



## THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS: REFLECTIONS ON LEADERSHIP

LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY  
2014 LEADERSHIP FORUM  
FEBRUARY 5-7, 2014  
RICHMOND, BC



### PROGRAM

As we enter the final year of the current electoral term, it's time to take a look at ourselves as leaders, our impact on the community, the relationships we have built, and the legacies we are leaving. Like Alice stepping through the looking glass, when we move past our reflection and look at the real implications of our public service, we may be confronted by a world that is both clear and recognizable, but also different than we expect. How does your experience over the past two years compare with your original vision of elected office or as a public servant? Have you encountered challenges you could not have foreseen? Have you achieved successes you could never have anticipated? This is your chance to look back and reflect; to share your experiences and to learn from the experiences of others. The 2014 LGLA Forum will provide an opportunity for thoughtful reflection, as well as inspiration, education, and practical tools and advice you can take with you into your post-electoral life, your campaign, your next term of office, or your continued service in local government.

Within the context of the overall conference theme, we will focus on three main topic streams: **Reflecting on the Personal**, **Reflecting on the Community**, and **Reflecting on Relationships**. Thursday will see six concurrent sessions running under these streams, with delegates having an opportunity to attend four of the six. After the Thursday concurrent sessions, there will be a fantastic evening session you will not want to miss.

To set the context, we have Peter Woods, a seasoned local government leader and exciting keynote speaker coming all the way from Down Under. His address will be followed by a brief welcome to Ken Cameron, our returning 2013 Forum Rapporteur. Next up a plenary panel of young local government leaders discussing their experiences over the current electoral term; and then a networking reception where delegates will have an opportunity to connect with old friends and extend their network of local government colleagues.

Friday the focus will be on six "Interactive Information Sessions" where our experts will provide a brief overview of their topics and then open the floor to questions, comments and discussion. Come prepared with your burning local government legal, ethics, planning, wellness, parliamentary/meeting procedure, and financial questions!

As well, we offer two early-morning clinics, one presented by the Union of BC Municipalities and the other by the Municipal Insurance Association, and a wrap-up by our Forum Rapporteur before we say our goodbyes on Friday. Please see below for program details...



## **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

### **Forum Registration (12:30-1:30 pm)**

Pick up your registration package in the Ballroom Foyer.

### **Welcome (1:30-1:45), Mayor Mary Sjostrom, LGLA Chair**

Join LGLA Chair Mayor Mary Sjostrom as she opens the Forum and introduces our Keynote Speaker.

### **Keynote Address – Think Locally and ACT Globally (1:45-3:00 pm), Emeritus Mayor Peter Woods**

We begin this year's Forum with what promises to be a rousing and participatory keynote address from a highly accomplished and well-travelled speaker and local government leader who brings his international perspective to BC for the first time. Join Emeritus Mayor Peter Woods, who will share his experiences in the local government sector at the local, state/provincial, national and international level, and will also draw on the experiences of delegates to illustrate the profound role that local government leaders can and do play. This will not be a "sermon on the mount" type presentation, nor a mere question and answer forum, but rather a session where all participants are equal and all have something to share.

Peter Woods has been a teacher, an academic, a senior administrator and an industrial advocate in state and federal courts in addition to his 26 years of local government service as Mayor and Councillor of Concord, Australia (since an amalgamation now known as the City of Canada Bay). He has extensive political and board experience in both the public and private sectors, nationally and internationally, and is currently serving as Ambassador for the United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific (UCLG-ASPAC). Among many other distinguished positions and directorships, Mr. Woods has been President of the Australian Local Government Association, a member of the Council of Australian Governments chaired by the Prime Minister of Australia, and a member of numerous Ministerial Councils and State and Federal Boards of Enquiry. He is a Justice of the Peace, holds a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Letters, Teachers Certificates, and a Certificate in Commercial Mediation. He received the Order of Australia Medal in 1995, the Outstanding Service Medal in 2002 and was conferred the title "Emeritus Mayor" for long and distinguished service. He has been recognized for his work with Aboriginal people, and has extensive experience in Asia-Pacific and around the world through his service with UCLG-ASPAC, the International Union of Local Authorities, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, the United Nations, etc. His list of achievements goes on and his experiences are many and varied. Mr. Woods is sure to entertain, educate and inspire – you don't want to miss this opportunity to hear him speak!

### **Introduction of Forum Rapporteur (3:00-3:10 pm), Ken Cameron**

For those of you who attended the 2013 Leadership Forum, it will come as welcome news that Ken Cameron will again act as our Forum Rapporteur. Bringing his many years of local government experience and his broad perspective on the sector, Ken will attend sessions, speak with delegates and presenters, and provide a take-away summary of the whole forum experience on our last day.

### **Leaders Plenary Panel – A Fresh Perspective on Leadership (3:30-5:00 pm)**

Join our panel of young leaders and first-time mayors for a look back at the challenges they have faced, the lessons they have learned and the successes they have achieved since taking office. Mayor Taylor Bachrach of Smithers, Councillor John Jack of the Huu-ay-aht First Nation and Alberni Clayoquot RD and Mayor Josie Osborne of Tofino will provide a fresh perspective on leadership at the local level.

### **Networking Reception (5:00-6:00 pm)**

This is your chance to unwind and reflect with your colleagues on the opening plenary sessions. Join local government and First Nations leaders from around the province, as well as our first-day presenters, for a beverage, a bite to eat, and some great discussion.



## **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>**

### **Early Morning Clinic (7:15-8:15 am), Union of BC Municipalities**

Rise and shine for a special early morning clinic brought to you by the folks at UBCM. Details to come...

### **Morning Concurrent Sessions (8:30-10:00 am; repeat 10:30-noon) – Choice of Two**

#### **1) Reflecting on the Personal – Best of Both Worlds: Achieving Work-Life Balance, Joyanne Landers**

Are you striving to be everything you think you should be at work and at home? If so, this workshop is for you. It will help you:

- identify solutions to bring you more balance and harmony at work and at home;
- integrate successful and fulfilling professional and personal lives; and
- develop effective strategies for coping with the time/energy balance.

Join Joyanne Landers – trainer, speaker and leadership coach extraordinaire – for an invigorating, interactive session that will provide you with practical skills, tips and workable solutions that you can implement immediately to improve your work-life balance. Joyanne presented a shorter session at the 2013 Leadership Forum to rave reviews...don't miss out on this one!

#### **2) Reflecting on the Community – Community Outreach, Dr. Greg Halseth**

Join Dr. Greg Halseth for an informative and interactive session exploring community outreach strategies through storytelling. The focus will be on the three main topic areas of youth, service provision and regional collaboration. Through these examples, Dr. Halseth will explore how people in leadership roles have mobilized citizens to resolve community development issues in a positive way, and how partnership building enables us to accomplish more than can be achieved individually. Come prepared to listen and learn, as well as to share your community's outreach stories. Greg Halseth is a Professor in the Geography Program at the University of Northern British Columbia, where he is also the Canada Research Chair in Rural and Small Town Studies and Director of UNBC's Community Development Institute. His research examines rural and small town community development, and community strategies for coping with social and economic change.

#### **3) Reflecting on Relationships – Relationship Building: A Chair and Two Mayors**

Attend this session to learn about some unique and interesting efforts at relationship building. Mayor John Ruttan of Nanaimo will discuss his community's institution of e-Town Hall Meetings to engage and build relations with the public. Mayor Phil Kent of Duncan will discuss council relations and the establishment of a Council Code of Conduct. And Chair Edwin Grieve of the Comox Valley Regional District will discuss local government-First Nations relationship building with the Komoks First Nation.

### **Thursday Afternoon Concurrent Sessions (1:00-2:30 pm; repeat 3:00-4:30 pm) – Choice of Two**

#### **1) Reflecting on the Personal – Finding Your Joy Spot: The Art and Science of Happiness at Work, Carol Ann Fried**

What makes the human heart sing? In this multimedia, experiential, playful and applications-oriented session, learn:

- Why being happy comes first, engagement and productivity come second;
- How to reap the benefits of a positive mindset; and
- 5 habits that will dramatically increase happiness.

Based on cutting-edge research from the world of positive psychology. Laughter guaranteed. Naturally!

#### **2) Reflecting on the Community – Citizen Engagement: Engaging Canada to Work for all Generations, Dr. Paul Kershaw**

As younger Canadians finish school, begin careers, and start homes and families, they face lower wages, higher costs, less time and a deteriorating environment – even though Canada's economy produces more wealth than ever. Why, in the midst of prosperity, are Canadian governments continuing down a path that leaves less and less for younger generations? Dr. Paul Kershaw, a farmer by morning and night, and a professor, public speaker, volunteer and regular media contributor by day, will address this and other questions in his session. Dr. Kershaw is the founder of the "Generation Squeeze" campaign, a faculty member of UBC's Human Early Learning Partnership in the School of Population and Public Health, and has twice been awarded national prizes for his research by the Canadian Political Science Association. Join him for a compelling and illuminating exploration of generational inequity and the importance of encouraging Canadians of all ages to reconnect with formal politics.

### **3) Reflecting on relationships – Managing the Council/Board-CAO Relationship, George Cuff**

George B. Cuff likely has the longest track record in Canada in dealing with the issue of the Council/Board-Chief Administrative Officer relationship. In this session, he will outline from his experience what he sees as the key elements to ensuring a healthy, positive relationship with your CAO, as well as the seven sins of poor relationships. George is noted for his "no holds barred" approach to speaking is guaranteed to keep delegates entertained and illuminated. He will share what he sees as the critical elements to a healthy balance in the roles of a Council/Board-CAO relationship and the signals to watch for when that relationship becomes frayed. George is the author of six books on local government (book #6 being published within the first quarter of 2014) as well as monthly articles in *Municipal World* on governance/management and the newly published series of eight videos on related themes.

### **Evening Plenary Dialogue – Building Public Trust in Local Government (7:00-9:00 pm)**

Join us for a compelling evening of discussion featuring Mike Harcourt, Jennifer Clarke and Dr. Gerald Baier of UBC. Our panel will look back at some of the events that have eroded public trust in all levels of government over the past year and will reflect on how local governments, in particular, can earn the trust and confidence of their communities.

Mike Harcourt: City of Vancouver Alderman, 1973-80; Mayor of Vancouver, 1980-86; Premier of BC, 1991-96; Associate Director of UBC's Centre for Sustainability; author of *City Making in Paradise*

Jennifer Clarke: Vancouver City Councillor, 1993-2002; President of JPC Strategies Ltd.; Instructor with UBC's Department of Political Science.

Dr. Gerald Baier: Acting Director of UBC's Centre for the Study of Democratic Institutions, Associate Professor with UBC's Department of Political Science; regular commentator on federal politics in national and local media



## **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7<sup>TH</sup>**

### **Early Morning Clinic (7:15-8:15 am), Municipal Insurance Association**

Join Sherman Chow, Claims Manager with the Municipal Insurance Association, for a presentation on the evolution of MIABC over the past 25 years and a look at where the Association plans to go in the 25 years to come. Strides made in risk management and the Association's plans to expand into property insurance will be among the topics covered.

### **Concurrent Interactive Information Sessions (8:30-9:30 am)**

#### **1) Legal Information Session – "Elected Officials: Game Misconduct", Reece Harding**

Do you have a burning legal question related to local governance? Would you like the chance to speak candidly with a lawyer specializing in local government law? Reece Harding of Young Anderson, Barristers and Solicitors will present a "Top 10" list of common legal issues facing local governments (e.g., conflict of interest, elected official conduct, citizen conduct, etc.) and will take questions from participants in this informal, interactive session.

## **2) Ethics Information Session, Dr. Alberto De Feo**

Join Dr. Alberto De Feo, Adjunct Professor with the Department of Political Science at UNBC and a local government practitioner since 1987, for a look at questions of ethics in local government. Bring your questions, queries and quandaries...this will be an interactive session with plenty of opportunity to discuss the ethical issues facing elected officials and staff alike.

## **3) Planning Information Session, Ken Cameron and Richard White**

Drawing on his many years of experience in local government, and particularly on his role as Metro Vancouver's Manager of Policy and Planning, Ken Cameron will give an overview of some of the top planning challenges and opportunities for BC local governments and will then open the floor to a discussion of all things related to planning at the local level. Accompanying Ken is Richard White MCIP, the recently retired Deputy City Manager from the City of North Vancouver, who will also provide his perspective on planning topics.

### **Concurrent Interactive Information Sessions (9:45-10:45 am)**

#### **1) Wellness Information Session, Mayor Christina Benty**

Join former Wellness Coach and Golden's current Mayor Christina Benty for an informative session on self-care for politicians. Mayor Benty will touch on nutrition, fitness, rest and the importance of your personal life in maintaining health and well-being.

#### **2) Parliamentary Information Session, Ian Izard, QC**

Drawing on his 35 years of experience as Law Clerk in the Legislative Assembly and his 30+ years as UBCM's official Parliamentarian, Ian Izard will talk parliamentary procedure and how to run effective meetings. Open discussion and knowledge sharing will follow the presentation.

#### **3) Financial Information Session, Isabel Gordon**

Isabel Gordon, Director of Finance for the City of North Vancouver, will cover the main points of concern relating to local government finance and will then open the floor to questions and a general discussion of financial issues.

### **Forum Rapporteur's Report (10:50-11:20), Ken Cameron**

Ken Cameron wraps up this year's Forum with his summary of the sessions and events and his unique take on the topics, and ideas up for discussion: the perfect finale to your LGLA experience.

### **Forum Closing (11:20-11:30)**

LGLA Board Member Mayor Sharon Gaetz officially closes the 2014 Forum.



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