



**LEADERSHIP  
VICTORIA**



# Futures Project

Good Governance: Building your Board for the Future



# LEADERSHIP VICTORIA

## Board communications

Louisa Coppel

# TOP TEN SIGNS OF A DYSFUNCTIONAL BOARD

**Lack of confidentiality**

**Conflicting agendas**

**Lack of order**

**Lack of respect**

**Hostile environment**

**Secret meetings**

**Personal and political agendas**

**Lack of trust**

**Dominating members**

**Nonparticipants**

# **AN EFFECTIVE BOARD**

**Is mission centred**

**Approaches board work professionally**

**Focuses time and attention on strategic issues**

**Views board composition as strategic**

**Uses evaluation to learn rather than to criticise**

**Knows its value to the organisation**

**Has a strong relationship with the CEO**

# TOP TIPS

## **Be mission-centred**

make sure something important is being accomplished, and accomplished efficiently.

## **Triage meeting agendas**

don't waste time on 'stuff'; give board members good info on which to make decisions

## **Model good behaviour**

your strength is in your differences. Respect them!

## **Cultivate a healthy CEO/Board relationship**

build mutual respect and trust. Be realistic about workload.

## **Evaluate**

don't be scared to reflect, set time aside at meetings regularly (*keep, chuck, change*)

## **Strengths/skills matrix**

Know your strengths and identify your gaps – get help where it's needed

## **Celebrate success**

\ big or small, when you've worked hard and well, you should mark the occasion.