



Evaluation of the Challenge Dialogue Workshop

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**Adaptation
Learning Network**

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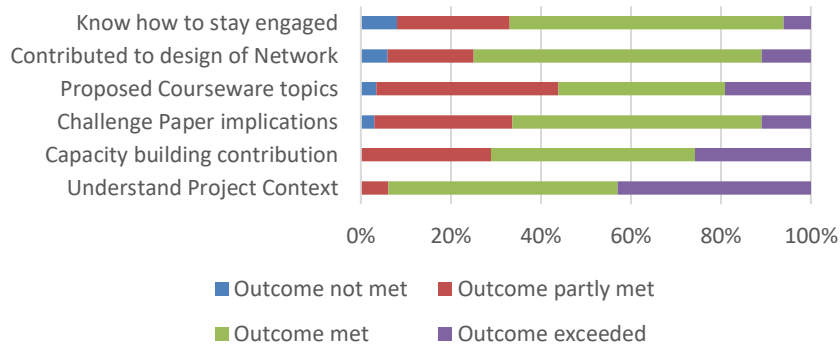
Inspiring Climate Action: Evaluation of The Challenge Dialogue Process Workshop

The **Inspiring Climate Action** project team facilitated the *Challenge Dialogue Workshop* on June 11th, 2019 at Simon Fraser University. This was the final stage of the *Challenge Dialogue Process* undertaken from March to June 2019, a method of gathering input from many stakeholders about existing and required climate adaptation knowledge for professionals. The Workshop hosted 46 participants drawn from professional associations’ leadership, post-secondary continuing studies departments, academics whose research is related to climate adaptation, and certified professionals who work for consulting firms, municipalities and government entities. At the end of the Workshop, 36 people submitted simple evaluations of the Workshop.

The evaluation asked participants to rank the 6 expected outcomes that were established and agreed upon at the beginning of the Workshop, so that by the end of the workshop participants would have...

1. Gained a better understanding of the context for the project;
2. Gained an understanding of how the project anticipates contributing to building capacity for climate adaptation in BC;
3. Gained a deeper understanding of the feedback from the Challenge Paper and its implications for the project;
4. Proposed climate change adaptation courseware topics for potential development by project partners;
5. Contributed their views on design considerations and features of a proposed “Professionals Network” aimed at providing support and maintaining the momentum (e.g., community of practice), and
6. Developed an understanding of the next steps in the project and ways to stay engaged and continue to contribute.

**Ranking of Expected Outcomes of
Challenge Dialogue Workshop**



Based on the evaluations, participants generally indicated Workshop planners and facilitators met or exceeded the expected outcomes of the workshop.

Participants provided positive feedback on the facilitation approach and expressed appreciation for the chance to have discussions with those in other disciplines. Some participants indicated the day felt too full and recommended a focus on fewer topics, or a focus only on areas where input was essential. As one participant suggested, “focus areas of participant feedback on where we could have the most input vs. what might be already set by the funding agreement.”

In one key session, participants were asked to discuss, collaborate and propose courseware topics for climate adaptation. 45 proposals for courseware topics were collected; this was a major positive output for the Workshop. However, there was feedback that data drawn from the Professional Association Membership Survey would have helped in making informed recommendations on courseware topics. The survey data analysis was not available for Workshop participants in early June, and the sequencing of having survey results available may have added value to the Workshop outcomes.

The *Challenge Dialogue Workshop* evaluation feedback was helpful to guide subsequent events. It indicated that Inspiring Climate Action stakeholders have a high degree of engagement, expertise and future expectations.