

Generative
Governance

NWAIS Institutional
Leadership Conference

November 7, 2016

The Starting Point

Where is your board now?

- Interaction type
- Control type
- Productivity type

The Basics

Legal Duties of Nonprofit Boards

- Duty of Care
- Duty of Loyalty
- Duty of Obedience

Modes of Governance

Current:
Fiduciary
Strategic

Add:
Generative

Fiduciary

Stewardship of tangible assets

Assuring accountability

Fiduciary

Shift from oversight to inquiry

Example - shift from
"Is the budget balanced?"
to
"Does the budget reflect our priorities?"**

** This and all quotes are from The Practitioner's Guide to Governance as Leadership by Cathy A. Trower, 2013, and are used with permission.

Strategic

Planning for the future

"Matching internal strengths & weaknesses with external opportunities and threats."

Strategic

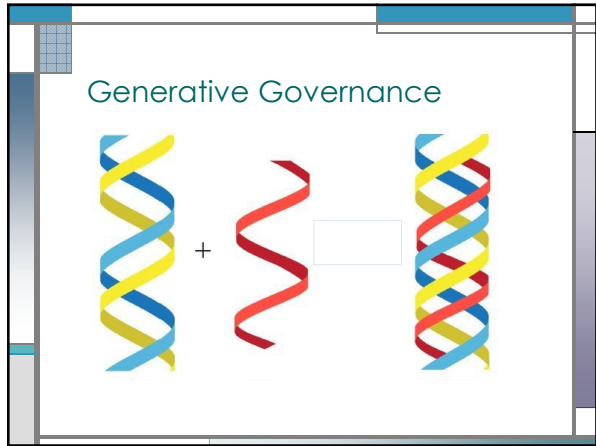
Planning for the future

Example - shift from
"What is?"
to
"What could be?"

Generative

Making sense of what is known and how it applies to us.

"...generative thinking produces a sense of what knowledge, information and data mean."



- ### Putting Generative Governance into Practice – the Ingredients
- Intention
 - Composition
 - Learning

- ### Putting Generative Governance into Practice – Intention
- Intention
 - Understanding of the implications
 - Willingness to participate
 - Willingness to change

Putting Generative Governance into Practice – the Ingredients

- Composition – Diversity of:
 - Culture
 - Ethnicity
 - Experience/Knowledge
 - Personality
 - Community connections

Putting Generative Governance into Practice – the Ingredients

- Learning
 - Commitment to gaining knowledge
 - Healthy debate
 - Inquisitiveness

Putting Generative Governance into Practice – Making it Work

- Preparation
- Structural & Meeting Changes
- Leadership Effectiveness
- Guidance
- Evaluation & Evolution

Putting Generative Governance into Practice – Making it Work

Agenda Item	Mtg. 1	Mtg. 2	Mtg. 3
Consent agenda	✓	✓	✓
Financial reports (if not on the consent agenda)	✓	✓	✓
Action Item (s)	✓	✓	✓
Discussion Topic(s)	↗	↗	↗
Board Learning	↗	↗	↗

Thank You!

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