



First Nations Financial Management & Governance Systems

Workshop goals & topics

Good governance provides the foundation for effective financial stewardship and sustainable economic development.

AFOA BC has designed a workshop for First Nation Chiefs, councillors, financial managers and Band administrators that examines the relationship between good governance and financial management. The two-day program uses open space technology, an approach that works well for First Nations groups: everyone sits in a circle to discuss issues, identify solutions, determine priorities and set goals. Participants will learn about:

- **Effective systems** – Discover tools, successful models and best practices for good governance and financial management for First Nations as self-governing bodies
- **Present and past** – Explore the history and current issues affecting good governance among First Nations
- **Roles and responsibilities** – Find out about the duty of First Nations leadership and employees to achieve good governance and effective financial management to benefit the community
- **Essential elements** – Examine and understand the importance of developing a constitution, and creating bylaws and related policies
- **Accountability** – Learn how to increase accountability, transparency and communications in fiscal management, through a case study of the Skeetchestn Rental Housing Policy
- **Case study** – Review financial management and governance changes that enabled the Membertou First Nation in Nova Scotia to transition from a significant operating debt to financial success in a relatively short time