

Mindful Leadership: The Path of Contemplative Dialogue

A training process for engaging collective awareness.



Led by Steven Wirth of

The Centre for Contemplative Dialogue

February 22-25, 2010

Star of the North Conference Centre
St. Albert, Alberta

CONTEMPLATIVE DIALOGUE

Organizations and communities have tremendous power and potential to impact our world. Yet, far too often our experience of them is disappointing at best and destructive at worst. Bright, competent, caring individuals commonly feel stymied by bureaucracy, 'politics' and conflict in business, education, healthcare and church communities alike.

This training process will develop and deepen participants' ability to work with organizations, leaders and individuals, to respond more effectively to the obstacles and challenges they face. In essence, it uses the skills and theory of learning organizations and unites these with powerful contemplative practice from the great spiritual traditions. This synthesis creates broad new possibilities.

The result is a consistent ability to touch and awaken a profound 'common ground' or 'collective spirit.' Participants describe experiencing dialogue and mutual understanding in ways they had not imagined or thought possible.

With this 'group spirit' as a trustworthy starting point, issues of organizational mistrust, systemic and cultural blindness and individual powerlessness all become matters for cooperative and collaborative focus.

The remarkable power of this process creates a safety in which participants can experience being their real and best selves in a group, and work cooperatively for the common good. It provides groups and their members with a greater ability to engage and surmount the challenges they face, and to do so with integrity and compassion.

TOPICS AND SKILLS

- § Engaging the Collective Mind of a Group.
- § Awareness and the Human Person.
- § Developing Organizational Awareness.
- § The Stance of Contemplative Dialogue: Nonviolence, Mindfulness and the Nondefended Learning Stance.
- § Slowing the Inner Movement of a Group.
- § Skills for Dialogue.
- § The Nondefended Self.
- § Polarity Management.
- § The Spiritual Context of Dialogue.
- § The Life Frame: Seeing the Depth and Span.

TUITION

Tuition is \$750 CDN. Deduct a \$50 discount for payment in full when registration is made. Single Room & Board is \$315 (commuter with meals is \$152), and is also payable to The Centre for Contemplative Dialogue.

DATE & LOCATION

February 22-25, 2010. Edmonton, Alberta: Star of the North Retreat Centre. Begins at 9:30 am Monday and ends at 2:30pm Thursday. Monday thru Wednesday sessions end by 5 pm.

LEADERSHIP

Steven Wirth will lead the group. Steve is an experienced Contemplative Dialogue facilitator, trainer, and a leadership mentor who has worked successfully with senior corporate, congregational, and political leaders; culturally diverse organizations; attorneys and healthcare systems.

This approach to organizational awareness tends to produce new frameworks for understanding situations and an increased ability to work effectively together for the common good.

PARTICIPANTS COMMENTS

A CEO says, "I can't even begin to measure the changes. The very fabric of the organization is changing and becoming more co-participative and responsive. I'm letting myself move into 'not knowing' it all as a leader and not being anxious about that."

A Healthcare administrator states, "It's hard to describe the change, but I approach situations differently. Situations that may have become conflicted or worse don't go bad as often. And I find that there's a 'trust' built that strengthens the organization... actually helps us deal with the next crisis without the craziness and wasted energy we / I used to invest in it."

Register online at: www.contemplativedialogue.org/training.html

For additional information call 780-669-1256