

Governance Workshop Concepts

Elected Leadership Roles, Responsibilities and Oversight

- Opportunities and Constraints: Understanding your elected leader role
- Attributes of legislative policy roles
- Relation to general council, executive roles and judicial bodies
- Relationships to other governments

What is policy and how is it made

- Mission/Role of government
- Public policy: formulation, adoption, implementation and evaluation
- General situations, trends and shaping outcomes
- Lines that matter: Key differences between policy making and implementation

How to effectively work as a policy board

- Ground rules: moving in one direction
- Effective governance tools and meetings: everyone's responsibility, not just the Chair
- Key responsibilities
- Updating policy goals and strategy development
- Inquiry and evidence based policy approach
- Informed decision making (assess and evaluate using due diligence w/ technical, management, financial, legal and policy information)
- Consensus building: methods and considerations of why/why not
- Fishbowl: representing yourself and your board in public meetings

Resource allocation for policy makers

- Motions
- Codes
- Agreements
- Funding – strategic
- Partnerships
- Political capital & legislation
- Litigation

Avoiding conflicts of interests

- Constitution & Statutes (Focus on Board Procedures)
- Fiscal Management Policy
- Using your staff
- Disclosure of actual conflicts
- Why inquiry & evidence based, with due diligence protect against conflicts

Effective relationships with intergovernmental and other institutions

- Recognizing roles and opportunities at various functions
- Executive/agencies, legislative, and consultation
- Federal policies for Indian Country (trustee, agencies)
- Congress/States/Courts
- non-governmental entities

Effective communication techniques

- sustained communication – minimizing surprises
- amongst your policy team(s)
- to your staff
- using press releases, public information efforts, outreach and more
- to your constituents, and promoting priorities

Empower and use your subsidiary bodies (enterprises, committees, commissions, boards of directors)

- economic/enterprise models used throughout Indian Country
- orienting with board policy expectation and goals
- creating layers of connection and communication
- harnessing recommendations to the Board

Understanding and working with your staff

- Your key implementation staff: ED & EMP
- Board actions and employee morale
- Roles of administration and management
- How boards can effectively supervise their executives
- Setting and measuring success

Wrap up & next steps