



School Councils, Groups of School Councils, Foundation Workshops

Foundation	Audience	Requirements	FEE \$
<p>School Council Introduction Understanding language in the education community, legislation that mandates the rights, responsibilities and choices of school councils, as well as their value and importance, is the first step to creating a meaningful, vibrant school council and school community.</p>	<p>The community of a newly opened school or the community of an established school where no school council exists.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal or Division. Participants: minimum five parents (ideally) plus principal and one other school staff member.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Price Per Workshop: \$200</p>
<p>School Council Establishment School council establishment must follow legislated requirements. Provided those requirements are met, school councils are permitted flexibility and choice in how they operate. Parents will make decisions regarding membership, governance and elect the executive resulting in the official establishment of their school council.</p>	<p>The community of a newly opened school or the community of an established school where no school council exists.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal or Division. Participants: minimum five parents or guardians plus principal and one other school staff member.</p>	
<p>School Council Purpose Understanding the advisory role of school councils through a review of the legislation, exploring rights, responsibilities and choices including which topics/areas are open for discussion helps to guide school council and its work in the school community. Learning how to identify the work of school councils, how to frame a “personal issue” from a school council perspective and how to broach sensitive topics is essential for new and returning members.</p>	<p>A newly established school council, an existing school council with a majority of new members or a parent group struggling to separate a school council and fundraising association.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal or parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal.</p>	
<p>Fundraising Association Partnership Purpose Fundraising Associations (FRAs) are separate, legal entities with distinct rules to follow, responsibilities to comply with and liabilities to consider. Positive, collaborative, mutually respectful relationships with the principal and school council are integral to the success of each and in the best interests of students. Clarity of who has authority for what, is essential.</p>	<p>A school community recognizing the need for two distinct groups and seeking to form a society for the purposes of fundraising, or with one in place needing assistance to understand their boundaries and role.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and (potential) fundraising association President and principal.</p>	
<p>Tools for Effective School Councils Resources, tips, templates and tools will be provided to help participants to understand the culture of their local community and basic volunteer psychology. An exploration of school community culture/barriers, volunteer motivation, and strategies to increase the effectiveness of school councils will be offered.</p>	<p>A school council with a clear understanding of its legislated role, seeking to obtain strategies and tools related to fulfilling the role.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken “School Council Purpose” workshop within previous two years.</p>	
<p>The Work of School Council: <i>It’s NOT About the Meeting</i> School Councils often struggle with identifying the types of activities and work they should be doing in order to truly fulfil their legislated role. In this workshop, school councils are encouraged to examine what they are doing in relation to the Assurance Framework, their intended purpose and the intended result of their work, and then consider strategies to enhance school council’s role in the school community, supporting expectations of the Assurance Framework.</p>	<p>A school council aware of its legislated role seeking to extend their positive influence beyond the school council meeting and into the school community.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken “School Council Purpose” workshop within previous two years.</p>	
<p>The School Council-Trustee Relationship Understanding the relationship is vital to assist you in successfully furthering your role in the school community. School councils should understand the role of the school board Trustee, and the Trustee should be aware of their role with school council. A Trustee is a valued partner who can share school board information with parents they represent, and gather valuable parent perspectives from division school councils.</p>	<p>A school council aware of its legislated role seeking to build relationships AND/OR school board Trustees and senior division administration seeking clarity on the role of the Trustee with the school council.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent OR invitation from Trustee or the school board or senior administration. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal, and local school board Trustee OR school board Trustees and senior administration. Participants need to have taken “School Council Purpose” workshop within previous two years.</p>	

72 hour CANCELLATION notice is required for all workshop bookings.



School Councils, Groups of School Councils, Enhancement Workshops

Enhancement	2-2.5 hours each	Audience	Requirements	FEE \$
<p>Operating Procedures A school council has discretion to decide what works best for them, within the context of legislation and their community. Topics include; model of governance, membership, decision making, terms of office, conflict resolution. Create Draft Operating Procedures with wording of clauses relevant to the school community for review and feedback.</p>		<p>A school council with a clear understanding of its legislated role, seeking to create operating procedures for the first time, or replace existing bylaws.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken "School Council Purpose" workshop within previous two years.</p>	<p>Price Per Workshop:</p> <p>\$300</p>
<p>Policies and Practices School council policies should reflect legislation, the context of their communities, and the work their members choose to do. Topics include; communication - internal and external, record-keeping, fundraising and accounting, privacy, location of meetings, official mailing address, new member orientation, group evaluation, social media and conflict resolution. Create Draft Policies with wording of clauses relevant to the school community for review and feedback.</p>		<p>A school council with a clear understanding of its legislated role, seeking to create policies which will help to guide and define its processes and work.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken "School Council Purpose" workshop within previous two years.</p>	
<p>Effective Engagement in Your School Community School councils would like their school community to be dynamic, exciting places, where parents feel authentically engaged in supporting and enhancing student learning. Using local context, define effective engagement, identify existing challenges, explore possible solutions and create goals and plans focused on creating engagement opportunities for the school community which align with the expectations of the Assurance Framework.</p>		<p>A school council seeking to involve and engage the school community in supporting and enhancing student learning.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken "School Council Purpose" workshop within previous two years.</p>	
<p>Creating School Council Plans Meaningful involvement, recruitment and effective engagement require planning and goal setting. A plan should be simple to communicate and achievable - given the time and resources available. Exploration of the value of goal setting, planning, idea sharing, open discussion, consensus building. Aligning with the Assurance Framework, evaluation and potential modification are vital to the creation of ongoing plans. Overview of the school's Annual Education Plan, identifying areas where school council may assist in achieving identified targets, as well as ongoing school council progressive learning. Create Draft 1 Year Plan specifying actions, resources, outcomes and evaluation methods.</p>		<p>A school council with a clear understanding of its legislated role, seeking to identify and create goals that can be achieved within the current school year, in collaboration with the principal.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken "School Council Purpose" workshop within previous two years. Principal is prepared to present summary of <i>Annual Education Plan</i> and identify areas where school council may choose to assist.</p>	
<p>Building Positive Partnerships Building positive partnerships within the Education and general community can help school councils to be more effective in their advisory role. With a focus of supporting and enhancing student learning, Positive Partnerships are informative, collaborative, and respectful of boundaries and authorities. Discussion includes an examination of relationships, expectations, and protocols.</p>		<p>A school council aware of its legislated role seeking to identify and build relationships within, or outside of, the Education Community.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken "School Council Purpose" workshop within previous two years.</p>	
<p>Managing School Council Meetings Meaningful school council meetings require strong leadership and clear, easy to follow processes for all participants. Having a solid <i>Agenda</i>, some simple <i>Rules of Order</i> and learning how to <i>Direct Discussion</i> will help to ensure the school council meetings are not a waste of anyone's valuable time. Exploration of some common challenges for school council meetings and introduction of important solution-oriented tools are provided. Every meeting participant will benefit from this workshop!</p>		<p>A school council aware of its legislated role seeking to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of its meetings.</p>	<p>Invitation from principal and one parent. Minimum five participants including school council Chair and principal. Participants need to have taken "School Council Purpose" workshop within previous two years.</p>	

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