



MAY 27, 2014

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY ANNUAL REPORT, 2013-14

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### ACTIVITIES

#### **2013 CEO Forum – “Triple ‘A’ Regional Collaboration” (June 13-14, 2013)**

Participants in the LGLA’s 2013 Chief Executive Officer Forum, led by Gordon McIntosh, learned concepts, obtained tools and shared experiences related to key regional collaboration themes such as:

- Developing an overarching protocol of shared aims to guide collaboration;
- Identifying ideal strategic topics or shared services for cooperation;
- Learning different partnering strategies through ‘real time’ examples;
- Sharing examples of regional collaboration efforts;
- Discussing ways to prevent issues in collaborative efforts; and
- Developing strategies to overcome collaboration road blocks.

Some key outcomes included means of identifying and assessing the feasibility of collaboration ideas, knowledge of the different personality and behavioural styles that can affect collaboration, strategies to move from talk to action in collaboration, and an opportunity to discuss and problem solve real-time collaborative challenges facing participants.

#### **2013 UBCM Convention – “Tools, Resources & Funding for Local Governments” (Monday, September 16, 2013)**

LGLA held a table at the 2013 “Tools, Resources & Funding for Local Governments” session, which provided UBCM delegates with an opportunity to learn about various local government organizations and services and meet face-to-face with their representatives. Program Manager Errin Morrison staffed the LGLA table and saw a steady stream of elected officials, senior staff members and First Nations representatives who were interested in learning about the LGLA and the LGLA Certificates in Local Government Leadership, and who were more than willing to share their programming ideas. We came away with many new contacts and a list of potential session topics of direct relevance to our target audience.

## 2014 Leadership Forum – “Through the Looking Glass: Reflections on Leadership” (February 5-7, 2014)

The fifth LGLA Leadership Forum was held at the Radisson Hotel in Richmond and was attended by 138 delegates from all over the province. Registration was comprised of 1 Chief, 63 Electoral Area Directors and Chairs, 19 Mayors, 46 Councillors, and 9 local government staff members. Together these delegates represented 41 local governments and 4 First Nations communities from small and large communities in urban and rural areas alike.

Forum evaluations (46% response rate) indicate an overall rating for the 2014 forum of 4.3 out of 5, with 94.4% giving it a “good-excellent” satisfaction rating. By way of comparison, in 2013, we received a 4.4 out of 5 overall rating and a 90% “good-excellent” satisfaction rating. LGLA was once again successful in providing the quality conference experience delegates have come to expect.

The following table highlights the ratings of some of the more prominent sessions:

<b>Session/Speaker</b>	<b>Rating out of 5</b>	<b>Good-Excellent Rating</b>
Emeritus Mayor Peter Woods, Keynote	4.2	84.1%
Ken Cameron, Forum Rapporteur	4.3	91.7%
Young Leaders Panel	4.3	91.7%
Mike Harcourt Panel	3.8	61.4%
Paul Kershaw “Generation Squeeze”	3.8	58.3%
George Cuff “Council/Board-CAO Relations”	4.4	90.9%
Greg Halseth “Community Outreach”	4.0	72.5%
Joyanne Landers “Work-life Balance”	4.6	95.2%
Carol Ann Fried “Finding Your Joy Spot”	3.9	73.3%

Some of the positive comments from our delegates included:

- “Learned a lot at these sessions.”
- “Excellent sessions especially on wellness and work life balance.”
- “Productive, interesting, well paced.”
- “Thanks for all your great work and support for elected officials – excellent opportunity for us. I prefer sessions where the conference participants are engaged with the topic and not fond of “talking heads” in general. LGLA is a great institution.”
- “Very informative sessions with a lot of thought provoking sessions. Thank you.”

We are now turning our attention to the 2015 Elected Officials Seminars and we have made note of not only the compliments we received after the 2014 Forum, but the suggestions for improvement as well. We expect to hold another

outstanding series of events next year – something our delegates have come to expect from the LGLA.

### **2014 Spring Area Association Conferences (April-May, 2014)**

A joint BC Assessment/LGLA proposal was made to deliver a presentation at each of the 2014 spring Area Association conferences. Sessions were held at AKBLG, LMLGA and SILGA. BC Assessment delivered the session at each event, with an LGLA representative giving the introduction and taking a few moments to talk to Area Association delegates about the LGLA Certification Program and annual learning opportunities.

We hope that participation in the Area Association conferences will include all five Areas next year and that this will be the beginning of strong and ongoing relationships with the Area Associations.

### **OTHER NEWS OF NOTE**

**LGLA hired Program Manager Errin Morrison** on a short-term contract to assist in organizing the 2013 Leadership Forum. This was a successful working relationship and she was subsequently contracted as LGLA's Program Manager with key organizing responsibilities for the 2014 Leadership Forum, and beyond. This is a part-time position primarily dedicated to organizing LGLA's annual learning events, but with some additional responsibility for reporting on these events and for researching/exploring new opportunities (e.g., eLearning and webinars) and liaising and building relationships with representatives of partner organizations and others.

**LGMA appointed Kelly Ridley** to the LGLA Board in 2013, replacing Paul Murray who served as LGMA's representative before her. Current members of the LGLA Board are:

Mayor Mary Sjostrom, Chair – Union of BC Municipalities

Mayor Sharon Gaetz, Union of BC Municipalities

Gary Paget, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Cathy Watson, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development (*on leave*)

Nicola Marotz, Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development

Robin Stringer, Municipal Finance Authority of BC

Kelly Ridley, Local Government Management Association of BC

Richard Taylor, Director at Large

### **SUMMARY**

In closing, the past year has been a successful one in terms of events offered and goals achieved. LGLA is now looking ahead to the next electoral term and focusing on organizing the 2015 Elected Officials Seminars. We will also be preparing an updated Four-year Program Plan, exploring opportunities for eLearning and webinar offerings, and considering the development of a third

level of Local Government Leadership Certification. Relationship building with the Area Associations will be an ongoing priority, as will promoting an awareness of the LGLA among local government stakeholders.