



Christian Schools Canada Leadership Conference

**September 18-20, 2008
Sidney / Victoria, BC**

**Mary Winspear Center
2243 Beacon Avenue,
Sidney, BC**

Panel Discussion I: Governance Models

(Friday, September 19, 2008 11-12:30 pm)

Moderator: Henry Contant- Executive Director,
Society of Christian Schools in BC

Panelists:

- 1. Henry Vanderveen-** Principal, Langley Christian High School
 - **Board /Committee Model**
- 2. Tony Kamphuis-** Ex. Director- Niagara Association for Christian Education
 - **Carver Chief Operating Officer (COO) Model**
- 3. Bob Bartel-** Principal, Gateway Christian School (Red Deer, Alberta)
 - **Alternate Program School within a Public School District**
- 4. Bill Safstrom -** Bellevue Chr. High School Principal, Bellevue, WA.
 - **Self Perpetuating Board Model- Board Member for Life**

Purpose:

The goal of this panel discussion is to create a better awareness of and understanding of the different governance models currently governing our different Christian School.

Premise:

There is no one ideal governance model that effectively governs all our Christian schools. Each of these four board governance models has their unique strengths and weaknesses. Within each model, the role of the principal is also viewed somewhat differently by the board, Each governance model is rooted within a historical context, and different models may be better suited to different size and type of schools.

Many schools have been well-served and continue to be well-served by a particular governance model and ought to continue operating with that governance structure. Other school governance structures are becoming less and less effective, and new models of board governance need to be explored.

Guidelines for Panelists

1. Each of the 4 panelists will have 7-10 minutes to briefly describe their particular governance model. **(40 minutes)**

Some guiding questions:

- Is there a historical reason why your school adopted this particular model of governance?
- What are the current strengths of the governance model?
- What are the current weaknesses of the governance model?
- Is the governance model still serving the school effectively today? Any cracks?
- Describe the role of the principal within this model?
- Describe how the 'voice' of parents is recognized within this governance structure?
- Has this particular governance model helped or hindered the development of a community vision for Christian education?
- Kudo's ? / Cautions?

2. Each of the 4 panelist will have a 2 minute opportunity to ask any of the other panelists a question? Panelists must respond with a 2 minute response. **(20 minutes)**

3. Moderator will open the floor and moderate questions that may be directed to any of the 4 panelists
(25 minutes)

4. Summary and Wrap-up
(5 minutes)

Thank you for your willingness to participate in the panel.