

# Mindful Leadership: The Path of Contemplative Dialogue

A training process for creating collective awareness.



Led by **Steven Wirth** of

## The Centre for Contemplative Dialogue

**October 25-28, 2010**

Star of the North Conference Centre  
St. Albert, Alberta

### CONTEMPLATIVE DIALOGUE

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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 mindful practice for everyday situations. This synthesis creates broad new possibilities.

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

This practice, we believe, creates the possibility of successfully engaging the movements of co-presencing, co-creating and the possibility of collective engagement described by Otto Scharmer in Theory U. Participants describe this as a tangible outcome in their ongoing work with the practice.

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:

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

## TUITION:

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Tuition is \$750 CDN plus a meal plan of either:  
Lodging (single) plus meals at Star of the North \$302.  
Commuter meals and session fees \$152.  
Past attendees are eligible for half price tuition of \$375.

## SCHEDULE:

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Session begins Monday October 25 at 9:30 am, thereafter daily at 9 am, each day ends by 5:30 pm.  
On day 4, Thursday October 28 the session will close by 3 pm.

## AUDIENCE:

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This training is valuable to those seeking to enhance their relational effectiveness, personal awareness, & leadership in any organizational or community setting. Participants also find it valuable in parenting and relationships.

## LEADERSHIP:

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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 communities and organizations. He has served as designer and lead facilitator for the International Thomas Merton Retreats 2000, '02 & '08. He participated in the U.S. Congressional Civil Rights Pilgrimage and has led dialogues and worked to resolve conflict in diverse organizational settings across North America, Australia & Jamaica.

His approach to organizational awareness tends to produce new frameworks for understanding situations and an increased ability to work effectively together for the common good. This practice has been proven in work with provincial government in Alberta, Canada, faith-based communities, healthcare and for-profit settings.

Register online at: [www.contemplativedialogue.org/training.html](http://www.contemplativedialogue.org/training.html)  
For additional information call 780-669-1256

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