



# Team-building Activities

## Check In

Each trustee takes 30 seconds to a minute to share something with the team about their “non-team” life. This is a time to ask for support. Other trustees should not comment on each other’s check-ins unless invited to do so. Everyone has the right to pass.

## Life Highlights

In the life highlights game, participants are asked to take a moment to consider which 30 seconds of their life they would most like to relive and why. Each employee then presents and explains the 30 seconds they have chosen to the group. Afterwards, the employees reflect on why they chose these 30 seconds, whether their current life relates to their current work and role, and what this moment tells them about in regards to how they should spend their time.

## Two Truths and a Lie

Have each participant write three unique statements about him/herself – two of which are true, and one, which is false. Each participant reads his/her statements, and the other members try to guess which one is false.

## Who’s got a Loonie?

A designated leader (facilitator/chair) stands up and asks the team "Who's got a loonie," waiting patiently, until eventually someone reaches into their pocket or purse and comes out with a loonie.

The leader walks over, asks for the loonie and holding it together with the giver, asks the giver "What are your hopes and aspirations for our school district (or our board)? In other words, what kind of an organization would you like us to become?" When the giver has answered the question, the leader walks over to another person and hands them the dollar asking the recipient the same question, and listening to their answer. Next, the leader asks the group, "Who's got a toonie?" More fidgeting and then someone will come up with a toonie.

The same question is asked of the giver, and then of the recipient of the toonie. Now, the coach asks, "Who's got a five dollar bill?" "Who's got a ten dollar bill?" "Who's got a \$20 bill?" Again the question is asked and transfer of money takes place. At an appropriate point the leader stops, asks for the money to be returned to its rightful owners, and explains the importance of trust to the performance of teams. The leader asks each person to silently reflect on their thoughts and feelings about taking risk and trusting that the money would be returned while the exercise was in progress. Did you volunteer your money, that is, take risk. How did you feel?

A little sheepish? What about when the ante was upped to ten dollars? Twenty? Did you think the volunteers were foolish? We may not all be as trusting as we thought.