



**ALBERTA FOUNDATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE JUSTICE**  
**“The Society for Administrative Tribunal Training”**  
**SUMMARY OF CONFERENCE EVALUATION**

**1. How did you learn about the Conference?**

# who said brochure/direct mail	34
# who said website	2
# who said AFAJ courses	12
# who said other (please specify*)	13 *professional association, word of mouth at the panel, appeals commission, from my tribunal, employer, supervisor, ACMLT, FTC invitation, directors, organization,

**2. What made you attend this Conference?**

# who said Specific Speaker(s)*	8 * Eric Spink, Gord Button, Frans Slatter, Bill Shores, Denise Perrett,
# who said specific topic(s)	19 * Clear Writing, Tribunals and the Ombudsman, Privacy, Update on Trends, Decision Making, Plain Lang, Bias, Admin Law, FOIP
# who said training sessions	26
# who said exploration of current issues in the field	37
# who said networking opportunities	14
# who said other (please specify)	7 *to learn about the Society itself, learning opportunity, refresher/update, professional responsibility, support provincial foundation, my boss made me come!, topics are useful for members on our conduct committees

**3. Please rate the overall content value of the sessions:**

	# who said Excellent	# who said V. Good	# who said Good	# who said Fair	# who said Poor
Understanding FOIP and PIPPA	9	16	17	11	1
Administrative Tribunals and the Ombudsman	13	22	9	6	
Panel: Current trends in Admin. Justice	30	12	1		
Concurrent session: Bias	11	6	1		
Concurrent Session: Plain Language	9	7	2		
Concurrent Session: Decision Making	1	8	7	4	3

#### **4. Which session was most useful to you? Why?**

- Ombudsman-dealing with lay people
- All sessions were very good. Bias was v. good-different perspective was provided.
- Current trends-set clear and definite guidelines
- All interesting-good over view of topics
- Current trends, keeping informed
- Bias, alleviate fears
- Bias very well presented and excellent content!
- Current trends in Admin Justice
- Current trends- covered a lot of useful information quickly, excellent speakers
- Bias, current trends
- Bias-current issue in our office
- Bias
- Current trends-future directions of possible tribunal challenges
- Clear writing
- Understanding FOIP- had very limited knowledge
- Wow- great wealth of info
- All sessions were useful
- Plain language-best presentation/ good reminder
- Plain language in decision writing of great value
- Plain language-will use it, apply the principles in decisions
- All useful
- Panel, current trends
- Current trends in Admin Justice
- Current trends- the speakers were good, info was current
- Current trends, improve tribunal level of responsiveness
- Decision writing
- FOIP/PIPA frameworks and topics by J. Slatter
- Ombudsman-new info to me
- Found all sessions useful. Cleared up some areas that were not clear
- Ombudsman- absolute importance of due process and last session on trends (more discussion which was very good and helpful)
- Current trends. The court and leading practitioners were leading the session.
- Current trends-very informative, good direction, Also understanding FOIP and PIPPA- provided background and better understanding
- Panel
- All had some utility-current trends concise and useful
- Concurrent session: decision making and fact finding –clearly outlined the reason hat how evidence can be judged and not judged.
- FOIP-applicable to daily work. Ombudsman- increased knowledge.

- Panel
- Casey-reasons and Slatter-legal advice; plain language- relates everyday to what I do.
- Last panel discussion
- Administrative tribunals and ombudsman informative

**5. Overall, did you find the conference to be of good value?**

- Yes, great networking opportunity
- Yes, very good conference
- Excellent
- Yes, it would have been nicer to have alternative session ie. In AM and PM that way we could take in more than 2
- Somewhat
- Definitely
- Yes, concise overview of many areas
- Yes. Excellent forum to pull many fingers of tribunal process into a joint program.
- Afternoon sessions-yes
- Absolutely
- Yes good job. Binders are a nice touch and surprise.
- Only the final topics of the day
- Yes

**6. What could we have done better?**

- Less reliance on strict legality and more real advice. The current trends was very good in this regard.
- Need fitness breaks.
- I applaud the “openness” of the AGM. I believe it will encourage further membership, promote education opportunities and demonstrates transparency. It was apparent however that voting rights were not clearly understood. Hopefully this will not exclude future general public observations of future AGMs. As the conference grows, I look forward to further choices in concurrent sessions. Great venue!
- Not much; this was all top notch. Also, time of year was very convenient.
- Handouts to follow.
- The ombudsman presentation should have been a concurrent session because it only applies to some tribunals. Would have liked the option to do a different session in its place.
- Brush up on rules of order- meeting procedures for AGM
- It was hard to hear questions, if they would at least stand while asking questions it would help to hear.
- Shorten Ombudsman session to allow attendance to a 2<sup>nd</sup> concurrent session.
- No, keep up the good work.
- Nothing

- Second round of concurrent session rather than 3 plenary sessions.
- Not much, very good day. 1<sup>st</sup> session after lunch leave lights on.
- Lunch
- Well done
- Great job 😊
- Can't make any recommendations
- Provide voting cards for members so they can be certain they can participate in the business session.
- Different presenter for decision making session
- More dynamic speakers
- Concurrent sessions mean you miss part but give a variety of topics to choose from. I think you did a great job.
- Nothing- very well organized, lots of breaks were given which is important.
- Early info on sessions to participants
- More time for interactive session
- Very professional organization and appearance of materials
- Excellent conference
- It would be nice to have more choices for sessions (ie) morning and afternoon sessions.
- Not had 3 sessions together would have liked to attend all three.
- Do not allow speakers to read word-for-word from handouts- waste of time and I can read it faster than they can talk for 1+ hours.
- Have Jim Casey do presentation on decision making and finding facts.

#### **7. Please share your ideas for future conferences.**

- Demonstration workshops or tribunals/hearings/etc. with role playing.
- Demonstrate how conflicting evidence is observed-2 individual gigs strong but conflicting evidence which one to believe?
- Lack of clarity as to who could vote at annual meeting
- Banff or Jasper would be nice! Binder and materials excellent.
- Continue the good work. Always have a session on bringing latest thinking, court cases in the area of administrative justice. Last session was excellent- excellent topics and presenters. Continue with this session next year.
- An overall “refresher” session would be beneficial for those of us who very sporadically need to deal with an appeals (ie) hearing and/or mediation. The session could be go over/review the key points from the entire process-beginning to end. If timing is a problem for a session of this type perhaps a one-day course could be developed. If we are the only appeal body this would apply to (and neither alternative is feasible) maybe an alternate could be posted on website.
- Current trends session- have it as the first session to set the stage for the day. Inclusion of more case studies by speakers.
- Mock tribunals –assessed against specific objectives and standards

- Maybe something on the psychology of human decision- making and arriving at judgements.
- When does the Charter apply... (what circumstance do we hear Charter arguments).
- Continue the current trends in admin law case discussions
- Location was good, paid parking was good, simple lunch was good-Well done.
- A chance to attend all sessions for all participants
- The organization on plenary session was great particularly the last one.
- Have a rotating group of sessions of we can attend more of the excellent training sessions.
- In future schedule session-presentation in AM and PM both.
- I will need time to think and will offer suggestions soon.