

Teambuilding can be edu-tainment

YOU might be asking yourself what kind of word is *edu-tainment*? It is an interesting word that combines two concepts - education and entertainment and reflects the next evolution of teambuilding. Our definition is "to intensify learning through entertainment, adventure and play." Teambuilding or edu-tainment requires an innovative, educational experience that achieves sustainable results and these results can be transferred to the workplace. Given today's challenging economy, teambuilding can be overlooked by many organizations but it is more important than ever as employees try to adjust to changes in the workplace and deal with the stress of what many organizations are experiencing. The power of play or need for educational entertainment in the workplace is more important than ever and whether organizations develop something on their own, or work with a company focused on this type of experience, it is important for organizations to consider the value of such an experience for their employees.

This quote from Plato is a definite teambuilding motto:
"You learn more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation!"

Your teambuilding activity should encourage everyone to play and have fun, even when you need to tackle serious team issues. A high performing corporate team needs common goals, defined roles with excellent

Continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 CLGM Award Ceremony
Notice of AGM
- 2 Teambuilding
- 3 Proverbs to Live By
Association Arithmetic
- 4 Continuing Education Requirements
The Last Word

2017 CLGM Award Ceremony

Delta Lodge at Kananaskis, Kananaskis Village – May 18, 2017

The awarding of the professional certificates and pins to recipients of the professional designation "Certified Local Government Manager", along with the presentation of the Society's prestigious SLGM Award of Excellence by co-sponsor Brownlee LLP will be featured at the Society's Awards Banquet, Thursday, May 19th at the Municipal Administration Leadership Workshop in Kananaskis.

Representatives from the Alberta Municipal Affairs; the University of Alberta, Faculty of Extension, Dalhousie University, AUMA along with AAMDC's President will participate in Awards Ceremony.

Students who are currently completing their final course in the National Advanced Certificate in Local Authority Administration level II and are eligible to receive their designations and must contact the Society of Local Government Managers by April 30th 2017 to make application to receive the CLGM designation at this year's Award Ceremony.

Contact:

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NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGERS OF ALBERTA

This is to give notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Society of Local Government Managers of Alberta pursuant to Section 12.2 of the Bylaws of the Society of Local Government Managers of Alberta.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:30 A.M., Thursday, May 18, 2017, Rockies meeting room, in the Delta Lodge at Kananaskis, Kananaskis, Alberta.

Linda M. Davies, CLGM
Executive Director and Registrar

Teambuilding (continued from page 1)]

communications and problem solving processes. These high performing teams depend upon team building to achieve greater levels of effectiveness. This increased effectiveness leads to greater success and develops leadership qualities within the team. You want to achieve sustainable results by customizing your teambuilding to impact your workplace by:

- Enhancing the learning experience for lasting impact
- Helping build confidence in individuals by unleashing each person's potential
- Increase individual communication
- Helping break down barriers which in turn helps to build relationships
- Encouraging a progressive, caring corporate culture
- Promoting effective teamwork
- Encouraging participative leadership
- Serving as an unequalled opportunity to spend quality time with colleagues

The best IDEAS come from playful minds. For example, a "Play Break" (short, sporadic activities) to lighten office moral and relieve stress may be just the thing your team needs. On the other hand, your team may need a structured event that will get them out of the office such as a two-hour, half-day or full day experiential activity that addresses your learning/fun requirements. Play can be an effective tool to drive innovation and produce results.

Engaging your group is paramount

Teambuilding can come in many different forms but the event needs to engage the group.

Your team will remember the fun, playful times more often than the boring classroom session with a sterile, structured environment. Teambuilding activities generate fun and laughter; they increase communication and cooperation, while never failing to entertain. Laugh, have fun, smile! What you may have thought was simply, "Fun... is incredibly effective at connecting people!" Engage them, get them involved, smile, have fun and create memorable moments!

Engage your team! Based on a variety of research articles, employees are not even close to being fully "engaged" in their jobs. You need to find ways to get them involved, create memorable moments on a regular basis. We know that companies with strong teambuilding components have a much more engaged work force resulting in high employee retention and a company culture that is extremely positive and leads to more productivity.

The simple benefits of teambuilding allows workplaces, organizations, conferences to connect people, to break

down barriers when people meet for the first time, and level the playing field with management and employees creating a highly productive team. Intense learning programs that develop technical skills are definitely important but something purely fun, like a day or moment of play such as a round on the golf course, an interactive lunch or an organized event with an experienced teambuilding company are crucial to your bottom line.

Don't miss the opportunity to move your company from good to great!!

As there are many different solutions that organizations should review to determine the best alternative, find those unique options that fit your company culture. The goal of teambuilding is to make work and play seamless, to create a more playful, creative and innovative corporate culture and to create a culture where people are comfortable in their environment, where motivation soars and team members strive to do their very best.

By unleashing your team's creativity, it builds relationships, and has a tremendous impact on personal & interpersonal skill development. This unleashing of creativity, improves the ability for teams to problem solve, provides stress relief, bridges communication barriers and empowers individuals. When you turn work into a place that encourages people to be themselves, having fun, and taking risks, you fuel this incredible energy. Powerful!

Whether it is taking part in a Quest Challenge, a Scavenger Hunt or being a contestant in a customized Game Show such as Space Cadet Challenge/Family Feud, Bike Build Adventure, Glacier Games or just participating in a series of Play Solutions, the perfect outcome is just that break from the office your team needs to move to the next level. We know adults don't play much differently than children. Adults just swear and cheat a lot more!!!

Seek out activities that:

- Provide a fresh, stimulating outlook
- Engages a team's inner passion and excitement
- Provides a feeling of positive empowerment
- Provides a sense of accomplishment

These edu-taining activities brings people together and encourages individuals to play, to expand their fun, with the end result of enhancing relations and improving communication thus increasing overall performance. The learning from having your team or group of people engage in edu-taining "play" is an essential consideration as you build your team



Association arithmetic: Does it all add up?

My advice when shopping around for an association that is a good fit for credibility and educational purposes is an organization within or related to your particular discipline. Additionally, try choosing a broader-based group that can expose you to further contacts and, potentially, increased revenues. The inevitable sign-up costs of joining any association surface in the decision-making process and for a large majority, the expectations of becoming a member are to convert networking into money. This can be a misconception, so let's face the truth about this subject.

Recently, I witnessed the joyful celebration of a 'Chapter of the Year Award'. I questioned how they were able to accomplish this when, as individuals or businesses, there are such extraordinary demands in these extraordinary times. This prestigious award was earned through dedicated teamwork as well as creative and objective thinking and as I watched them congratulate each other I recognized the true benefits of belonging to the right association, the most powerful of all resources: energy in its membership. Measuring the power of this resource is not just the award, but how it translates into increased engagement, broader and fresher ideas, less burnout and, ultimately, a stronger association that fosters a spirit of alliance that members and prospective members desire to be attached to.

Any well-respected association has a mission statement, a code of ethics, by-laws, policies and procedures and clear cut objectives, but it is a fallacy to expect that by merely becoming a member it fast tracks you to success. In the long run, this way of thinking will actually cost you money because if you choose to sit back, you miss out on the hidden benefits of fully engaging in your association. What are those benefits?

The benefits of being in an association are numerous

1. Involvement helps you to grow to the next level of professionalism, respect and credibility.
2. Strengthens your knowledge and confidence beyond your own business.
3. Valuably broadens your accessibility and exposure ultimately building stronger collaborative relationships

4. Allows you to be action-oriented to motivate and articulate input into the strategic objectives.
5. Effectively demonstrates your commitment to your industry and business.
6. Keeps you current to new members, industry issues, and future competitors.

The true definition of an association is a society of partnership. It is no different than marriage - you get out of it, what you put in. The strength of any association is the energy and participation of its membership.

The majority of associations encourage your involvement, but what discourages members is the misconception that they can't afford the time. In that case I advise to do what you can with boundaries, because in this increasingly collaborative business world, you really need to be part of the engagement equation.

Membership + Participation = Knowledge

Knowledge = Competence = Success

Proverbs to live by ...

A hero is someone who can keep his mouth shut when he is right.

One old friend is better than two new ones.

A wise man hears one word and understands two.

What you don't see with your eyes, don't invent with your mouth.

It's not that I am so smart; it's that I stay with problems longer.

We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.

Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts.

Once you can accept the universe as matter expanding into nothing that is something, wearing stripes with plaid comes easy.

In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity

Any intelligent fool can make things bigger and more complex...It takes a touch of genius - and a lot of courage to move in the opposite direction.

Happiness sometimes comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

Visit our website www.clgm.net

CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The *Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act* requires regular members of the Society to undertake and complete continuing education, annually. This record of continuing education must be filed annually with the Society's registrar.

The Professional Development Reporting Form is being circulated to all members for completion. The Professional Development Area on the form has been changed to reflect the eight core practices of the profession.

Here is the Society's definition of continuing education along with the types of continuing education the Society will be looking for.

Continuing education: Those activities, which maintain or enhance ones capabilities in the field of Local Government Management/Administration or in the performance of a manager.

A member will report the type, sponsor, specific area, date and number of hours of professional development activity.

The types of continuing education refer to the method by which a professional development activity was taken and are listed here:

Seminar-Programs of one - half to five day's duration where a full time moderator was present.

Correspondence - Programs requiring formal submissions of assignments with self-study.

Technical Writing - Writing technical articles.

Lecture Courses - Programs, which require your regular weekly attendance in a class, room setting.

Conference - Participation in technical sessions. Teaching-Lecturing and/or making a formal program, or developing a Local Government Manager Module, or exam.

Technical Committee Activity - Service as a member of a technical committee.

Technical Reading - Reading technical articles.

Self-study Programmed Learning - Programs requiring no submission of assignment or assistance from other parties, which use a combination of delivery modes i.e. Workbooks, audiocassettes, videotapes, etc.

Sponsor refers to the organization, which developed and/or delivered the professional development activity and is listed here:

University/Colleges/Technical School -
Self explanatory

In-house - Programs provided by your employer.

Other Professional Organizations - Programs provided by those organizations whose study requirements lead to a professional designation.

Government - Programs provided by all levels of government, government agencies or associations

Management Services Organizations - Organizations which provide programs to management i.e. consulting firms

Other - Programs provided by associations affiliated with a particular industry i.e. Canadian Chamber of Commerce, banks, trust companies, etc.

Members report on continuing education and professional development activities for the previous year. Many members have filed their reports for 2015. If you have not filed, please have your completed forms returned by July 15, 2017. ☐

Certified Local Government Manager

Society of Local Government Managers of Alberta

Registered under the Professional and Occupational Associations Registration Act the Society is a legislative regulated body that issues the professional designation "Certified Local Government Manager" (CLGM).

For more information go to: www.clgm.net

Annual General Meeting

Rockies, Delta Lodge at Kananaskis, Kananaskis, Alberta
Thursday, May 18, 2017 7:30 A.M.

Tentative Agenda

1. Call to Order and Announcements:
2. Adoption of Agenda:
3. Adoption of Minutes:
4. Financial Statement:
5. Chair's Report:
6. Elections:
7. Business:
8. Adjournment

The Last Word

Congratulations:

Regular Members Norma MacQuarrie CLGM, James Leskiw CLGM, Sally Dary CLGM, Chris Parker CLGM, Shawn Hathaway CLGM, Rick Deans CLGM
Associate Members Larry Davidson, Jeremy Wickson,

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