THE ART OF BEING POLITICALLY SAVVY

- Objectives
- Introductions
- Definitions
- Discussion
- Resources
- Q&A

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THE ART OF BEING POLITICALLY SAVVY

Objectives of the workshop
- Define Political Savvy
- Evaluate your Building Coalitions/Political Savvy skills
- Identify practices of political savvy
- Learn strategies and activities that will help you cultivate political savvy skills

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Introduction
- Name
- Agency
- Position
- Years working for the federal government
- Something interesting about yourself
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Why are we calling this workshop the “Art of Being Politically Savvy”?

Personal Experiences / Examples on political savvy

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DEFINITIONS

Building Coalitions: This core qualification involves the ability to build coalitions internally and with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, nonprofit and private sector organizations, foreign governments, or international organizations to achieve common goals.

Political Savvy: This competency identifies the internal and external politics that impact the work of the organization. Perceives organizational and political reality and acts accordingly.

Office Politics: The way in which workers recognize, and seek to reconcile, their competing interests.
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How things get done in your office?

• You can start by interviewing people who are viewed as successful in your organization

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Evaluate your Building Coalitions/Political Savvy skills

• Do you know the difference between being politically savvy and being political?
• Do you know how to effectively network and build relationships?
• Do you have organizational and social cognizance?
• Do you know how to adjust to behavioral preferences?
• Are you genuine and sincere in your interactions with others?
• How’s your interpersonal impact?
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Strategies and activities that will help you cultivate political savvy skills

• Analyze the situation or context
• Understand your supervisor, check out the chemistry
• Support and compliment your supervisor, but don’t be phony
• Avoid upstaging your supervisor, especially in meetings
• Show loyalty to your supervisor and the organization
• Shine at meetings
• Understand and show an interest in our organization’s mission
• Always display business manners and etiquette
• Be diplomatic

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Strategies and activities that will help you cultivate political savvy skills

• Build partnership and alliances
• Get your name in front of influential people
• Be a team player
• Share information with coworkers
• Keep conflict to a minimum
• Build a strong reputation
• Be perceived as a problem solver and not a drama king or queen
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Books
• Survival of the Savvy: High Integrity Political Tactics for Career and Company Success by Rick Brandon
• Political Savvy: Systematic Approach to Leadership Behind the Scenes by Joel DeLuca
• Savvy: Dealing with People, Power and Politics at Work by Jane Clarke

References
• Political Savvy – Dianne Floyd Sutton
• Mastering the Art of Office Politics – Gallup Business Journal
• Emerging Leaders – Jo Miller
• Political Savvy is not about being political – Robert Denker

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