



ONTARIO EDUCATION SERVICES CORPORATION

Good Governance for School Boards

Trustee Professional Development Program

Ice-breaker: My First Job

Goal: To get participants talking and to start thinking about job descriptions and roles are all about, to help everyone will learn something new about their colleagues, to spark conversation between trustees who do not know each other well and to have a little fun.

There are several ways to break the ice with this activity. One way is to go around the room and have everyone tell what they did for his/her first or worst job. You could also plan ahead of time and ask trustees to fill out a card. Read them aloud and ask trustees to guess which of their colleagues had that particular job.

“Being a trustee is an interesting job with lots of different roles and responsibilities. It is a job that requires some life experience – it is not usually ‘a first job’. I remember that my first job was (Come up with an example as facilitator, i.e. working for the census coding census info from the long-forms onto punch cards – I liked that I had a security badge to get into the building.) Think back to your first job (or one of your first jobs) and then we’ll take a few minutes to talk about what you did and what one of your roles or responsibilities were.

In 30 seconds, tell us what your first job was and what you liked about it or what you didn’t like about it.”