB.

8. Please suggest issues or topics that you would like AGB or BCC to feature in future programs or publications.

- Evolution of pedagogy.
- Sources of funding over and above government grants and tuition increases.
- Role of board w/internationalization and intergenerational programs.
- The fragility of the global financial markets and how this makes meeting our fiduciary responsibilities more difficult.

- Conflict resolution.
- Personality colors - Identifying your personality colors and how to deal with other personality colors makes you a better leader who understands people's differences.
- Board and CEO assessment.
- The importance and development of the strategic plan to board and institution.
- What are common errors made in development and implementation of strategic plan?
- What were short and long term ramifications of doing the right thing and sometimes the wrong thing.
- Quality of academics/student success (how to measure/how can board engage to support/improve, what do boards need to know about this topic)
- More participants per institution. We had 7-8 people who wanted to come and also would have benefitted. would have liked to include elected members.
- Continue with emerging trends/issues - It was very informative.
- Board role in institutional programming and solving the issue of lag behind industry.
- Pro-D topics; balancing of governance don't fit range of experience/length of time on board (i.e.: there 5 years vs. new governors).
- Best practices in corporate governance can be repeated annually to allow new board members to attend.
- How to engage all board members and how to ensure board is more strategic.
- More EA training, networking within the province annually.
- More discussion on indigenization - best practices and processes.

9. Overall Comments:

- Very good sessions. Inclusion of multiple board members was very valuable.
- Wonderful experience.
- Great facilitation in Joe Burke.
- I feel more invigorated about my role on the board.
- Suggest we have a few expert speakers on key strategic issues that we could learn from.
- I found it a great "rekindling/reinvigorating" event.
- After a 5-year tenure with one year left, I wish I had attended this 4 years ago.
- Great conference - do more for junior board members.
- Benefitted from learning how well functioning boards operate.

Optional:

- Too much sitting.
- Dr. Burke was absolutely stellar!
- Deeply grateful for the opportunity to attend.
- Second Day panels were outstanding!!! Learned a lot!!!

Note:

Noted AGB has helpful documents that are not familiar to most board members. Over the course of the learning it likely would be helpful to everyone to review "snippets" from these relevant documents which may -in fact- guide delegates (on their own) to educate themselves on an ongoing basis.