

Staying True, Staying The Course

Lessons From 10 Successful Community Service Organizations In British Columbia, 1997–2008

It is not sufficient for a voluntary community service organization to merely survive the vagaries of funding or the turbulence of constantly changing social conditions. The challenge is not only to survive, but to do so with the organization's integrity intact. In doing so it is able to demonstrate it is making a qualitative difference in the lives of the people and community it serves.

This study tells the stories of 10 such organizations in British Columbia over a ten year period. It is based on interviews with board, staff, volunteers, clients and funders. These interviews produced the dominant themes which form the 14 chapters.

It has been prepared as a resource manual for all who are engaged in similar work.

Read what reviewers have said about this new book (see over)

Find out how to order *Staying True, Staying the Course* (see over)



Michael Clague

Principal Investigator and Writer

in collaboration with

Leslie Kemp and Juliet Huntly



Here's what reviewers of *Staying True, Staying the Course* have said about the book:

Couldn't have come at a better time in terms of the wisdom it contains for the struggle facing non-profits.

- **Tamara Vrooman**, President and CEO, Vancity Credit Union

I want to congratulate you on the book. ... The original idea of course, was to write a not-for-profit equivalent to "In Search of Excellence" – and you've done it.

- **Gary McCarthy**, Management Consultant, former Executive Director of the United Way of the Lower Mainland, Management Consultant.

I liked it; the quotes were great – really made the topic come alive.

- **Jane Harper**, Executive Director, South Peace Community Resources Society, Dawson Creek, BC

A really good document – should be useful for the target population.

- **Paula Carr**, Executive Director, Collingwood Neighbourhood House, Vancouver.

Three themes of the book stood out: stay true to your core business; stay close to your key funders; maintain accountability and responsiveness to clients and other stakeholders especially in times of upheaval.

- **Faye Wightman**, President and CEO, The Vancouver Foundation

[The book] stays true to both Michael Clague as an authentic social activist, organizer and commentator and true to the community voices he has captured in this stellar read. It is more than a great book: it is an engagement with real people who lead the best of community organizations. The integrity and purposive vision of each leader come through in pragmatic, practical, every day terms. Staying True can also be used as an educational workbook as we would expect from Michael Clague – it is an experience of integrity and authenticity.

- **Tim Beachy**, CEO, United Community Service Co-operative, Vancouver, BC

How to Order:

Cost: \$19.95 plus \$5/book postage and handling. Payment by cheque or money order

Send order form with payment to:

Leslie Kemp
Langara College Continuing Studies
100 West 49 Avenue,
Vancouver, BC V5Y 2Z6