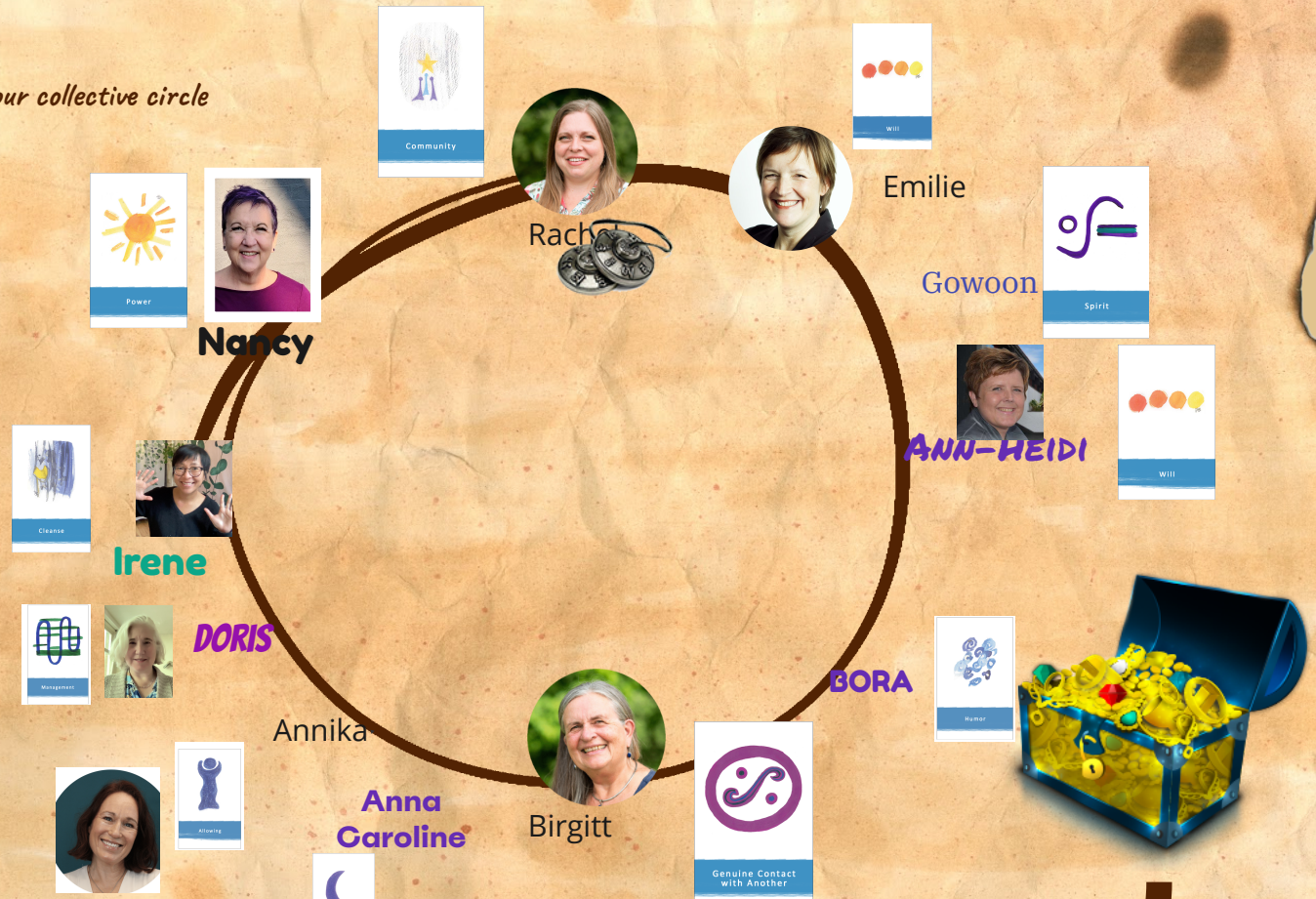


Welcome!

please take a seat in our collective circle

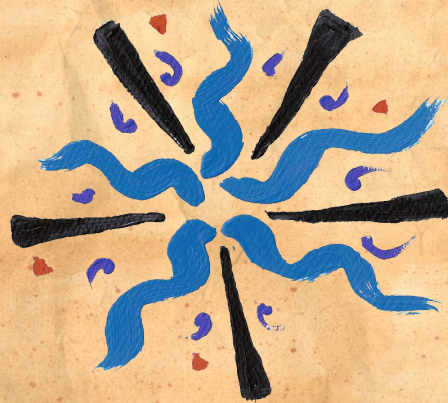


*What is this card conveying to you about
your experience with the Genuine Contact Way
in this moment?*



<https://www.dalarinternational.com/transfer-in/>

*What are your hopes and fears for
developing the Genuine Contact Way brand?*



What are your hopes and fears for developing the Genuine Contact Way brand?



H-it serves us well for a long time-the brand is durable

H :
humorous journey and joyful result

H: Clarity on POP,POD (points of parity and points of difference.
POP tells your target market your product or service meets their basic needs. POD tells consumers why your product or service is the best option over competitors that also have the essentials covered.)

Irrational F: That by taking this step things get "too" fixed and I no longer belong

H: There is a clear and vibrant sense of what GC is

F : if we can not pass the "breakthrough" and stay in fog

H: That there is a clear and powerful brand image that serves those who are here and who join in the future.

H:
big leap for our visibility and reach

H-provides us with the words to strengthen our attractor field

H-sufficient definition but not too much

H: That we uncover even more surprising beauty of GC

H:
Integrity & alignment of inside and outside of the GC Way of Working and Living

H: Reach large organizations and businesses - reaching more and more individuals

F: the new people who join (as a result of this branding effort)

H: Lots of funding to support the GCO in alignment with the GC way

What are your hopes and fears for developing the Genuine Contact Way brand



A-H: Hope

Learn more about how all others are using/ presenting GC in the world

F: That I don't maintain continuity/
Annika

Fear: FOMO iso contributing to capacity (Emilie)

Hope: easy recognition and guidance (Emilie)

helps people outside GC what to expect - and gives guidance to people inside

H: knowing who we are and how to present us to others

H: GC community will stand strong and bond stronger.

Fear: do i have enough time/headspace/energy to commit?

A-H: fear

Stepping in to much in the process given time and own Capacity next year

A-H: Hope
be part of a important step in developing the GC brand and selfawareness as Community

Hope: deepened understanding & richer wording (Emilie)

Hope: amplify each other's brand and impact

A-H: Hope
Be more aware on the Gc way in own communication

H: Hope that I will find more pieces of the GC way that I can do or already am doing./Annika

Fear: unclarity - who does what?

Hope: have a go-to resource to introduce people to GC

H: to learn more about GC, a branding process and GCW of working and living

Hope: get to know other GC members on a deeper level (personal stories >> GC brand)

H: Branding will stay as a continuous process in GC

F: ended as one time thing!

Fear: the outcome being too restrictive

H: Nothing will STOP us.

A-H: Hope
Have fun

A-H: Hope
Learn a lot

H:
GREAT
journey

H: that I can contribute/Anika

Hope: to learn and be inspired by all of you (Emilie)

Dear Friends,

We're going on an adventure! Choose a partner for the journey.

Follow the path on our map and answer each of the questions as you reach a new destination.

You'll find spaces to document your story for these 5 questions:

We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace GCW in your life and work?

What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

How do you describe your connection to the GC way? (GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner, Ambassador, Steward?) What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

Tell us a story about your experience of being inspired, challenged, surprised, or moved when you applied the GC Way in your work or your life (Tip: Remember the GC Way includes using GC Beliefs, Knowledge, Tools, methods, and approaches - both in business and in life).



*Yours,
The Brand Owls*

Please use the
Text option to
record your
notes. T



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

Annika: 2007/8 I was leading a team in social work around drug addition in Malmö. Thomas Hermann led an Open Space and I loved it. The social workers in the team started to use OS when developing an activity in dialogue with others so the team took a course and started to involve more people.

About 10 years ago I was a project manager aiming for more involvement of people related to the social services arena. Thomas trained us - a very diverse group - and included other tools too, like MWT. Since then I have worked with this in different roles and I really really like it.



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

Emilie: I left my job at KLM (2004). After I had started working independently and just had had a baby, I was in for everything when I was invited to join a workshop by someone that I value highly. Without expectation, but with a great love for brainstorming, I showed up for an Open Space training by Sabine Bredemeyer. First I took it as a trick. Just something for fun, growth and inspiration. I learnt it, quoted OST a number of times but never really worked with it.

After a few years as a consultant I found that I had more difficulty connecting with small/ medium sized groups than I had 1:1 or even with a large crowd. With the high esteem of the OST group at the time, I decided to take Whole Person Process Facilitation to learn to engage better with small-size groups. I found the holistic approach, the calmness of space and openness highly nourishing. And that was when I really got into GC.



BORA

We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

- Gowoon introduced me.
- Saw the workbook with the diagram of all of the modules.
- Took the Path with Doris. Didn't really convince me to jump in.
- Phone call with Birgitt and something about Genuine Contact clicked. The 5 beliefs really anchored in me in this call.
- 5 beliefs spoke to me.
- Felt like GC was rooted in somewhere. The beliefs gave me something I could really grab.
- The GCO seems to really walk the talk of these beliefs, not just say the organization has the beliefs.
- This led to the next steps of taking more workshops.
- Easy to participate more with online workshops and affordable prices.



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

Rachel

I grew up as Genuine Contact was being developed, so it's hard to say when my very first encounter was. Looking back on my childhood, the 5 beliefs of Genuine Contact were definitely a big influence on the way I was raised.

My first memory of attending a facilitated event was an OST meeting. It was part of a series being held across the country about the future of Canada. I was 16 and my mom (Birgitt) was one of a team of facilitators who had organized these events. It felt natural to be there and to participate fully. Even in a room full of adults including politicians and other well-respected people.



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

NANCY

I was invited to Working with OST, GC Way facilitated by Judith Richardson (from Nova Scotia). I had just finished a "project from hell" and have many stories about that as it was very challenging on many levels. The project was cancelled when the client merged with another company and they said the project was too high risk (which I had been saying for weeks). My life was also going through many challenges as well. A lot of things falling apart.

I went to this training and I felt the energy of it and I recognized the space of it. I meditated in the morning and evening, but I had been trying to figure out how to integrate different parts of my life, and the timing of this training this was so amazing. When we were invited into the OST, I posted a topic like "how to create real change in an organization", no one came so I wrote my notes as a reflection, mostly a bunch of questions. When we did the convergence exercise, I was surprised to see that even though no one came to my session, my topic went to the top of the list. and I found the process and the fact the others were interested in it, was fascinating, challenging, wonderful, fun, liberating and terrifying all at once. It was like a microcosm of life in a snapshot. I didn't know what to make of it and I was hooked.



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

My first encounter with Genuine Contact came around 2000. I was working as a teacher and was learning about organizational development and was curious about facilitation. A friend connected me to a woman in the U.S. and when we spoke she said "I don't do facilitation anymore the only thing I do is Open Space Technology.

This got me curious. I ended up looking for people who used OST in the Netherlands and met Koos de Heer who had invited Birgitt Williams to give the 4 day version of Working with Open Space Technology, a week or so after our call. I decided on an impulse to go to the training. This was in Feb. 2001 I believe. I took the training and it changed my life, without me realizing it. I know that the way I interacted with the world was different and it opened my eyes to something that felt both familiar and strange.

That first encounter changed things internally, but on another level the experience shook me and as a result, it took me several encounters over many years to really get "hooked" on Genuine Contact and want to continue my learning.

In that time though I had taken another workshop (CCCR with Birgitt in Germany in 2002) and had also read all of the GC newsletters. And my way of training (I was an organization and management trainer at that time) completely changed -- offering more freedom, standing for working in a circle, incorporating Hopes and Fears....story.

So my first encounter was very powerful, yet it also sort of freaked me out and I did not actively engage in getting involved for about 6 more years (2008)..



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

Gowoon: When I went to Business School at Nomads in the Netherlands, I went to a facilitation workshop, taht Doris Gottlieb offered at that school. Facilitation was not really anything I knew about and I would have never imagined to become a trainer.

Doris introduced the MWT and the Four Fold Way of Angeles Arrien and this lead to the book club, of the Four Fold Way and I got more and more inspired by Doris work and values what she had to offer. I felt the depth of this work

The Word Genuine Contact is not really used in common discussions - especially the word genuine - I had no idea what this really meant.



We would like to hear about your very first encounter with the Genuine Contact Way! Tell the story.

Anna Caroline: I worked with OST for 10 years in my twenties. Then my mentor recommended the GCW to me. In 2010 I met Birgitt and Ward at the World Open Space on Open Space in Berlin. It was quite surprising and a bit magical to find out within the first 5 minutes, that Birgitt and I share the same birthday. At that conference I had very good conversations with Birgitt and Ward. When I learned that they had given a voucher for the whole GCP in order to become a GC Trainer to a charity auction, I did all I could to auction that voucher. But I missed it.

At my birthday in July that summer I had an epiphany - a voice said to me: "Who doesn't dare cannot win." Now I was determined to go to the learning intensive in Raleigh for all of September 2010 even though I had no idea how to pay for it. In the following month I saved as much as I could, but I realized I still missed 1000\$ in order to be able to go.

Again in nature I had a magical moment when I realized that $1000\$ = 100 \times 10\$$. I decided to ask 100 people to gift me 10\$. And I succeeded!!

Once I took the GCP I felt like I found what I was looking for!

I had already worked with OST for ten years - and here had found the tools and methods to work in the OST spirit and do organizational development and transformation work. By the end of the Train the Trainer I became a co-owner and was invited to join the leadership management Team. A few years later I became the program director of the GCP for a few years.

In a nutshell: I jumped into the water of all learning opportunities and feel privileged and lucky I met the GCW.



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

Annika: In my work I have had the liberty of using different elements of GC to my liking and trying a lot of it. I have facilitated many Open Spaces. And it works. That, for me, is the motivation. And the results are still alive today, which is great to see from a distance.

Others, too, notice the difference and I really trust the process and that too motivates me.



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

Emilie: What motivated me most was the freedom within GC, with processes to trust but no attachment to outcome. I'm normally not prone to adopting thought frames - I tend to bend them to fit my objectives. GC containers are more open - and if even in parts - can be applied to a multitude of situations/ organizations.

After I heard Birgitt tell about her GC meeting every week with her family, I introduced the concept in my family. A weekly planning meeting, with a gong, a transfer in drawing Angel or GC cards and then individual & family planning, which we put on a wall for the rest of the week for reference. With kids growing up we had become a bit of a 'project organisation' and communication was often factual. Having a weekly family gathering (which the children decided to name Black Cotton Candy - do not ask me why) gave that extra connection back, with more room for feelings and empathy - and a smoother process during the week too.



BORA

What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

- The 5 beliefs motivated me to get started.
- What motivated me to stay was the methodology. It's deep but simple.
- I can use it everywhere - in my work, in my personal life.
- Easy to apply.
- Touches something deep, not just a light surface touch
- While there might be something in me that knows what is best for me to do, it takes me a long time to step into it.
- Train the Trainer helped me to see that I wanted more of this.
- GC gives something that guides, but it's also possible to guide myself too. I wanted this combination.
- I feel safe within the container.
- No judgement or blame. I could say how I felt during my learning.
- Focusing on building the container before we do anything else provides an environment where I can be myself.



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

Rachel

I don't have a defining "yes, this is it" moment. Instead, it gradually crept up on me. When I was 19 I took 2 GC workshops because I wanted to be able to answer the question "what does your mom do?" more clearly. While at those workshops, many people were asking me if I was planning on following in my mom's footsteps. At that phase of my life, when I was actively trying to figure out who I wanted to be when I grew up, all I knew was that I didn't want to be my mom - I wanted to be my own person. So, I set it aside for a time.

Then I began working for Dalar doing administrative work remotely. And at 23 became a GC Trainer (2002, in the second group of Trainers).

I worked for many Trainers in North America as an administrative assistant, and then slowly took on more work supporting consulting assignments, and then co-facilitating meetings.

In 2006 when the decision was made to create a co-ownership model, I became the program director for Genuine Contact and also a co-owner.

I continued to take on more work related to Genuine Contact, while at the same time dancing away and trying many other things too. GC kept drawing me back.

In 2017, I finally acknowledged that this was, in fact, my life's work.



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

NANCY

My first workshop, Working with OST, hooked me. I then followed up with WPPF in Nova Scotia. Previously, I had taken leadership workshops with the Authentic Leadership in Action (ALIA) sponsored by the Shambala Centre in Nova Scotia, which gave me a taste for further learning.

After I took the WPPF in Genuine Contact, somehow everything clicked. I had a Certificate in Adult Education, worked in the Information Technology Industry and knew about learning styles - Myers Briggs, Social Styles and other ways of bringing people into categories.

Taking WPPF connected me deeply to essence, to my love of nature and my meditative practices, to others, to myself. IT CONNECTED ME and for me connection is a big deal and it brought a lot of joy - Mind/Body/Spirit were all engaged, in ways that were both profound and brilliant.

Previously, mind/body/spirit were private and outside of my worklife. Taking WPPF gave me ways to work with all these aspects in my work and my life.



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

I was in a big transition moment in my life. I had recently gotten divorced. I was living in my new home, and was working very hard, but also very unhappily. I felt like I was stuck in a grind, not feeling good about my work, and yet having to work very hard. By this time I was an organizational consultant.

At one moment I got very sick and couldn't work. I was sitting in my house on my couch and felt like I had lost my way. In thinking about my "story" of life and work, all of a sudden I thought of who had been my teachers and I realized that Birgitt Williams -- whom I had met for a total of 6 days -- kept coming up. More importantly I realized that in my work and life many of the things I learned and valued and that guided me in both these hard times of work and personal life were things I had learned at these early workshops.

This inspired me to re-connect with the GC website and then to re-connect with Birgitt, because I realized I wanted to learn the whole program. I felt it had something I needed in my life. So at that moment I contact Birgitt and said I wanted to go through the workshops to the Train the Trainer in English in Europe. She gave me the name of Sabine Bredemeyer saying that she could give workshops in English. And at that moment I decided to connect with Sabine and also eventually to host a series of GC workshops in the Netherlands that Sabine would facilitate on my way to becoming a trainer (that was in 2009 and 2010 I believe)



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

In the beginning I took GC workshops, simply to understand Doris' business. As I was doing the branding for her. So we needed to define the core and essence of the business, which was built on the GC approach. Back then it was less learning and more work with the focus to get the data for the branding work. But more and more I got deeper and curious about this way of working.

I realized the facilitation method really made a difference in my own business and I applied it more and more. I took WPPF as a catalyst for learning for my own business. It felt great to apply what I had learned for my workshop and consulting in Korea. It blew people's mind.

Now the word facilitation is much more common than some years back - but it was really outstanding.

I find it practical and meaningful to work this way. I then decided I wanted to take a workshop with the co-Founder Birgitt to get to know her. This was a big investment and it continues to be a big investment: time, money, attention - I really need to be present. It feels exhausting sometimes.

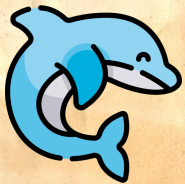
But after the second workshop with Birgitt I realized I need to continue this for my life-time. I started to trust this way of working as I realized this woman really walks her talk.



What is the story of what motivated/triggered you to embrace the Genuine Contact Way in your life and work?

Every time i participate or facilitate the GC way, it feels 100% aligned with my own principles and values. It is a powerful feeling to walk my talk, to feel integrity with my way of working. Not to compromise ones integrity is powerful. I feel so powerfully equiped and always feel empowered to know what a meaningful next step can be as I design and facilitate my clients. I also benefit and feel held by the community of likeminded colleageaues, who I can always reach out to for brainstorming, great questions, or advise.

Feels like being at home! what GC stands for aligns with your values in life.



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

Annika: I started using GC in different parts of my life too (for school meeting with parents e.g.).

For a few years I had a lot of 'doing' in my work. Now I have my own business again, with more time and space and higher connection to GCO.

That is a new step to GC in life, even though I do not use it in my work as much at the moment.



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

Emilie: After OST and WPPF Doris was a strong and resilient connector to GC. Over coffee we would share thoughts and ideas, tell stories and Doris would point out different offerings to learn more. Though not a trainer, I started joining the Dutch GC trainers meetings.

A major leap was when I started MeetingMasters, a new 'real' business beyond my independent consultancy practise. One of its goals was to use this as a practice to my preaching: building the organisation (and brand) that I advocate, with the values and beliefs that I cherish. Being in genuine contact is one of them - and the most prominent one too, according to an internal culture research last year. It steers our activities for clients, but also guides the interaction in a remote company.



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

Bora

- introduced by Gowoon
- took first course with Doris
- Gowoon kept encouraging me to stay involved
- I was searching for an answer. My MBA hadn't provided me the answer. I wanted something more sustainable and people oriented.
- I just did whatever Birgitt suggested as a next step.
- Took Train the Trainer
- Up to that, it was the easy part - just learning.
- Discovering what I wanted to do with it was more difficult.
- In the beginning, I wanted to join a corporation and apply it there.
- With the challenges in life, I was trying to figure out what I really wanted to do
- I learned, together with Gowoon, how I want to use GC and where to apply it
- Summer Academy 2021 I recognized I want to contribute to society through GC. Bring something good to society with the GC Way
- In our first steps, we realized we needed a strong community and strong brand to be as successful as possible and receive stronger support.



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

See previous answer.

Rachel



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

Highpoints :-)

NANCY

1. Taking Train the Trainer in Raleigh in 2002 - training with an international community of leaders was both humbling and illuminating. Memories of laughter that have stayed with me over time.
2. The call to become part of the initial LMT - my first reaction was "I am not a trainer and I'm not working with it". I had no idea what I was signing up for and I knew I had to do it. So I did.
3. This set me on a six year commitment. The original commitment was for three, two or one year to allow a rotation of members in and out of the team and creating a structure of overlap, continuity and transition. Over time, the quorum needed for making decisions became less and less, people left for one reason or another and, the year my 'term' was up there was no one left of the original team and so I stayed to provide continuity.
4. After six years I stepped back then I had to be on the "outside instead of the inside" after establishing great relationships (being outside of the leadership team).
5. Over more than 20 years, I have watched as the structures fell apart, changed and re-formed. Often, I have been amazed.

Through it all, GC has been the thread that has helped me have a frame of reference for my life - personal, professional, retirement - all the stages for 21 years and this frame of reference is something I can always draw on now to come back to. It has helped me through some dramatic moments in my life.



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

There are very many:

Here are some of my the highlights

- Invited Sabine Bredemeyer to give GC workshops in the Netherlands from 2009 to 2011, including OST, CCCR, WPPF several times and I participated in all of the. I got experience of this
- I went to the Summer Academy's in Germany and Switzerland in 2009 and 2010 which gave me deeper perspective and inspiration to continue and meet more people.
- In 2011 I went to the U.S. and took the Train the Trainer, in North Carolina.
- Starting in 2012 I decided I wanted to run my whole business as a GC business, it took a number of years but starting in 2017 I did that.
- I also got involved in the GC Organization from 2012 because I had met so many people I appreciated in the different events I found community in the GC list and people I had met. So I became a Co-Owner and then in 2013 I became part of the then Leadership Management Team.
- other moments were my first times training GC workshops which felt like magic and I really enjoyed it
- Another moment was a few f my early experiences doing Health Balance diagnosis and also doing planning meetings, where I saw that the tools worked so well, and got me really excited.

There is a lot more, but these are some things I can remember.



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

different workshops

First workshops I took at Nomads

then Workshops with CG trainers

Then Workshops in Ralaigh

Then Trainer the Trainer with a group of 4.

Now I am bound to GC - all for of us are in process to define what is our own GC way

You cannot leave this approach - even if you think you do



What is the story of the steps you took between your first encounter and now to engage more and more with the GC way?

after I took the whole program in one go (September 2010), i started to apply everything I knew with my clients. Also I took every opportunity to engage in the learning invitations within the GCO... until today!

I have joined the Leadership management Team, the Leadership Vision Team, the Branding and the Membership Team.

It was like love at first sight... more than 90% of the GCO work I am engaged so it influenced my work greatly and bring the success.

My own business is rooted 100% in the GC approach.



How do you describe your connection to the GC way?

(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner, Ambassador, Steward?)

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

Annika: I've got many different relationships, but at the moment it is not so clear. There are other theories and methods that are connected to GC that I feel connected to too.

I would describe it as I am part of Genuine Contact as a part of a larger community with a common approach.



How do you describe your connection to the GC way? W(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner, Ambassador, Steward?)

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

Emilie: I'm connected to the GC, it feels like a relative, I am not part of the core family, but the GC way is definitely part of my DNA



Bora

*How do you describe your connection to the GC way?
(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner,
Ambassador, Steward?)*

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

I am a GC trainer because I took a train the trainer module. Also because I am willing to teach/train the organisation and people to create nourishing environment.

I am also an ambassador of GC because I am bringing and introducing GCW to the communities which don't know what is GC way of working and living yet.



*How do you describe your connection to the GC way?
(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner,
Ambassador, Steward?)*

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

Rachel

GC Professional, GC Trainer, Steward

I became a Trainer in 2002. Around the same time, the idea of having some kind of quality commitment for GC Professionals was developed and I have also been a GC Professional since then. I have been a co-owner since 2006, with the exception of 1-2 years around 2010. As a co-owner, I am a proud steward. I'm passionate about building Genuine Contact and the GCO in a way that will leave it thriving well past my lifetime.



How do you describe your connection to the GC way?
(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner,
Ambassador, Steward?)

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

NANCY

Steward and Elder: My role was always part of being a steward and bringing it forward.



How do you describe your connection to the GC way?

(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner, Ambassador, Steward?)

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

I see myself as a Steward and as a Trainer:

A **steward** because it has been important for me to care for Genuine Contact and I feel committed to wanting to share it and ensure it will find its way into the future in good conditions. I have been so deeply involved in the organization for so long that it feels a natural and good place, and I think it would be so even without also being involved in training,

This is why I also see myself as a **Trainer** because that aspect of making sure GC is accessible and learnable to people is dear to my heart. While it is part of my stewardship it is also a very specific part of what connects me to GC in its own right.



How do you describe your connection to the GC way?

(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner, Ambassador, Steward?)

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

GC Trainer. because I took the Train the Trainer

The Program has not been translated to Korean yet

This is a bit a challenge to be among the only GC Trainer speaking Korean



How do you describe your connection to the GC way?

(GC Professional, GC Trainer, Supporter, Friend, Partner, Ambassador, Steward?)

What is the story of how you came to be connected in this way?

I identify as a Steward of the GCP , I feel responsibility to nourish and support and bring into the world this way of working and I am committed to do everything I can. and have decision making power at the GC organization to co create it to thrive. my wish is GCW to be well known world-wide so people can benefit as much as possible.

The more organizations that work the GCW the more individuals will be touched and transformed and the organizations will create more sustainable results.



Tell us a story about your experience of being inspired, challenged, surprised, or moved when you applied the GC Way in your work or your life .

(Tip: Remember the GC Way includes using GC Beliefs, Knowledge, Tools, methods, and approaches - both in business and in life)

" the best is that you work with what is important and that everybody can be heard and everybody can join" is a quote about OS from one of the members in the project team who attended.

That really moves me because it reminds me of the openness and the structure that enables to work with really complex situations and issues.



Tell us a story about your experience of being inspired, challenged, surprised, or moved when you applied the GC Way in your work or your life .

(Tip: Remember the GC Way includes using GC Beliefs, Knowledge, Tools, methods, and approaches - both in business and in life)

Emilie: The most evident inspiration is the one where people say, at the end of a meeting 'it has been hard work, but I feel energized'.



Bora

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Together with Anna Caroline, I spent a year helping to develop an in-company team to be prepared to facilitate conversation about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The work of training this team in the GC Way (using WPPF, CCCR, Next Level Leadership, and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging and Fitting In) was accompanied by guiding the team members to come into their own health and balance, learn to recognize their assumptions, and be ready to hold a life nourishing space for others who were taking on a challenging topic - increasing diversity and inclusion in their organization. There were many touching moments along the way. But the one that sticks out for me most is when we were having a mentoring session after the team had facilitated their first inclusion groups. To hear them recognize themselves as facilitators, that they had learned deeply to do this work, and felt prepared to make a big difference.

Rachel



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NANCY

Story 1: After I took Working with OST and WPPF, I immediately left the job I hated and joined another IT company where I was leading a team in Halifax, India, Ontario and British Columbia. Although I did not use the form of WPPF, I applied the principles and beliefs in each meeting and took the time needed to sense into what was needed in each moment. After working with this team for 4 years, I decided to retire from this job as life took me in a different direction. After giving 6 months notice in order to transition my replacement, I retired from IT. I was proud when a senior manager said that I had made a difference. I attribute the difference to working with Genuine Contact.

Story 2: Being a part of the LMT for 6 years, I learned exponentially about all aspects of Organizational Development and what worked and what didn't work. I took TtT three times and in the early years we would meet as a team in person after the Open Space on Genuine Contact held in Raleigh every autumn. I remember one year not being able to attend as my father was dying and I found myself wanting to be in two places at once. Each gathering in Raleigh was rich and full and brought new people and understanding.... so much laughter, tears and more.

Story 3: Since I took my first training in GC, I have been through so many life events, including visiting with Birgitt and Ward in Raleigh with my son to help dismantle the Harmony Circle of stones which are now in the mountains where we met one year at Highlands on the Lake and close to where Birgitt and Ward now live. I have been through divorce from an 18 year relationship, the death of my father, retirement from a 30 year career, the death of my brother, brain surgery and covid. Through it all, my awareness of the grief cycle has been present as I am able to see where I am and do my best to listen and to express myself in order to "show up and be fully present". I am grateful.



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There are so many:

One I remember now is a meeting that I did with an organization I was working with for a long time.

The meetings we had were "ok" but felt like something was not in place. It wasn't clear what it was and not one seemed to think anything was odd, but we just kept not getting to a place where people were willing to think about steps to make action. After one workshop at the very end in the closing circle there was a crisis lots of anger, and lots of confusion. The circle ended and the next day when I spoke to my client and in the time between leaving and meeting, She had a huge breakthrough that helped her to re-shape the way she was working with the team (she was not being clear about her own leadership and it made it hard for others to do their part). When she realized she change the course of how she worked and the work transformed. It was one of the amazing moments for me of learning that the blueprint for H&B is inside and uncovering it can take many forms.

Another personal story I remember was in 2009 at a Summer Academy. We were given an exercise to do by Brigitt. The exercise was presented before lunch, and we had an time then and an hour after the lunch time to complete it, and the output was going to be a presentation. With my group we were deep in conversation and were rushing to get our presentation done. It was as if time was standing still. When Birgitt came in and rang the bells we had gone an "hour" over the time. When we started she had mentioned how she walked into the room and then all of the people sort of looked her way obviously still deeply in the exercises (all of the groups). So she told us she saw that and walked back out of the room and went on a long walk and had now just come back.

After she said that I had this awareness of that moment when she came into the room first and realized I had looked up at her sort of glaring like NOOOO we need time. I hadn't said anything but I then remembered my face. That moment of this learning what it means to follow energy and to honor people as precious made a deep deep impression on me. It also taught me that time is not really something that is fixed.



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I was quite inspired when I applied the GC way in general, but when I gave birth and started to apply GC with my partner - a weekly WPPF meeting with my partner - this is when I realized that we need to treat family more like a community than a traditional relationship. This was also a shock - after years of practicing GC at work, it was an eye-opening experience - until this day to apply the GC approach with family. There is a great potential. When I apply the Tools - wheel of life balance - it creates the space that has not been given for a long time. This allows for deep conversation which is otherwise a bit rare in a young child parents.



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In the recent years I have supported organizations to become strategy focused organizations. I have surprised myself that I have grown from a large group facilitator to an organizational consultant that supports large organizations to align their leadership, values and goals in order to achieve their vision.

These processes are quite elaborate and complex and at the same time I am equipped to design their journeys in a unique way for them - not a one fits all manner.

The balance between focusing on genuine contact the intangible and tangible assets of an organization is the strengths that only the GCW of working brings I believe - in such an aligned and elegant way. It surprises me again and again how simple it is - to nourish, enlighten and empower big and complex organizations.



Adventure Complete!

*Thanks for sharing stories of your personal experience
with the Genuine Contact Way.*

Ready for another adventure?

Gather together in 3 groups and set out together to explore experiences of the Genuine Contact Way in the world.

The questions you'll find on this journey are:

What is the core experience that GCW brings to people?

What have you noticed about the impact of GCW for individuals, organizations, families, communities, and society?

Please describe GCW in three words.

(Tip: brainstorm as many words as your group can come up with, writing 1 word per sticky note. Then choose 3.)

See you at the end of the journey.

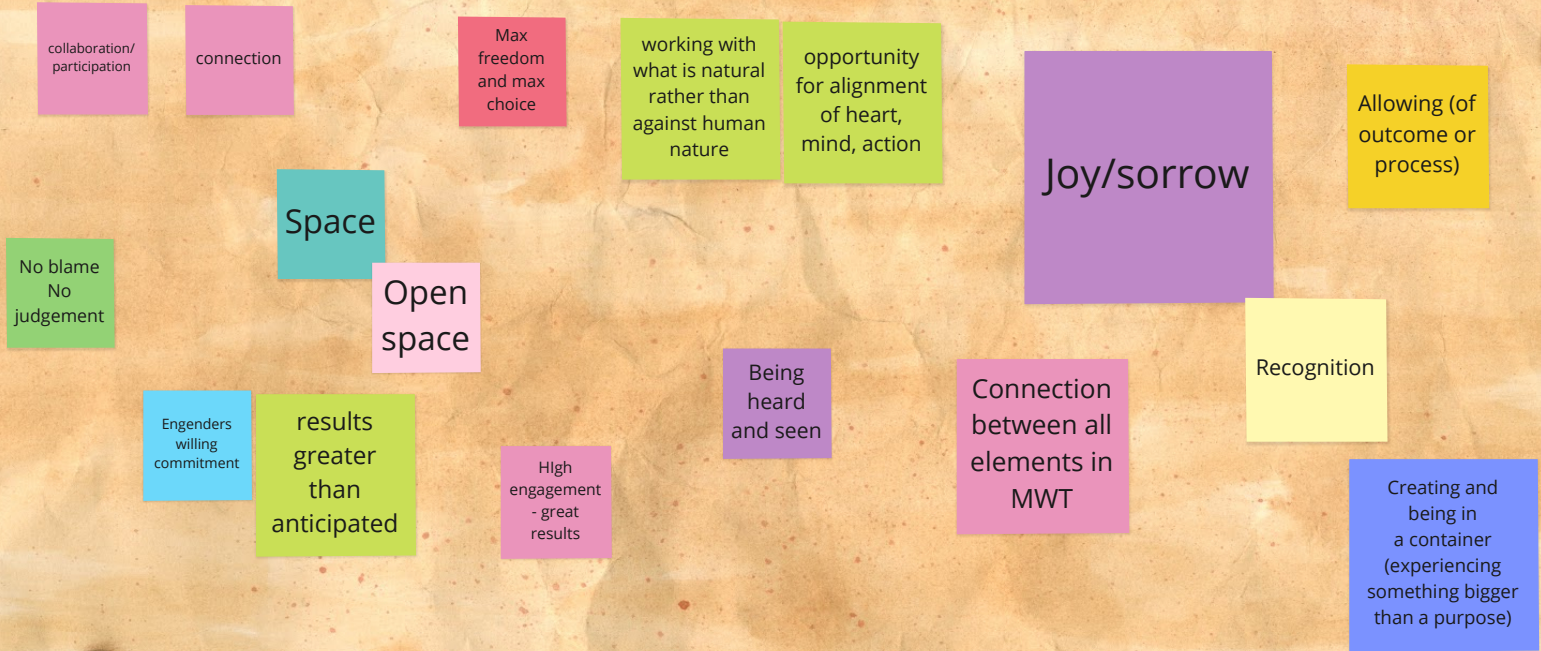


The Brand Owls

Please use the
Text option to
record your
notes. T



What is the core experience that GCW brings to people?





What is the core experience that GCW brings to people?

Welcoming energy, being invited and welcome

That being together and gaining great goals can happen with comfort

Being in a loving environment

The experience of being able to find solutions together.

Possibilities and hopes

Possible to be better together than apart.

Experience of connection - through this connection we experience creativity and effective and efficient

Respect for each individual - while keeping the purpose up front

Space to explore and think



What have you noticed about the impact of GCW for individuals, organizations, families, communities, and society?

Living fully,
engaged and
in present-
moment
awareness

people bring/
show more of
themselves -
greater
contribution

increases
resiliency, quick
adaptability,
ability to thrive
in change

Increase
noticing
of energy

Able to fully
present in
society or
anywhere

leadership
throughout
a family, an
organization

brings to
awareness
what you are
creating and
co-creating

Nourishing
environment

and also
being
real



What have you noticed about the impact of GCW for individuals, organizations, families, communities, and society?

Impact is that something is created//Mobilization and democratic processes in a concrete way.
Experiencing that voices get heard.

Involvement brings safety for those involved and society

People feel free and they notice the impact of their own assumptions,
the impact of GC is to feel the freedom to rethink ones assumptions

(Do I really believe this?) This is powerful because this way transforms how people interact and connect

Working and Living the GCW - in municipalities, in politics transforms how people work
Recognise Health and balance and whether we lose it in our family - now we have a way to diagnose our own H&B of our family and to restore it - same is true for organizations. Have



Brainstorm as many words as your group can come up with to describe the Genuine Contact Way, writing 1 word per sticky.

inclusiveness

connected

truth

Embraces
diversity,
inclusivity and
belonging

engaged-
productivity

belonging

togetherness

simple!
but
Deep!

Health
and
Balance

believing
in
blueprint

wholeness



Brainstorm as many words as your group can come up with to describe the Genuine Contact Way, writing 1 word per sticky.

warm

Power

creativity

Inviting

Ever
emerging

connection

Trust

Leadership

Alive

Truth

Transformation

Freedom

Hope

depth

Peace

Humanity

Change

Togetherness

wholeness

Power



Choose 3 words that best describe the Genuine Contact Way

engaged-
productivity

Wholeness

Belonging



Choose 3 words that best describe the Genuine Contact Way

connection

depth

Effective



Adventure Complete!

*Thanks for sharing collective stories of the
Genuine Contact Way of working and living.*

*Click the arrow to return
to the Collective Circle*

