

Alberta Community Leadership Programs Meet

Community Leadership programs from across Alberta met earlier this year as part of the regional meeting series initiated by the CCLNet board.

Some of the key discussions included:

- LeaderPort: There is currently no centralized resource in Canada for leadership programs. The Leadwell Foundation is looking to create a partnership-based online resource to connect various programs, for example the Governor General's Leadership Program, Leadership-based MBA programs, Community Leadership programs, etc.
- Leadership Edmonton has adopted a semester approach, to move away from the ten month long commitment. The program now runs two days/month for six months (a Friday/Saturday).
- In the fall of 2009, Leadership Edmonton hosted four 3-hour community workshops open to the public. These were well-attended, and most of their 2010 recruits came via the workshops.
- New this year for the Leadership Centre in Red Deer is peer-coaching. The class is divided into two project teams, and the peer-coaching pairs have been matched across the teams.
- January to May is Leadership Calgary's recruitment phase. They host a Recruitment Breakfast, with two alumni and one current participant as guest speakers. These people are chosen such that they represent all three sectors. Following the recruitment breakfast, LC hosts a free 3-hour Introductory Workshop (usually 5 - 8 PM on a weekday, bring your own dinner). The intent is for people to self-select themselves for the program. Leadership Calgary received forty-five applicants and selected thirty one participants for current year..
- LC now has an online newsletter for alumni. The newsletter shares stories of alumni, focused on how they are applying the framework in their work and lives. Alumni also recently hosted a TEDx event.

A "Generative Dialogue" was also held on the topic of "What is Community Leadership?" "What are we about?" Ideas that were explored included:

- Increasing our capacity to articulate what we're about is very important.
- How we identify what the most important issues are determines the most adaptive way of dealing with them.
- As programs, we need to develop the capacity to think and know how to use those skills.
- We need a dialogue between our programs and funders: We affect leadership capacities in our community. The greater goal is not only to develop "leaders", but to engage beyond individuals.
- How do we make sure that we continue collective research / discussions?
- Could we track the quality of decisions made, instead of just the leadership positions people take on? How has the wisdom changed?
- What have you learned to do differently? How have you learned to think differently?



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