



Description

Fun. Ask most young people today about what they want in a youth group or Sunday school and many will say they want "fun." But what does that mean? And how does that match up with a gospel that demands obedience to Jesus Christ? And if we provide something that is fun, are we just enabling youth to be better consumers rather than calling them to a lifetime of discipleship?

When researchers dig beneath the surface of "fun," what they consistently find is that even a youth ministry based on fun gets boring after a while. The truth is, young people are seeking meaning and passion and a connection to something and someone that is worthy of their life's adventure.

Over the course of two days, participants in this year's Best Practices Institute will explore what it means to move beyond the fun of games and the momentary significance of mission events such as soup kitchens to a ministry with youth that truly nurtures a passionate spirituality through a deep and abiding faith in Jesus Christ.

We will examine the latest research about young people, the newest fads and trends in youth ministry, and end up with a practical understanding of what we are called to do and who we are called to be as leaders in youth ministry.

Stream A *Year of Learning* Starts October 1 | Cole Harbour Woodside United Church

The Best Practices Cohort works together throughout the year to develop and integrate an understanding and practice of effective youth and young adult ministries. The cohort option offers an enriching mix of denomination, context and range of experience. As a facilitated peer learning group, the cohort experience provides effective and potentially transformative professional development.

The learning begins with a 2-day workshop and public presentation with Rodger Nishioka. The cohort meets together three more times with facilitator Janet Marshall, who since 1990, has worked extensively with churches to create healthy, engaging communities of faith. In addition, an online forum runs to Spring 2011. Through this program, participants share their own practice and are challenged with new ideas, methods and materials by other cohort members and by presentations and discussions with AST faculty.

Participants must have access to a computer with the ability to host web-based materials.

Cost: \$500 (includes workshop & public presentation)

October 1 *Day 1*

8:30 Registration
9:15 to 5:00 Plenary Sessions
5:00 to 5:45 Social Time
6:00 Dinner (Provided for Stream A participants only)
7:30 to 9:00 Cohort discussion with Rodger Nishioka

October 2 *Day 2*

9:15 to 3:30 Plenary Sessions
3:45 to 4:30 Cohort Planning Session

Continental breakfast, lunch and break snacks are provided on both workshop days

Stream B *Workshop* October 1-2 | Cole Harbour Woodside United Church

Spend 2 days with an insightful and energetic leader in the field of youth ministry. Find inspiration, encouragement and new ideas.

Cost: \$200 (includes public presentation)

October 1 *Day 1*

8:30 Registration
9:15 to 12:30 Plenary Sessions
12:30 to 1:30 Lunch
1:30 to 5:00 Plenary Sessions
5:00 to 5:45 Social Time

October 2 *Day 2*

9:15 to 12:00 Plenary Sessions
12:00 to 1:00 Lunch
1:00 to 3:30 Plenary Sessions

Continental breakfast, lunch and break snacks are provided on both workshop days

Stream C *Public Presentation* October 2 | Cole Harbour Woodside United Church

Open to all! This session will answer the question: *Where have all the young adults gone?*

Absent in the Pews: Ministry with Young Adults
7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

Cost: \$20 or bring a group of 5 or more from your church for **\$80**

Registration Methods

Mail: Atlantic School of Theology, Best Practices Institute, 660 Francklyn Street, Halifax, NS B3H 3B5

Email: bestpractices@astheology.ns.ca

Fax: (902) 492-4048

	Price per Person	No. of Participants	Total
Stream A Year of Learning Cohort <i>Includes Streams B & C</i>	\$500.00		
Stream B Workshop <i>Includes Stream C</i>	\$200.00		
Stream C <i>Public Presentation Only</i>	\$20.00		
		Total Cost	

Enclosed is:

- \$50 deposit* towards registration fees
* Deposit of \$50 is not refundable after September 15, 2010. Balance of payment is due on or before October 1, 2010.
- Total registration payment

Payment Methods

- Cheque:** make payable to Atlantic School of Theology
- Credit Card:** Visa Mastercard
- Card No. _____ / _____ / _____
- Expiry _____
- Signature _____

Something New!

This year's Best Practices Institute Workshop and Cohort Programs are offered in conjunction with the new AST Diploma in Youth Ministry. Participation in the BPI programs for 2010-2011 may be applied toward the Diploma in Youth Ministry.

- Yes, I am interested in learning more about AST's new Diploma in Youth Ministry. Please send me more information.

Diploma
in Youth
Ministry