

Summary of the evaluation survey of the BCSTA Board Academy Mastering Our Mandate

December 6-8, 2007

This report summarizes the results of the online evaluation survey BCSTA conducted shortly after *The Board Academy: Mastering Our Mandate*, December 6-8, 2007. It is based on approximately 120 responses – about 350 people attended the Academy.

2007 Responses

- The conference overall rated as excellent or good by 85.6% of respondents
- The pre-conference workshop (M. Hope) rated excellent or good by 88.6% of respondents
- The opening plenary with Martin Wright rated excellent or good by 37.9% of respondents
- The Turnaround Leadership plenary with Fullan and Crothers rated excellent or good by 76.3% of respondents
- Early childhood education plenary with Hertzman and Mort rated excellent or good by 96.4% of respondents
- From Policy to Practice closing plenary rated excellent or good by 81.8% of respondents
- Magee Chamber Choir rated excellent or good by 100%
- Hugh Boyd Drum Circle rated excellent or good by 100% of respondents
- The Learning in Action Showcase rated excellent or good by 93.9% of respondents
- Overall conference organization was rated excellent or good by 96% of respondents.
- The hotel accommodations at the Coast Plaza Hotel rated as excellent or good by over 82.3% of respondents.
- The food and refreshments provided were rated excellent or good by over 92% of respondents.
- The BCSTA staff support rated as excellent or good by over 98.4% of respondents.

The comments indicate some high levels of satisfaction. Some of the things people particularly liked were:

- The plenary reception in the foyer was an improvement over the trip to the 35th floor
- The plenary presentation with Clyde Hertzman, Janet Mort and the panel was well received
- The student entertainment received high ratings and appreciative comments
- The concurrent on Aboriginal Friendship Centres was highly rated
- There were several comments appreciating our decision not to provide “giveaways”.
- The closing plenary discussion received positive comments from those who attended
- As a result of our new electronic registration process the hotel room booking process has been improved over previous conferences.

Of course, there is always room for improvement. The key things we need to keep in mind for future conferences include:

1. Once again we were reminded to build comments into script regarding disruptions during sessions – encourage use of lounge and meeting rooms. Several people complained that delegates carried on conversations with one another during the presentations – others were not able to hear or focus on the presentation.
2. We need to work with the hotel to ensure a steady supply of coffee.
3. We may wish to consider adding more “social time” or entertainment in future.
4. We should probably provide at least a couple of laptops for delegate use if we do not have an Internet café set up.