

Consensus & Facilitation Training

• Sutton, Quebec • May 25-26, 2010 • 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
At Centre 111, 111 Principale Nord, Sutton
with Diana Leafe Christian

This two-day workshop offers theory and practice for members of forming or existing intentional communities (including ecovillages and cohousing neighborhoods), nonprofit groups, and other organizations. It focuses on how consensus works — and how to make it work well for your group!

Besides learning the benefits of consensus, you'll see different consensus methods which seem to work especially well for intentional communities and nonprofit groups. You'll understand the important relationship between your group's mission and purpose, membership process, and decision-making method. You'll learn the purpose of and etiquette of blocking, and how your group can reduce the likelihood of frivolous, personal-issue, or too-frequent blocking. You'll understand the relevance of strong agendas, and how you can empower yourself by crafting clear, well-written proposals. You'll learn the many different tasks of a facilitator, with opportunities for practice. The first day is consensus basics; the second day is a facilitation overview, with practice.

Diana Leafe Christian is author of *Creating a Life Together: Practical Tools to Grow Ecovillages and Intentional Communities*, about forming successful communities and ecovillages, and *Finding Community: How to Join an Ecovillage or Intentional Community*, about researching, visiting, evaluating, and joining a community. For 14 years she was editor of *Communities* magazine, and now publishes "Ecovillages," a free online newsletter about ecovillages worldwide <http://www.EcovillageNews.org> Diana leads workshops, offers consultations, writes articles and speaks at conferences internationally. Diana lives in an off-grid homesite at Earthaven Ecovillage in North Carolina. <http://www.DianaLeafeChristian.org>

The financial contribution of participants is income based, from 220\$ to 120\$, according to what you are comfortable giving.

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Tuesday, May 25th, 2010 – Consensus

(1) Consensus - 9:00 – 10:30 am (90 mins)

Break: 10:30 – 10:45 am

(2) Decision-Making Options - 10:45 am – 12:30 pm (105 mins)

Lunch: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

(3) Responsible Blocking, Agenda Planning - 1:30 – 2:45 pm (75 mins)

Break: 2:45 – 3:00 pm

(4) Making Effective Proposals - 3:00 – 4:30 pm: (90 mins)

Wednesday, May 26th, 2010 – Facilitation Overview

(1) Agenda Planning, Facilitation Part 1 - 9:00–10:30 am (90 mins)

Break: 10:30 – 10:45 pm

(2) Facilitation Part 2 - 10:45 am – 12:30 pm (105 mins)

Lunch: 12:30 – 1:30 pm

(3) Facilitation Part 3 - 1:30 – 3:00 pm (90 mins)

Options for Meeting Formats and practice

Break: 3:00 – 3:15 pm

(4) Facilitation Part 4 - 3:15 – 4:30 pm: (75 mins)

Dealing with conflict and practice