

Can You Hear the Future Calling?

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IPGA Conference, Montreal, Canada
2009



International Policy Governance® Association

The Most Important Issue of Our Time

- Are we capable of running ourselves?
- How strong is democracy?



Thesis

- The world needs board power

AND...

- Policy Governance is the best tool for creating effective board power

What happens from here depends on the people in this room!



Speech Outline

1. The world needs board power
2. Policy Governance is the best tool for creating effective board power
 - i) PG creates a purpose for the board
 - ii) PG creates clarity of roles
 - iii) Vision from the top aligns organization
 - iv) Once PG is used – going back is not seen as a positive option
 - v) There are no comparative models
3. We can create the future

Where Policy Governance is today

- 1990 Boards That Make A Difference published
- October 1999, 2 day Think Tank – PG to be the norm by the year 2020
- March 2001 IPGA incorporated
- June 2004 – First IPGA Conference – The Future of Boards, Chicago
- March 2006 – UKPGA incorporated
- July 2009 - Sixth IPGA Conference, Montreal



Our Assets ...

- A huge body of thought-leadership
- Growing brand awareness
- Increasing collaboration
- Greater international development

IPGA

GP2

The board will decide its Ends within the context of the wider vision expressed in the Ends statements created out of the October 1999 Policy Governance ThinkTank i.e.

Owner-Accountable Productive Organizations

Ends

IPGA exists so that Boards worldwide practice Policy Governance® effectively

UKPGA

The UK public benefit from boards practising **owner-accountable, ethical and effective governance**, as defined by the Policy Governance® Source Document.....



Where We Are Today – Our Challenges

- Consistent high-quality implementation
- Understanding
 - “Things should be as simple as possible, but no simpler” – Einstein
- Boards valuing themselves
- Creating and maintaining standards

A Long Way to Go.....

- Advocacy
- Marketing
- Strong Community
- Vision
- Coordination
- Ambition
- Courage





Why we Need Board Power

- Without board power, the organisation becomes the creature of personal power
- Therefore, without board power, there is no sustainability and the ownership has no guarantees for the future

Why Policy Governance is the best tool for creating effective board power





Policy Governance focuses the board on its purpose

- Organisations are means not ends
- Organisations do not belong to their executives
- Corruption
- Efficiency and clarity



Policy Governance creates clarity of roles

- Role Clarity = efficiency and accountability
- Role Clarity = people free to be their best



Once Policy Governance is used, the board doesn't go back

I've seen from my experience that...

- Once people have seen the way things can be, they find going back is not an option
- Once fully understood, few disagree



There are no alternatives

- Policy Governance is the only *model* of governance in the world
- Without it, board governance becomes what the individuals of the day decide
- People have written books on board governance but these are a collection of tips and tools – not models



The World Economy and Policy Governance

- Political leaders appealing to executives as opposed to boards
- Boards the key link between society and organisations – our key safeguards – ignored
- Accountability abandoned



Creating the Future

- Two steps forward and one step back is still stepping forward
- Now is not the time to lose our nerve
- Many great ideas take a long time to come to fruition



Creating the Future

- Clear Vision
- Boldness
- Persistence
- Learning from Failure
- Not taking anything (especially ourselves) too seriously!
- Never, never, losing sight of why our vision matters

A Turning Point....





Three Things YOU Can Do....

1. Make PG friends – build the PG community – share, collaborate, build the community's body of knowledge
2. Be Heard – talk to others about PG
3. Do One Big Bold Thing – organiz/se an event, arrange a delegation, write an article for an important journal, set up a think-tank, create a user group etc etc

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Conclusion

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Thank you
