Critical & Creative Thinking for Productive Leadership

A look at the importance and skill of thinking about thinking for successful leadership

The Critical Thinking Community (criticalthinking.org) defines **Critical Thinking** as that mode of thinking - about any subject, content, or problem - in which the thinker **improves the quality of his or her thinking** by skilfully **taking charge of the structures inherent in thinking** and imposing intellectual standards upon them.

This Creative Leadership program looks at Critical Thinking as a means for busy leaders to develop their own thinking skills and guide their people in creative problem solving, improving productivity, and realising potential opportunities. Critical Thinking when engaged for creativity enables personal and team innovation, and the delivery of real results.

People and organisations that understand and use Critical and Creative Thinking methods:
- ✓ creatively deal with complex situations and make better decisions - *faster*
- ✓ create a more collaborative and creative team environment
- ✓ plan, manage and implement solutions more thoroughly and effectively
- ✓ generate innovative ideas to effectively manage costs and grow the 'top line' of the business
- ✓ lead and manage an environment that promotes innovative thinking to achieve business goals

This program looks at Critical Thinking as a fundamental skill for Creative Problem Solving, Process Improvement and Opportunity Development. In it participants will learn:
- ➢ The concept, principles and enormous value of Critical Thinking
- ➢ The Applied Creativity & Innovation model and 3 vital ingredients for team thinking success
- ➢ The 4th Ingredient to critical and creative thinking
- ➢ A tools based approach to critical and creative thinking
    - o Tools for setting focus and direction – stop and think!
    - o Tools for exploration and analysis – assumptions and factors
    - o Tools for idea generation and alternatives – ideas on demand
    - o Tools for decision making and action planning – implementation is what matters
- ➢ How to put Critical and Creative Thinking Tools into action each and every day
- ➢ Strategies for inspiring and facilitating critical and creative thinking
- ➢ Plan for application back at work and to continue their leadership development

Blended learning to ensure sustained application
This program is a Leadership Victoria blended learning experience delivered in three stages…
1. **Pre-workshop** – participants receive a welcome email with links and reading attachments to introduce some of the critical and creative thinking principles that underlay this program
2. **Workshop** – this workshop is highly interactive and content rich, using Presentation Zen delivery methods to ensure highly effective learning, with time to apply new thinking on the spot
3. **Post-workshop** – participants are given access to a range of online eModules that build on the material covered in the workshop so learning is maintained, key insights and tools can be reviewed, and so they might share these with their teams back at work.

Facilitator: Your master trainer for this workshop is Bill Jarrard, Imagineer: Leadership, People and Organisations and founder of Mindwerx International. Guest speakers will also join us to share their real-life experiences with the material you'll be learning.