Sixteen Principles
For Building a Sustainable and Harmonious World

Presentation at the UBC Learning Circle
Thursday, January 18, 2018
Principle #1:

Human beings can transform their worlds

The web of our relationships with others and the natural world, which has given rise to the problems we face as a human family, can be changed.
Principle #2:
Development comes from within

The process of human and community development unfolds from within each person, relationship, family, organization, community or nation.
Principle #3: Healing is a necessary part of development.

Healing the past, closing up old wounds and learning healthy habits of thought and action to replace dysfunctional thinking and disruptive patterns of human relations is a necessary part of the process of sustainable development.
Principle #4: Justice

Every person (regardless of gender, race, age, culture, religion) must be accorded equal opportunity to participate in the process of healing and development and to receive a fair share of the benefits.
Principle #5:
No Vision, No Development

A vision of who we can become, and what a sustainable world would be like, works as a powerful magnet, drawing us to our potential.
THE PROCESS OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
STEPPING INTO AN EVER RENEWING VISION OF HUMAN POSSIBILITY
THE FOUR WORLDS DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH FOR HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

These determinants of health for Indigenous Communities have emerged from direct consultation with hundreds of Indigenous communities across the Americas.

1. BASIC PHYSICAL NEEDS - adequate nutrition, clothing, shelter, pure drinking water, sanitary waste disposal and access to medical services.

2. SPIRITUALITY AND A SENSE OF PURPOSE - connection to the Creator and a clear sense of purpose and direction in individual, family, and community life, as well as, in the collective life of the nation.
3. LIFE-SUSTAINING VALUES, MORALS AND ETHICS - guiding principles and a code of conduct that informs choices in all aspects of life so that at the level of individuals, families and institutions.

4. SAFETY AND SECURITY - freedom from fear, intimidation, threats, violence, criminal victimization and all forms of abuse both within families and homes in all other aspects of the collective life of the people.

5. ADEQUATE INCOME AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES - access to the resources needed to sustain life at a level that permits the continued development of human well-being, as well as, processes of economic engagement that are capable of producing sustainable prosperity.
6. ADEQATE POWER - a reasonable level of control and voice in shaping one’s life and environment through processes of meaningful participation in the political, social and economic life of one’s community and nation.

7. SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY - a fair and equitable distribution of opportunities for all, as well as, sustainable mechanisms and processes for rebalancing inequities, injustices, and injuries that have or are occurring.

8. CULTURAL INTEGRITY AND IDENTITY - pride in heritage and traditions, access to and utilization of the wisdom and knowledge of the past, and a healthy identification with living processes of one’s own culture as a distinct and viable way of life for individuals, families, institutions, communities, and nations.
9. COMMUNITY SOLIDARITY AND SOCIAL SUPPORT - to live within a unified community that has a strong sense of its common oneness and within which each person receives the love, caring and support they need from others.

10. STRONG FAMILIES AND HEALTHY CHILD DEVELOPMENT - families that are spiritually centered, loving, unified, free from addictions and abuse, and which provide a strong focus on supporting the developmental needs for children from the time of conception through the early years and all the way through the time of childhood and youth.

11. HEALTHY ECO-SYSTEM AND A SUSTAINABLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HUMAN BEINGS AND THE NATURAL WORLD - the natural world is held precious and honoured as sacred by the people. It is understood that human beings live within nature as fish live in water.
12. CRITICAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES - consistent and systematic opportunities for continuous learning and improvement in all aspects of life!

13. ADEQUATE HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SAFETY NET - programs and processes to promote, support, and enhance human healing and social development, as well as to protect and enable the most vulnerable to lead lives of dignity and to achieve adequate levels of well-being.

14. MEANINGFUL WORK AND SERVICE TO OTHERS - opportunities for all to contribute meaningfully to the well-being and progress of their families, communities, nations, as well as, to the global human family.
Principle #6:
Authentic Development is Culturally Based

Healing and development must be rooted in the wisdom, knowledge and living processes of the culture of the people.
Principle #7

Interconnectedness

Everything is connected to everything else. Therefore, any aspect of our healing and development is related to all the others (personal, social, cultural, political, economic, etc.). When we work on any one part, the whole circle is affected.
Principle #8
No Unity, No Development

Unity means oneness. Without unity, the common oneness that makes (seemingly) separate human beings into ‘community’ is impossible. Disunity is the primary disease of community.
Principle #9:
No Participation, No Development

Participation is the active engagement of the minds, hearts and energy of the people in the process of their own healing and development.
FOUR WORLDS PRINCIPLES FOR CONSULTATION

Purpose
• Create team commitment, trust among diverse participants
• Identify opportunities and solve problems
• Determine the best course of action

Ten Principles for Success
1. Respect each participant and appreciate each other’s diversity. This is the prime requisite for consultation.
2. Value and consider all contributions. Belittle none. Withhold evaluation until sufficient information has been gathered.*
3. Contribute and express opinions with complete freedom.
4. Carefully consider the views of others --- if a valid point of view has been offered, accept it as your own.
5. Keep to the mission at hand. Extraneous conversation may be important to team building, but it is not consultation, which is solution driven.

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Ten Principles for Success (cont’d)


7. Expect the truth to emerge from the clash of differing opinions. Optimum solutions emerge from diversity of opinion.

8. Once stated, let go of opinions. Don’t try to “defend” your position, but rather let it go. Ownership causes disharmony among the team and almost always gets in the way of finding the truth.

9. Contribute to maintaining a friendly atmosphere by speaking with courtesy, dignity, care, and moderation. This will promote unity and openness.

10. Seek consensus. But if consensus is impossible, let the majority rule. Remember, though, that decisions, once made, become the decision of every participant. After the group has decided, dissenting opinions are destructive to the success of the mission. When decisions are undertaken with total group support, wrong decisions can be more fully observed and corrected.
Principle #10:

The hurt of one is the hurt of all; the honour of one is the honour of all.

The basic fact of our oneness as a human family means that development for some at the expense of well-being for others is not acceptable or sustainable.
Human beings are both material and spiritual in nature. It is therefore inconceivable that human community could become whole and sustainable without bringing our lives into balance with the requirements of our spiritual nature.
## Is It Spiritual?

### Programs, HR Policies, or Behaviors of Managers

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions to Ask</th>
<th>Situation 1/ Proposed Behavior</th>
<th>Situation 2/ Proposed Behavior</th>
<th>Situation 3/ Proposed Behavior</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Is it trustworthy? (Is it honest and transparent?)</td>
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<td>2. Does it create unity?</td>
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<td>3. Does it maintain dignity?</td>
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<td>4. Are my intentions pure? Am I detached?</td>
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<td>5. Is it just?</td>
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<td>6. Is it done in a spirit of service?</td>
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<td>7. Does it show humility?</td>
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<td>8. Would I be ashamed if others knew about it?</td>
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<td>9. Does it demonstrate and develop competence?</td>
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<td>10. Would I want to be treated this way?</td>
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<td>Would the other person(s) want me to behave this way (Wisdom of Love)?</td>
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Principle #12: Morals and Ethics

Sustainable human and community development requires a moral foundation. When morals decline and basic ethical principles are violated, development stops.
Suggested Qualities of Principle-Centered Leaders

1. Spiritually centered - actively in a relationship with the Creator

2. Morally strong - lives a good moral life, suitable to stand as a role model (particular attention to the issues of addictions, relations with the opposite sex and honesty regarding money should be considered).

3. Believes in the people's capacity to heal and develop, and shows this belief in the way they work with the people.

4. Is engaged in his or her own healing journey and is a relatively healthy person.

5. Has a good mind, and clearly understands the process of healing and development, and the issues the people are facing.
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Suggested Qualities of Principle-Centered Leaders

6. Listens to the people with respect, love and humility.

7. Has demonstrated devotion to the people's healing and development by hard work and a good attitude over a long time.

8. Shows true respect for the Creator, Mother Earth, and all persons (does not show disrespect for anyone including women, men, youth, the poor, other races, etc.).

9. Can work well with other in a team

10. Strives to work from a position of forgiveness, unity and harmony with everyone.
Human beings are learning beings. We begin learning while we are still in our mothers wombs, and unless something happens to close off our minds and paralyze our capacities, we keep learning throughout our entire lives. Learning is at the core of healing and development.
Principle #14: Sustainability

To sustain something means to enable it to continue for a long time. Authentic development does not use up or undermine what it needs to keep on going.
Principle #15: Move to the Positive

Solving the critical problems in our lives and communities is best approached by visualizing and moving into the positive alternative that we wish to create, and by building on the strengths we already have, rather than on giving away our energy fighting the negative.
Principle #16:
Be the change You Want to See

The most powerful strategies for change always involve positive role modeling and the creation of living examples of the solutions we are proposing. By walking the path, we make the path visible.