

## **Leading Without Authority: Thriving in Today's Leadership Landscape**

**Dr. Marvin Washington, Dean Beedie School of Business, SFU**

The 2026 MIABC Risk Management Conference begins with an inspiring keynote from Dr. Marvin Washington, Dean of the Beedie School of Business at Simon Fraser University.

Leadership today is more complex than ever. With multiple generations in the workforce, competing priorities, and a relentless pace of change, many leaders are expected to influence without the traditional authority that once defined leadership roles.

In this dynamic session, Dr. Washington will share practical strategies for leading yourself and others effectively even when formal authority is limited. Through real-world insights and a touch of humor, you'll learn how to build trust, foster collaboration, and create impact in local government.

Start the conference energized and equipped to lead in today's challenging environment.

### **After this session, attendees will be able to:**

- Explain why leadership today requires influencing without traditional authority to identify strategies to success in this environment.
- Apply practical techniques to build trust and foster collaboration across multiple generations and competing priorities.
- Implement approaches for creating impact in local government even when formal authority is limited.

### **Key Take Aways**

- Get clear that even if you had authority, that no longer works!
- Get really clear on what is your B work (what is the specific business that you are trying to make better)
- Create processes that create trust
- Identify and develop specific influence tactics
- Find ways to visibly support others