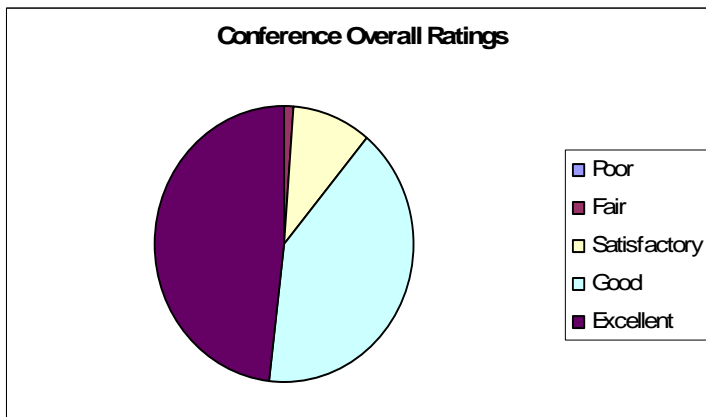




PARTNERSHIPS IN DOMESTIC PEACE - 2006 CONFERENCE Evaluation Report

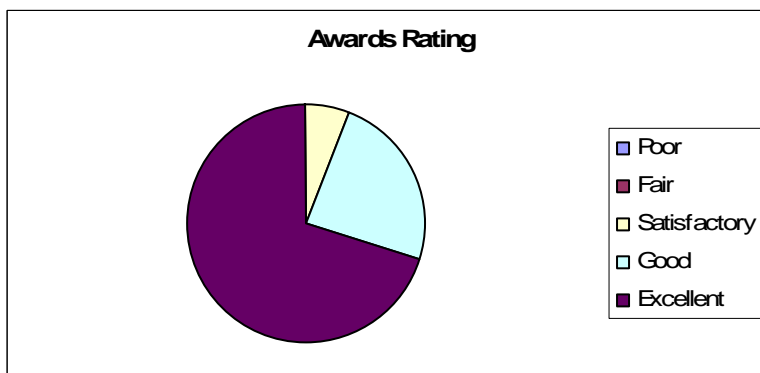
We received 52 evaluation returns. Not all respondents answered all the questions. Nevertheless, the conference was overwhelmingly seen to be successful with 89% of respondents rating the conference as good or excellent.



Additionally, 98% of respondents reported that the conference met their objectives while 88% indicated that the promotional material communicated effectively the conference content. However, about 25% of respondents did not believe that notification for the event was adequate. There were suggestions to advertise in APA, CPA and BCACC list serves and to include more information on our website.

The overwhelming majority of comments regarding the most valuable part of the conference involved the opportunities to network and interact with colleagues. Additionally, the plenary addresses received significant support as did the overall slate of conference workshops.

The opening ceremony and awards was considered an important part of the conference with participants experiencing these events as setting a positive context for the rest of the conference. This included the Opening Blessings and speeches by Richard Vedan and Ninu Kang (including her poem and MC skills).

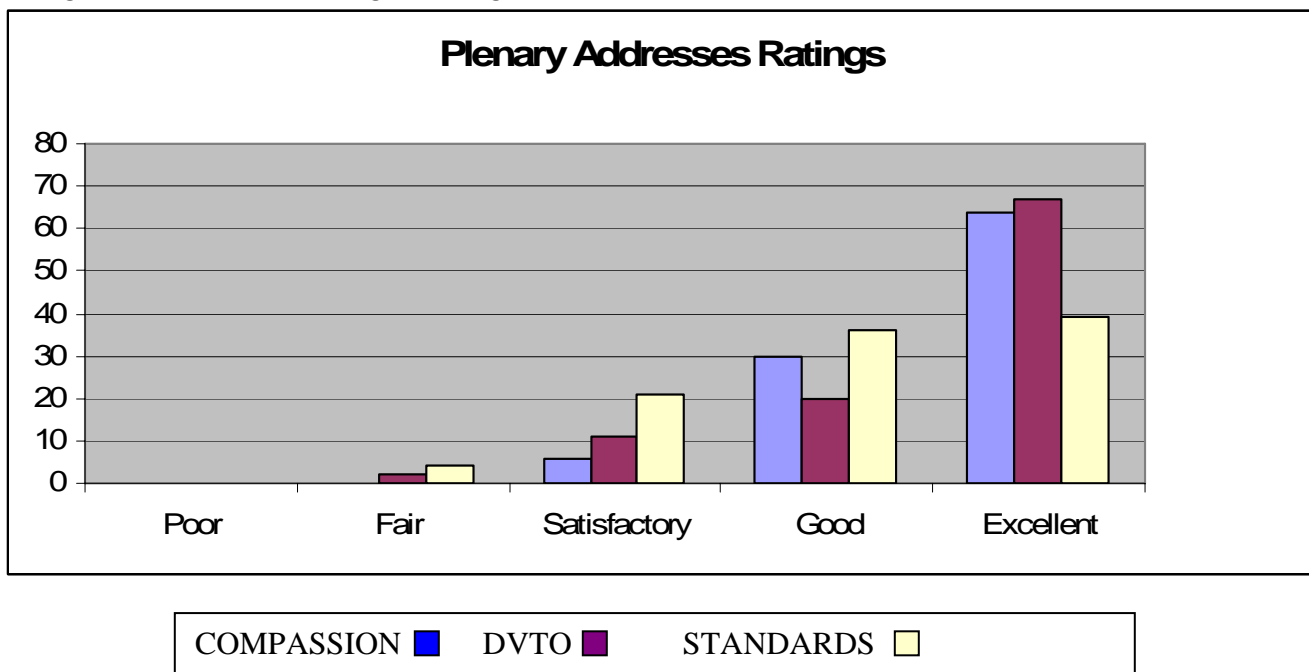


94% of respondents indicated that the opening ceremony was good or excellent with the vast majority indicating it was excellent. Typical comments indicated that the ceremony was moving, important and that it set an excellent tone for the conference. People also responded that they appreciated the welcome and blessing by the First Native Elder.

Comments regarding the location of the conference and the physical setting and arrangements were primarily positive. There were some concerns that revolved around how at least one individual was treated by the hotel staff and disappointment that the hotel refused to supply bottled water on Friday (except at a fee of \$4 per bottle). Some comments are listed below:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 32 references indicating that the physical arrangements were: Very good & Great location • Best in last 6 years • Too expensive for US providers • 5 references to: Good food • Snacks too few; too cold • Food could have been better • Good parking • 3 references to: Meeting rooms not sound proof during break out sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 references to: Displeasure at hotel not providing water • Treated badly by hotel staff • Extremely distressed by manner the front desk used with a guest trying to check in on Thursday evening. I am also distressed by the legalistic attitude used by employee to justify her position. I am grieved that he did not receive an apology from the hotel. Thank you Ron – he did receive an apology from ERA.
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With Respect to Key Note and Plenary Addresses, the conference participants reported that they were well received. The opening key note address entitled “Putting Compassion to Work with Colleagues and Clients” by Harry Stefanakis received good or excellent ratings by 94% of respondents. Similarly, the address by Judge Violent Meekma on “Collaboration between Courts and Community” highlighting the Domestic Violence Treatment Court of North Battleford Saskatchewan received 87 good or excellent ratings. The plenary address by Roland Maiuro on “Standards for Domestic Violence Perpetrator Treatments: Current Controversies, Trends and Recommendations” received less feedback in the evaluation forms (only 28 respondents compared to over 45 for the other 2 addresses) and slightly lower ratings with 75% indicating it was good or excellent.



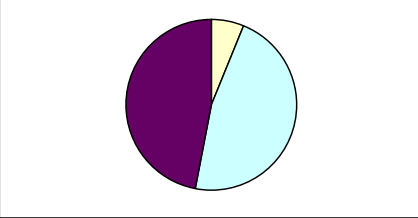
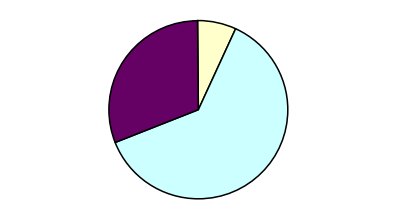
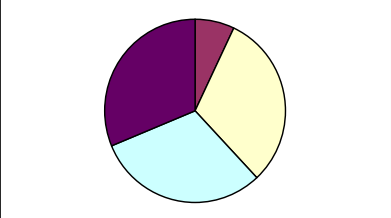
Comments on Plenary Addresses:

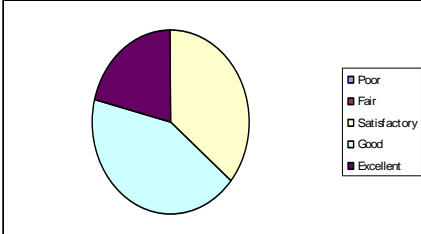
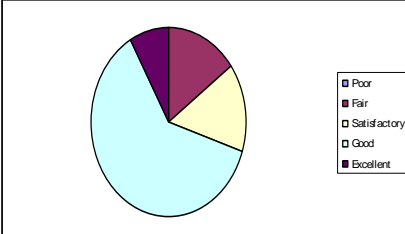
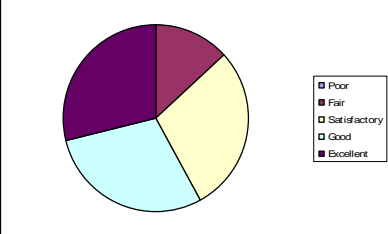
Compassion	DVTO	Standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I needed the inspiration & food for thought- thank you • Enjoyed it • Found the topic very topical for dealing with clients • Encouraging. Highlighted my own beliefs • Harry's power point was fantastic • Good food for thought • Dr. Stefanakis' compassion workshop can be applied to all aspects of life • I appreciate a compassionate perspective • Powerpoint did not work for me • Harry's talk was an outstanding combination of theory, humility and vision • Very good presentation • This compassion factor instead of punishment needs to be understood by all in community and legal system • Slides helpful – wonderful use of varied faith traditions; beautifully integrated; very helpful • Very well presented • Really values the approach that Harry took • Profound; inspirational • Dr. Stefanakis' presentation was informative and accessible • Just the right direction • Very academic approach in working with compassion • Good information and discussion to follow • Insightful, thought provoking in a good way; wonderful speaker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would like to hear more • Good information but she had a monotone voice • Really enjoyed how this is working in Sask. – be nice to have it in BC • We need to do this in BC • I look forward to BC adopting a similar model • Not new information • The court system in Sask. Was well thought out. I will take this back to my community • Refreshing • Good overview – more interactive would have been nice • Great to hear her model. Might have been interesting to have a panel response from other models • Can easily see how Judge Meekma is a leader –thank you • Very clear on how they do good work – good to see judges • Clear, informative & encouraging • Very clear, great information, amazing model • Gained huge amount of energy and hope towards a specialized court system. Very informative • Like the collaborative approach • Warm, safe, practical & helpful exchange of information • Worth coming just for this • Well prepared – good information and expertise in addressing questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some interesting facts-enjoyed the humour • Tied it all together-Provided useful information • Too abstract – too slow • Interesting and entertaining • Hard at the end of the day • Interesting – need more time • Excellent presenter- gives a clear vision of the situation in the USA • Interesting; missed some good questions; his humour was good • Always interesting to listen to Dr. Maiuro • Good material and presenter; would have appreciated more time for Canadian context • Clear and interesting • Important information- language hard to understand sometimes • Presenter was entertaining & presented a lot of interesting statistics • Interesting; would like the hand outs • Profound; terrific • Great overall view of things • Terrific information; funny • Very interesting • Judgmental presenter; his preferences were clear • Dr. Maiuro's presentations was eye opening and funny at times • Comprehensive overview

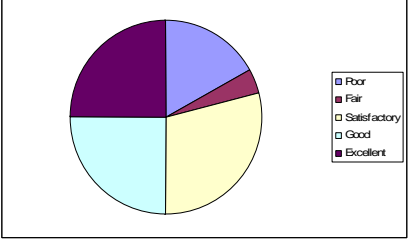
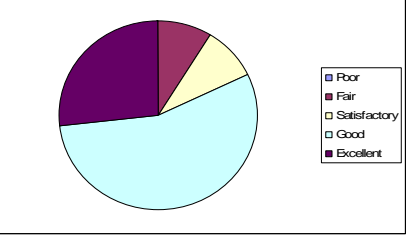
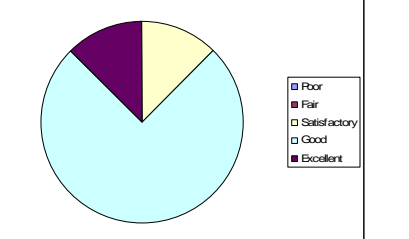
Concurrent Workshops

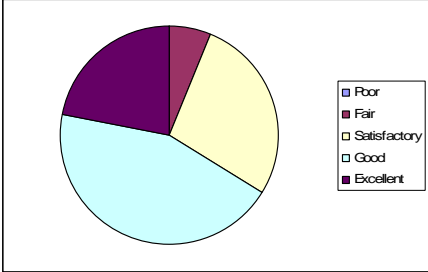
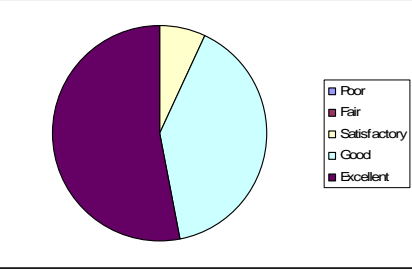
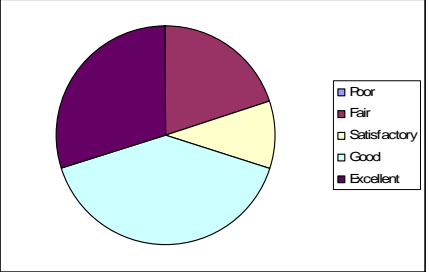


The responses to the concurrent workshops were considerably lower than responses to the plenary addresses. There appeared to be some confusion regarding the lettering system and the ratings with some ticking just one of the two. Consequently responses for the workshops averaged at about 14 responses per workshop. Please refer to this key with respect to the pie charts for each of the concurrent conference workshop evaluations.

Ninu Kang & Harry Stefanakis: Spirituality as a vehicle for change in treatment and coordination	Vancouver Domestic Violence Response Unit Police – Community Partnership	John Plummer: Classifying DV Perpetrators Based on Attachment and Patterns of Thought
		
<p>94% good/excellent rating</p>	<p>94% good/excellent rating</p>	<p>62% good/excellent rating</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough time- wonderful • Enjoyed helping others to develop personal spirituality • Good topic – a little disjointed; given time one small group exercise would have been sufficient • Excellent experience for me; I'd like another way to establish safety and ice breaker tan spend 25% of time on introductions – still it was wonderful • The small group exercises were the best part • This workshop was radical in that it allowed for dialogue on a topic that is usually kept private. The opportunity increased connection and unity. • Excellent follow up on opening plenary • Enjoyed the experiential questions and bringing the topic of spirituality into my work with clients. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awesome workshop; the DVU can be an example for other communities to follow • Some things are different on Vancouver Island • Would like to see the handouts referencing the procedures used • Good to see a local collaborative process – great work • Needed more time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 comments on - Needing less time on study and more on results and implications • Interesting & dynamic speaker • Liked the delivery of the presentation • Very interesting, relevant and good presentation skills • 2 comments on: Results great but too much info on data

<p>David Ravvin: Touchstone Family Associations' Men, Anger and the Family Group: Encouraging Democratic Selves</p>	<p>Open Forum/Panel: Building Effective Partnerships for Ending Relationship Abuse</p>	<p>Rebecca Peck & Tim Tackles: Collaboration between DV Treatment provider and Probation (Washington State)</p>
		
<p>64% good/excellent rating</p>	<p>70% good/excellent rating</p>	<p>58% good/excellent rating</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Was very basic • A bit too specific • Appreciated overview of his approach; need notes/handouts • The list making exercise was most revealing • More focus on the "spirit" of the approach would have helped • Terminology of "democratic and master/slave" was helpful • Illustration of how he gets the offender involved in self awareness to needs to wants was very useful. The information will be taken back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would have been better to involve larger group; personally I don't find fish bowls useful • Not enough time for larger group discussion • Voice of victim (non-government) could have been more represented • I liked the format • Good discussion • Left me feeling optimistic • Interesting groups • Enjoyed the discussion on how to develop and maintain partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Did not find information useful • Not relevant to BC experience • Not a lot of information was evidence based • Good information on US practice • Good model for a cooperative working relationship • Great work; should be model for Washington state

<p>Michael Thomas: Treating Family Violence from a Systemic Perspective - Theory and Research</p>	<p>Gail Edinger & Michelle Novakowski: On Finding Common Ground - The most essential step in developing a specialized response to violence against women</p>	<p>B.C. Yukon Society of Transition Houses: Working across disciplines to support children exposed to domestic violence</p>
 <p>50% good/excellent rating</p>	 <p>83% good/excellent rating</p>	 <p>87.5% good/excellent rating</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very stimulating • Thought provoking • While his presentation came under fire; he fielded questions with patience and grace • Challenged orthodoxy with courage and class • Presenter guilty of his own accusation of others – “you’ve got it wrong, I’ll tell you the right way” • Group sharing was useful • His vocabulary was sloppy for a sensitive topic; different perspectives presented at international conference is important but must be done carefully • Substantial stirring the pot with openness • Disrespectful towards participants and overall frustrating and unhelpful presentation in many ways • Defensiveness by presenter; interesting historical analysis(incomplete) and interesting research but lacking context and critical analysis • Misleading use of statistics and incomplete descriptions of information in some instances • Useful ideas and helpful critiques • Provocative is good • Makes it important to challenge assumptions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor not clear about expectations for group exercise • Would have been better to highlight what the CCWS is doing • Great process; challenged assumptions • Good focus on how to apply community and individual work environment • Good discussion; important for coordination • Process was excellent • Really enjoyable; good information • Good to see all sides • Highlighted different roles of agencies and the importance of acknowledging those roles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Far too basic; needed more current research • always interested in helping children affected by DV • not enough time; too bad about technical difficulties; thanks for the handouts • a good and informative presentation

<p>Michael Thomas: Treating Family Violence from a Systemic Perspective - Treatment</p>	<p>Best Practices from the front line: Group facilitated discussion</p>	<p>Wendy Patrick Mazzarella: Legal and Ethical Issues in Working With Victims in the Prosecution of Domestic Violence Cases</p>
 <p>66% good/excellent rating</p>	 <p>93% good/excellent rating</p>	 <p>70% good/excellent rating</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard to grasp • Handouts for reference would have been useful but not available • Enjoyed family systems and agree with MT • Good chaos theory in progress • Good dialogue with different perspectives; some helpful at contextualizing research • Presents in a positional manner lacking respect for past work and did not practice effective listening to questions till the end • Very rigid point of view • It's hard to look at things we don't want to see • Had potential • Appreciated how he took feedback and how feedback was offered • Troubling: MT's presentation smacked of backlash against good solid rigorous research on VAW ; red herrings, oversimplifications; thankfully the audience was astute to the larger complex context and social analysis • Interesting concepts; challenges some of my beliefs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good information/presentation; more time needed • Very helpful • Good stuff • Great experience; could have done 2 sessions • Good points; helpful to know what others do • Great listening to others • Enjoyed dialogue • It was the participants who made it • Perspectives are wonderful to share and absorb 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent speaker but not enough time • US system is different nothing new to teach • Good handouts; dynamic presenter but too US focus • Broad perspective, respectful and attentive; open to other perspectives • Articulate and animated • Dynamic presenter; workshop could be longer • Presenter was unaware of significant differences between US and Canadian experience

Five of twelve workshops received 80% or more good/excellent ratings; seven of twelve received 70% good/excellent ratings; 10 of 12 received 60% or more good/excellent ratings. No workshop received less than 50% good/excellent ratings; M. Thomas' workshop was the most controversial with mixed ratings ranging from poor to excellent. This is evident also in the comments.

Summary and Recommendations

Based on the evaluations and the feedback received at the conference, it is fair to conclude that the Partnerships in Domestic Peace conference was a success. There was overwhelming positive feedback regarding the opening ceremony, the awards and the plenary addresses. The conference workshops were also well received. It may be helpful, however, to include more skill based workshops in future conferences as well as vary the concurrent workshops on the basis of skill level and area of practice (e.g., coordination, treatment & parenting). Additionally, controversial topics may be best addressed through panels which open equal space for diverging perspectives. Another approach for creating space and safety in challenging contexts may be to create reflecting teams at the end of the workshop as suggested by Dale Trimble. Topics for future conferences as suggested by participants are listed below. Conference planning would best begin early in the year and full conference details posted on list serves and on the web site would be helpful. Some have suggested an earlier start time (e.g., September or October) in order to accommodate people from the North and the Interior. Finally, the evaluation form needs to be improved. It would be best to include the presenters and titles of workshop rather than fill in the blanks or letter/number system as respondents do not fill these in consistently.

Topic suggestions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programs for victims that parallel those for offenders • Speakers from CSC and BC corrections and MCFD • Multicultural programs • Couples counselling • Treatment and guiding principles • Risk assessment • Evidence based presentations x2 • Global perspective • Avenues to get funding • Community projects that others are doing • First nations perspective • DV in military • More open discussion forums • Social intelligence (Goleman) • Co-parenting after separation • TMC and engaging men\poetry and music as tools for change • Myths of mutual abuse • More on spirituality and compassion x3 • Dealing with stereotypes of both men and women • Partner contact protocols and methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of faith groups in hindering and helping both men and women • Violation of no contacts • More of the same • More on children • Why abusive men do not access more support services • Media violence • Plenary of men and women working in the field- their experiences • Ending violence and abuse as a spiritual community • Topics from Dr. Maiuro's standards, e.g., elder abuse, parenting etc. • Therapeutic skills • Female perpetrators • Ninu for key note in 2007 • Dale Trimble to present next year...good comments at MT workshops • Same sex violence • Increase level of sophistication; mix advanced workshops with basic on same slot
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Final Comments from Respondents:

- I loved your conference! I felt opened and full at the end of the day
- Day is too long; end at 4:30 day 1 and 4:00 day 2
- Good collaboration between ERABC and NWADVTP; like to see more combined conferences
- Ban power point
- Great job to organizers
- One of the best conferences ever, if the not the best!
- Conference had a good feeling; it was thought provoking and encouraging
- I enjoyed the exchange of ideas
- No Saturdays
- Excellent conference!

Thank you all for your excellent hard work and contributions towards making this a successful conference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Harry Stefanakis