

Local Action Module

CONSULTATION DIY - PART 1

Developing Consultation Skills

This module teaches skills for working in groups. It is designed for youth and takes a DIY approach: Draw It Yourself. Participants are free to doodle, sketch and draw their notes as they take turns reading the panels. The module will take about 90 minutes to complete, depending on how much time you allow for the interactive activities.



Printing the Document

For your workshop, print the following in black and white (we recommend single-sided):

- Pages 3-13 Facilitator Guide
one per facilitator
- Pages 14-22 Participant Handout
one per participant

- Painter's tape (optional - if you want to tape the paper to the wall)
- Poster paper (optional - if groups want to make a poster for their project or they can tape sheets of paper together.)

Supplies

This is what you'll need for this module:

- Colored pencils, crayons, markers, etc. for drawing and doodling
- Hard surface for drawing/doodling (see Space Setup below)
- Song: *We Didn't Start the Fire*, by Billy Joel
- Smart phone and (optional) portable speaker for playing the song
- Stack of plain white paper
- 3 flashlights (at least)
- Color filters (colored transparent plastic sheets) in red, blue and green

Sources for the specialty supplies:

We Didn't Start the Fire is available on your favorite music streaming service.

Flashlights

- No cost: ask participants to bring their own flashlights.
- Low cost: [Amazon sells packs of flashlights](#) as party favors (search: flashlights 6 pack).

Color Filters

- No cost: Cut up a ziploc bag to create 3 plastic sheets. Use markers to color one

sheet red, one sheet blue and one sheet green.

- **Low cost:** Amazon sells color filters (search: color filters for photography). You can use these as whole sheets or cut them up so more people can participate in the exercise. These packages usually contain a range of colors, so make sure to start with red, green and blue, then experiment with all the other colors.

Space Setup

- **Drawing surface** - Your participants will need a hard surface for drawing/coloring. For a small group, you could sit around a table. If you have a large group seated in a circle, provide a folder/book/magazine for each participant. Provide several containers of crayons/pencils/markers to share.
- **Space to present** - In the last exercise, participants will break into groups to consult and then share their vision with the larger group.

Facilitator Guide

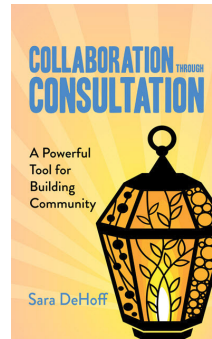
Be sure to read through the entire *Facilitator Guide* in preparation for your workshop.

Prompts to read to the group are in bold. You can read them verbatim or use them as a guide.

- Instructions to the facilitator are labeled with an arrow.
- 1** Or a number that corresponds to a prompt on the participant page
- 🕒 Or a clock with an estimated time for that activity.

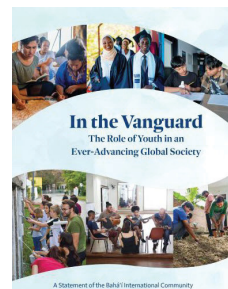
Additional Resources

Learn more about consultation, building thriving communities and the role of youth:



Collaboration Through Consultation: A Powerful Tool for Building Community

OurProsperousWorld.com/Consultation



In the Vanguard: The Role of Youth in an Ever-Advancing Global Society

BIC.org/statements/vanguard-role-youth-ever-advancing-global-society



Local Action Modules for Neighborhoods

OurProsperousWorld.com/Local-Action

If you have questions, ideas, insights, stories about using this **Consultation DIY** series, please contact us at: info@ourprosperousworld.com. Enjoy!

FACILITATOR GUIDE

Icebreaker (or use your own)

🕒 10 minutes

Welcome everyone! Today we're going to learn skills for working in groups. But let's warm up a bit first.

1. Stand with your feet shoulder-width apart. Not too close together and not too far apart.
2. Draw yourself up to your full length, as if there's a string pulling up through your spine from the top of your head.
3. Next, open up to your full width: open up your chest, so your shoulders aren't hunched in and not thrown back.
4. Now center in your depth, between front and back. Your back is your history, where you come from. Your front is where you're going. Center yourself between the two.
5. Now pair up with the person next to you and introduce yourselves. Share your name and where you were born. We'll give you 2 minutes and then each person will introduce their partner to the group.

Introduction

🕒 10 minutes

Today we're going to learn about consultation, a truth-seeking process of group decision-making.

This handout is yours to customize for yourself. You can draw, doodle, color any way you wish. Just be prepared to read when it's your turn.

- 1 Play Billy Joel's song: *We Didn't Start the Fire* (lyrics are on the next page)

Who's heard this song before?
What is it saying?

Consultation

Part 1

Have you ever thought the world was a mess? You're right. The world is in turmoil.



And you've probably gotten the message from the adults: "Sorry kid, we didn't fix it. It's up to you now."

But to be fair... The adults felt the same pressure when they were youth. They even have a song about it.



Listen to Billy Joel's song, if available.

The reality is, the world needs you. It needs your youthful qualities:

altruism
acute sense of justice
vitality
vigor
flexibility of mind
creativity
desire to help build a better world



It needs everyone: Young and old... Black and white... Quiet and vocal...

It's going to take ALL of us to create a just, peaceful, sustainable world.

Introduction (continued)

➤ Here are the lyrics to Billy Joel's song, for your reference.

We Didn't Start the Fire

by Billy Joel

Harry Truman, Doris Day, Red China, Johnnie Ray
South Pacific, Walter Winchell, Joe DiMaggio
Joe McCarthy, Richard Nixon, Studebaker, television
North Korea, South Korea, Marilyn Monroe

Rosenbergs, H-bomb, Sugar Ray, Panmunjom
Brando, "The King and I", and "The Catcher in the Rye"
Eisenhower, Vaccine, England's got a new queen
Marciano, Liberace, Santayana, goodbye

We didn't start the fire
It was always burning, since the world's been turning
We didn't start the fire
No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it

Joseph Stalin, Malenkov, Nasser and Prokofiev
Rockefeller, Campanella, Communist Bloc
Roy Cohn, Juan Peron, Toscanini, Dacron
Dien Bien Phu falls, "Rock Around the Clock"

Einstein, James Dean, Brooklyn's got a winning team
Davy Crockett, Peter Pan, Elvis Presley, Disneyland
Bardot, Budapest, Alabama, Krushchev
Princess Grace, Peyton Place, Trouble in the Suez

We didn't start the fire
It was always burning, since the world's been turning
We didn't start the fire
No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it

Little Rock, Pasternak, Mickey Mantle, Kerouac
Sputnik, Chou En-Lai, "Bridge on the River Kwai"
Lebanon, Charles de Gaulle, California baseball
Starkweather homicide, children of thalidomide

Buddy Holly, Ben Hur, space monkey, mafia
Hula hoops, Castro, Edsel is a no-go
U2, Syngman Rhee, Payola and Kennedy
Chubby Checker, Psycho, Belgians in the Congo

We didn't start the fire
It was always burning, since the world's been turning
We didn't start the fire
No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it

Hemingway, Eichmann, "Stranger in a Strange Land"
Dylan, Berlin, Bay of Pigs invasion
"Lawrence of Arabia", British Beatlemania
Ole Miss, John Glenn, Liston beats Patterson
Pope Paul, Malcolm X, British politician sex
JFK – blown away, what else do I have to say?

We didn't start the fire
It was always burning, since the world's been turning
We didn't start the fire
No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it

Birth control, Ho Chi Minh, Richard Nixon back again
Moonshot, Woodstock, Watergate, punk rock
Begin, Reagan, Palestine, terror on the airline
Ayatollah's in Iran, Russians in Afghanistan

"Wheel of Fortune", Sally Ride, heavy metal suicide
Foreign debts, homeless vets, AIDS, crack, Bernie Goetz
Hypodermics on the shore, China's under martial law
Rock and roller, cola wars, I can't take it anymore

We didn't start the fire
It was always burning, since the world's been turning
We didn't start the fire
But when we are gone
It will still burn on, and on, and on, and on, and on, and on, and on, and on

We didn't start the fire
It was always burning, since the world's been turning
We didn't start the fire
No, we didn't light it, but we tried to fight it

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Introduction (continued)

1 Explore the image of the arrow:

Has anyone done archery?

Why do you need an arrowhead?

1

<p><i>YOUTH can't do it alone.</i></p> <p><i>And the world can't do it without the youth.</i></p>	<p><i>You are the arrowhead, the vanguard, aiming for the future.</i></p>  <p><i>You're supported by the community, the shaft that provides stability and heft.</i></p> <p><i>You're guided by the elders, the feathers that focus your aim.</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em;">“</p> <p>The point isn't necessarily to create a youth movement. The point is for young people to be at the heart of an everybody movement.</p> <p><small>~ Youth from Brazil, quoted in <i>In the Vanguard: The Role of Youth in an Ever-Advancing Global Society</i>, BIC.org</small></p>
<p><i>The only way we'll solve all these problems is if we work together.</i></p> <p><i>So how do we do this?</i></p>	<p><i>Snap your fingers if you've ever worked on a group project at school and felt frustrated.</i></p> <p><i>Were you ever trained to work in a group? (Most adults never got this training.)</i></p>	<p><i>What we need is skills!</i></p> <p><i>And one of these skills is consultation.</i></p>
<p><i>Consultation is a truth-seeking process of decision-making that allows a group look at an issue from all sides and make wise decisions.</i></p>	<p>Today we'll cover 3 concepts:</p> <div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center;"> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>Search for truth</i></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-bottom: 10px;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>Express your view</i></div> </div> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"><i>Let it go</i></div> </div> </div>	

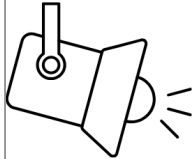
Search for Truth

⌚ 20 minutes

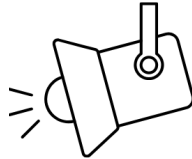
- Participants take turns reading through all the panels on the page.
- Ask for 3 volunteers.
- Give one person a red color filter, the next person a blue color filter and the third person a green color filter.
- Draw a 3" circle on a sheet of white paper and put it in the center of the group (on the floor or on the table) or tape it to a wall.
- Ask one of the remaining participants to read Step 1 aloud. The volunteers carry out the action.
- Engage the group in a discussion of what they see at each step.
- Continue through all the steps with the 3 volunteers.
- Then, if you have enough materials, let all the participants experiment with the flashlights and color filters.

1 Debrief the exercise:

Who can summarize this exercise in a few sentences?



Search for Truth



What you'll need:

- 3 or more flashlights
- color filters* - red, green, blue
- sheet of white paper (draw a 3" circle on the paper)
- painter's tape (if you want to tape the paper to the wall)

*transparent colored plastic

1. Place the color filters on the paper.

What do you see?

When we argue over our opinions, we obscure the issue and we can't find the truth.

red

blue

green

2. Shine your flashlights through the color filters onto the paper.

What do you see?

When we search for truth, however, we're striving to let the light shine through our viewpoints and opinions.

red

blue

green

3. Shine just the red lights on the circle.

What do you see?

When just a few voices dominate, it skews our view of the truth.

red

4. Shine the red and blue lights, but not the green light.

What do you see?

When one voice is missing, we don't have a complete picture, which makes it hard to make good decisions.

red

blue

5. Shine all the lights and focus on the circle.

What do you see?

When we have all the viewpoints, we can see the truth more clearly.

red

blue

green

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Express Your View


⌚ 5 minutes

➤ Participants continue to take turns reading through the panels.

1 Keep the Trailblazers standing up until the Detectives are identified.

2 Now the Trailblazers can sit down.

Express Your View




To search for truth, we first need to listen to all the viewpoints.

Who feels comfortable talking in a group?

Stand up, if you like talking in group settings.

1

You are the Trailblazers. You're the ones who open doors and explore new territory.




Consultation is your friend. You get to tell everyone what you see.

Now notice who's not standing.

You are your team's hidden treasure. You are the Detectives. You're the ones who watch and observe and piece things together. You notice what others miss.

2



Consultation is your friend as well. It gives you space to talk. In fact, consultation won't work without you.

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Express Your View (continued)

1 Debrief this section

Which is more important - Trailblazers or Detectives?

Who can summarize this section in a few sentences?

So, Trailblazers, do what you do best: Knock down obstacles, explore new ideas, open doors and find out what's behind them.

But remember, you need your Detectives. They're the ones who can tell you where the cliffs are.



And, Detectives, do what you do best: Observe details, connect the dots, analyze what you see.

But remember, you need your Trailblazers. They'll open up whole new worlds to explore.



Changing the way we communicate can be challenging at times. We can slip back into old habits and get off track. It's okay to remind ourselves when we forget to make space for people.



So, Trailblazers... Say your piece and make room for the quiet ones.

It takes all of us to make this work. Everyone is important.



And, Detectives... Debrief your team. You have valuable information they need.



If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.

~ African proverb

Let It Go

⌚ 3 minutes

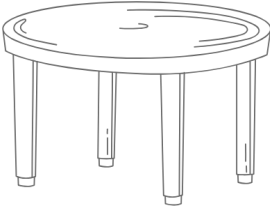
1 Debrief this section:

Who can summarize this section in a few sentences?

Break

⌚ 5 minute break

Let It Go

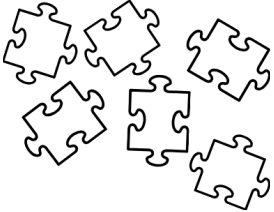


*There's one more, very important point about expressing your view...
You have to let it go.*

One of the gems of consultation is that once you've shared your view, it then belongs to the group.

As we search for truth, we need all the view-points on the table.

It's like putting a puzzle together.



If everyone hangs onto their pieces, we can't complete the puzzle and see what the picture is.

*But if we all put all our pieces on the table...
And if we place them face up (because we need to be honest in expressing our views, and not just say what we think others want to hear)...
Then we can start to puzzle out the truth.*

So say your piece and leave it on the table. Together we'll be able to figure out how to fit the ideas together so the truth can emerge.




1

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Putting it to Work

- ⌚ 5 minutes to read and divide into groups
- ⌚ 20 minutes - groups consult
- ⌚ 10 minutes - groups present
- Participants take turns reading through the entire page.
- Divide participants into groups of 5-6.
- Ask them to read through the instructions again in their group.
- Provide resources for the groups to present their vision:
 - Space to perform
 - Poster paper (or tape blank pages together to make a larger sheet)
 - Markers / colored pencils / crayons

Putting it to Work



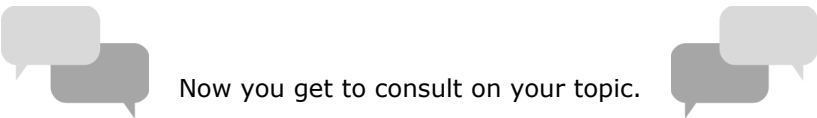
1. Divide into groups of 5 or 6 people.
2. Choose an "element" from the next page (or use your own topic).
3. Consult about the ideal state for that topic.
4. Present your vision to the rest of the group: draw it, act it, sing it, whatever inspires you.

But first...


Who is going to start things off?

Who is going to make sure the Detectives get a chance to speak?

Who is going to listen for gems of wisdom – those glimmerings of truth?



Now you get to consult on your topic.



Helpful tool...

In many Native American cultures, there's a tradition of using a talking stick that is handed around the circle.

Only the person holding the stick can talk. Everyone else listens.

If you think this approach could help your group, you can use any object you can hold in your hand as your talking stick. And if it is beautiful, so much the better. Perhaps your group would like to put your artistic talents to work and craft your own talking stick.

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Putting it to Work (continued)

- This is the list of topics the groups can choose from for their presentation, or they can use their own topic.

Elements of a Thriving Community

In a sustainable, thriving community...

 <p>Food: What would food look like? For example: fresh, healthy, affordable food for everyone.</p>	 <p>Family: What would a thriving family look like?</p>
 <p>Health: What would health look like on all levels: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual?</p>	 <p>Community: What would our relationships be like? How would we interact?</p>
 <p>Shelter: What would our dwellings and work spaces look like?</p>	 <p>The Commons: What would our public spaces and public assets look like?</p>
 <p>Air: What kind of air do we want to breathe?</p>	 <p>Carbon: What would our carbon balance look like? Is there more carbon in the air or in the ground?</p>
 <p>Land & Soil: What would our gardens, fields and forests look like?</p>	 <p>Biodiversity: What would our ecosystem of plants and animals look like?</p>
 <p>Water: What would our lakes, rivers, streams and oceans look like?</p>	 <p>Transportation: What would travel and shipping look like?</p>
 <p>Knowledge & Education: What kinds of knowledge would we generate? How would we share knowledge?</p>	 <p>Energy: What kinds of energy would we use for cooking, heating, cooling and communications?</p>
 <p>Work & Employment: What would our creativity, collaboration and production look like?</p>	 <p>The Arts: What would our art scene look like? What kinds of crafts would we produce?</p>
 <p>Spiritual Capital: What qualities, values and ethics would help our community thrive?</p>	 <p>Fiber & Clothing: What fibers and clothing would we produce locally?</p>

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Reflect

⌚ 5 minutes

- You can read the questions or ask the participants to read them.
- Ask any other questions that come to mind.
- Ask for an overall rating of the workshop.
- Or provide feedback cards like the ones on the next page (which you can print and cut apart.)
 - Stars = something you liked about the workshop
 - Wish (heart) = something you'd like to see to improve the workshop

Reflect

How well did you **search out truth**?

1. Did you move beyond opinions?
2. Did you dig deeper?
3. Did you learn something new?

How well did you **express your views**?

1. Did everyone have a chance to speak?
2. Was the consultation balanced? Or did some voices dominate?
3. Did you hear from both your Trailblazers and your Detectives?

How well did you **let it go**?

1. Did you give your ideas to the group?
2. What did the group do with the ideas?
3. Did new insights emerge?

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How was the Consultation workshop?



A writing area consisting of ten horizontal lines. The top line is solid, and the remaining nine lines are dotted.

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Consultation

Part 1

Have you ever thought the world was a mess? You're right. The world is in turmoil.



And you've probably gotten the message from the adults: "Sorry kid, we didn't fix it. It's up to you now."

But to be fair... The adults felt the same pressure when they were youth. They even have a song about it.



Listen to Billy Joel's song, if available.

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acute sense of justice

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desire to help build a better world

It needs everyone:
Young and old...
Black and white...
Quiet and vocal...

It's going to take ALL of us to create a just, peaceful, sustainable world.



YOUTH can't do it alone.

And the world can't do it without the youth.

You are the arrowhead, the vanguard, aiming for the future.



You're supported by the community, the shaft that provides stability and heft.

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The point isn't necessarily to create a youth movement. The point is for young people to be at the heart of an everybody movement.

~ Youth from Brazil, quoted in *In the Vanguard: The Role of Youth in an Ever-Advancing Global Society*, BIC.org

The only way we'll solve all these problems is if we work together.

So how do we do this?

Snap your fingers if you've ever worked on a group project at school and felt frustrated.

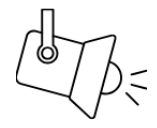
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What we need is skills!

And one of these skills is consultation.

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Today we'll cover 3 concepts:



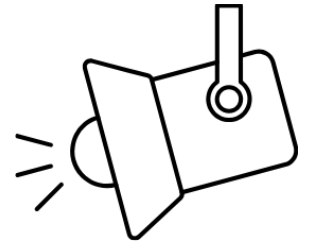
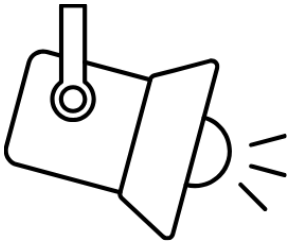
Search for truth



Express your view



Let it go



Search for Truth

What you'll need:

- 3 or more flashlights
- color filters* - red, green, blue
- sheet of white paper (draw a 3" circle on the paper)
- painter's tape (if you want to tape the paper to the wall)

*transparent colored plastic

All around us, we hear different theories, debates and arguments. How do we make sense of it all? This is where consultation really shines. Each person shares their view-point and, together, we search out the truth of the issue.

1. Place the color filters on the paper.

What do you see?

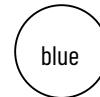
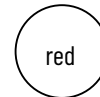
When we argue over our opinions, we obscure the issue and we can't find the truth.



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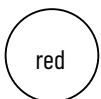
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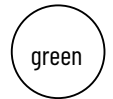
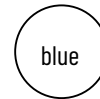
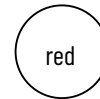
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Express Your View

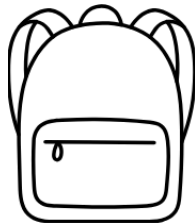


To search for truth, we first need to listen to all the viewpoints.

Who feels comfortable talking in a group?

Stand up, if you like talking in group settings.

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Consultation is your friend as well. It gives you space to talk. In fact, consultation won't work without you.

So, Trailblazers, do what you do best: Knock down obstacles, explore new ideas, open doors and find out what's behind them.

But remember, you need your Detectives. They're the ones who can tell you where the cliffs are.



And, Detectives, do what you do best: Observe details, connect the dots, analyze what you see.

But remember, you need your Trailblazers. They'll open up whole new worlds to explore.



Changing the way we communicate can be challenging at times. We can slip back into old habits and get off track. It's okay to remind ourselves when we forget to make space for people.



So, Trailblazers... Say your piece and make room for the quiet ones.



And, Detectives... Debrief your team. You have valuable information they need.

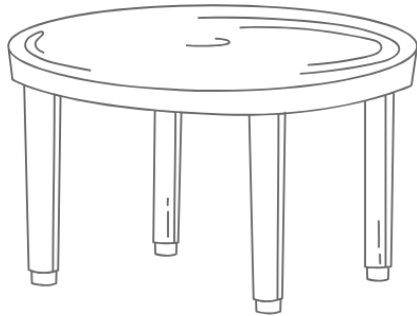
It takes all of us to make this work. Everyone is important.



If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.

~ African proverb

Let It Go



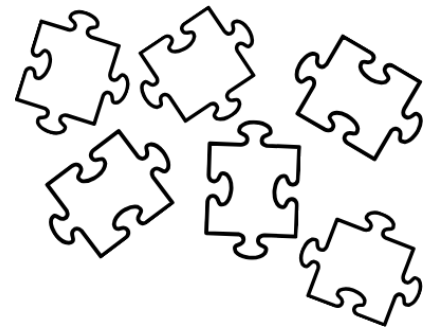
There's one more, very important point about expressing your view...

You have to let it go.

One of the gems of consultation is that once you've shared your view, it then belongs to the group.

As we search for truth, we need all the view-points on the table.

It's like putting a puzzle together.



If everyone hangs onto their pieces, we can't complete the puzzle and see what the picture is.

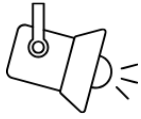
But if we all put all our pieces on the table...

And if we place them face up (because we need to be honest in expressing our views, and not just say what we think others want to hear)...

Then we can start to puzzle out the truth.

So say your piece and leave it on the table. Together we'll be able to figure out how to fit the ideas together so the truth can emerge.

Putting it to Work



1. Divide into groups of 5 or 6 people.
2. Choose an "element" from the next page (or use your own topic).
3. Consult about the ideal state for that topic.
4. Present your vision to the rest of the group: draw it, act it, sing it, whatever inspires you.

But first...

Who is going to start things off?

Who is going to make sure the Detectives get a chance to speak?

Who is going to listen for gems of wisdom – those glimmerings of truth?



Now you get to consult on your topic.



Helpful tool...

In many Native American cultures, there's a tradition of using a talking stick that is handed around the circle.

Only the person holding the stick can talk. Everyone else listens.

If you think this approach could help your group, you can use any object you can hold in your hand as your talking stick. And if it is beautiful, so much the better. Perhaps your group would like to put your artistic talents to work and craft your own talking stick.

Elements of a Thriving Community

In a sustainable, thriving community...



Food: What would food look like? For example: fresh, healthy, affordable food for everyone.



Family: What would a thriving family look like?



Health: What would health look like on all levels: physical, mental, emotional and spiritual?



Community: What would our relationships be like? How would we interact?



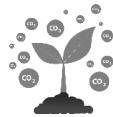
Shelter: What would our dwellings and work spaces look like?



The Commons: What would our public spaces and public assets look like?



Air: What kind of air do we want to breathe?



Carbon: What would our carbon balance look like? Is there more carbon in the air or in the ground?



Land & Soil: What would our gardens, fields and forests look like?



Biodiversity: What would our ecosystem of plants and animals look like?



Water: What would our lakes, rivers, streams and oceans look like?



Transportation: What would travel and shipping look like?



Knowledge & Education: What kinds of knowledge would we generate? How would we share knowledge?



Energy: What kinds of energy would we use for cooking, heating, cooling and communications?



Work & Employment: What would our creativity, collaboration and production look like?



The Arts: What would our art scene look like? What kinds of crafts would we produce?



Spiritual Capital: What qualities, values and ethics would help our community thrive?



Fiber & Clothing: What fibers and clothing would we produce locally?

Reflect

How well did you **search out truth**?

1. Did you move beyond opinions?
2. Did you dig deeper?
3. Did you learn something new?

How well did you **express your views**?

1. Did everyone have a chance to speak?
2. Was the consultation balanced? Or did some voices dominate?
3. Did you hear from both your Trailblazers and your Detectives?

How well did you **let it go**?

1. Did you give your ideas to the group?
2. What did the group do with the ideas?
3. Did new insights emerge?