



Community Group Leadership Council CHARTER

07/04/15

Background

Out of initial meetings of Community Group Leaders at the 2013 IONS International Conference, and inspired by the vision of IONS founder Edgar Mitchell, the Community Group Leadership Council was formed. This group has now met three times at the IONS EarthRise campus (October of 2013 and March and November in 2014), as well as countless additional times via conference call. In the past 18 months, the CGLC has developed Mission and Vision statements and its Core Values and Operating Principles. It has also established its internal Structure and its Scope of Work. These have all been combined into this CGLC Charter.

In addition, this Charter also includes agreements between IONS Headquarters and the CGLC regarding each party's commitments to the other. This Charter is a living document and will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that we honor and live up to its provisions, and with an eye on any improvements it may need.

Mission Statement

To Support the Mission and Vision of IONS and empower a dynamic, interconnected, and expanding Community Group Network.

Vision Statement

A vibrant global network of IONS community groups committed to the vision of birthing a new world that recognizes our interconnectedness, and promotes the flourishing of all life on the planet.

Core Values

1. Provide constructive support—to each other, CGs and the Hub
2. Lead and operate from the heart
3. Keep kindling passion
4. Explorers open to possibility
5. Inclusive, non-judgmental, unconditional positive regard for one another throughout the IONS community
6. Keep the spirit of play
7. Utilize and honor our spiritual connection to the web of life, the noetic field and the universe
8. Honor and respect personal mysticism, synchronicities, magic and miracles

Operating Principles (how we put our Core Values into practice)

1. We hold sacred our role as ambassadors for IONS, its mission and noetic principles.
2. We kindle a co-creative relationship with IONS, its Community Groups and each other.
3. We look for points of connection not points of contention.
4. We seek to include, not exclude.
5. We treat others with great respect, hold a deep regard for what everyone brings—honoring differences and recognizing the power inherent in our diversity.
6. We seek and find the beauty in each other and magnify it back.
7. We take responsibility for our Passion areas and keep each other informed.
8. We honor our commitments and deadlines, or speak up and renegotiate these in advance.
9. We participate in all CGLC conference calls, or notify our Liaison 48 hours in advance if we are unable to be on the call.
10. We honor our limitations: it's OK to say No.
11. We respect the shadow side, resolve our differences with an eager and open heart, and practice forgiveness.
12. We acknowledge our failures and learn from our mistakes.
13. We operate remembering the divine within all sentient beings.
14. We honor the creative, manifesting, healing and spiritual properties of consciousness, and nurture a collective consciousness/group energy that is greater than the sum of its parts—using it to ignite passion, heal the wounds of the past and build powerful and loving connections.
15. We celebrate our successes and honor the spirit of fun and play as we work together to IONize the world!

Scope of Work

1. Develop and implement creative and innovative ways to support the mission and vision of IONS and the vision of its founder Edgar Mitchell.
2. Serve as an advisory council to IONS, bringing our ideas, expertise, and connections to the Hub.
3. Develop and provide resources and support for both new and continuing Community Groups.
4. Facilitate the connecting of Community Groups with one another in order to foster sharing of ideas and best practices.
5. Support the creation and growth of new Community Groups.
6. Network with like-minded organizations and people, connecting them with Community Groups to enrich and empower all participants.
7. Engage in the inner and energy work that supports IONS, Community Groups, the expansion of the consciousness and realization of our human potential.
8. Seek creative and innovative ways to bring financial support to the Hub.
9. Strive to be an inspiration and role model for Community Groups.

Structure

1. We are a volunteer Council representing the Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS) Community Group Network, open to people who are in alignment with our mission and vision. Responsibilities of being on the CGLC include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Sets policy to implement the mission, vision, and goals of the CGLC,
 - b. Be dedicated to advancing the mission of IONS and supporting IONS Hubquarters,
 - c. Commit to a two-year term,
 - d. Participate in regular CGLC conference calls (currently once weekly, but expected to become bi-weekly after initial work is completed),
 - e. Attend periodic in-person meetings, and if possible, the IONS bi-annual conference,
 - f. Read and respond to emails in a timely manner, and
 - g. Participate in at least one committee.
2. The CGLC will be made up of 10-15 people. We welcome up to 3 members who are not current CG leaders (although we do encourage them to become one), but who support the mission and vision, provide insight, and offer strong support.
3. The CGLC will appoint an overall Liaison to work with the Hub's CG Coordinator, and a Liaison with the Hub in each of three specific areas: Technology (website), New Groups and Facilitation of monthly CG calls.
4. Terms are two years and staggered, so that only about 1/2 of the council's terms end at any given year. Terms are renewable.
5. We have a Steering Committee made up of 3-5 people. Responsibilities of the Steering Committee include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Keeps the CGLC moving forward, particularly with actions it has already decided to do,
 - b. Does not make policy or major decisions, but has authority to make minor / daily decisions regarding the issues they are tasked with working on,
 - c. Develop agendas for various meetings & conference calls,
 - d. Has regular meetings outside of the CGLC meetings & calls, and
 - e. Helps bring up questions and issues needing to be answered by the whole CGLC.
6. Decision Making Process
 - a. The CGLC makes its decisions by reaching consensus whenever possible. We encourage all CGLC members to participate in our discussions of issues, and practice our core values of listening closely and considering all views so members feel heard and understood. When consensus cannot be arrived at, a CGLC decision requires a quorum and an affirmative vote of three-quarters of members present.
 - b. To the CGLC, consensus does not mean that we all necessarily agree perfectly on the decision. Rather, once full discussion has taken place on an issue, if a CGLC member is not comfortable voting "thumbs-up" on the proposed course of action, our definition of consensus includes a "thumbs-to-the-side" option, which means

that the member feels heard and understood and can live with the proposed decision even though it may not be his/her first choice in the matter. Voting thumbs-to-the-side also means that the member will support the decision as it is carried out.

- c. The CGLC will also conduct periodic Check-In Voting to see how members feel about whatever issue is being discussed. Those who have a disagreement are invited to recommend alternatives for the CGLC to consider at that time.
7. Doing the inner work (setting the field, attunements, gratitude circles, etc.) is an official part of every meeting because it is the cornerstone of working from collective consciousness and is a valuable tool for putting shared leadership into practice.
8. The CGLC will check with IONS Hubquarters before making changes to this structure, and will keep IONS Hubquarters up to date with names and contact information of CGLC members and committees.
9. The CGLC functions essentially autonomously from IONS Hubquarters. Both IONS Hubquarters and the CGLC commit to work together to resolve any challenges or differences of opinion that may arise from CGLC or IONS Hubquarters activities or decisions. IONS Hubquarters holds the final responsibility for decision making regarding any activities that utilize the Institute of Noetic Sciences or IONS name.

IONS Hubquarters Commitments to the Community Group Leadership Council

IONS Hubquarters formally recognizes the Community Group Leadership Council (CGLC) as a volunteer council that provides leadership to the Institute of Noetic Sciences (IONS) Community Group Network. With gratitude for their advocacy of IONS mission and their efforts to advance a strong and growing IONS Community Group Network around the world, IONS Hubquarters agrees to:

1. Acknowledge and champion the CGLC to its constituency, staff, and board of directors in print, on the web, and in IONS overall structure.
2. Inform IONS existing and new Community Groups about the existence, role, and accomplishments of the CGLC.
3. Create a section of the IONS website dedicated to Community Groups, and include a section describing the Community Group Leadership Council
4. Partner with the CGLC to plan and facilitate the Community Group aspects of the bi-annual IONS conference, as well as the opportunity to provide meaningful input as a group in a coordinated way in the development of the overall conference.
5. IONS will help announce and promote CGLC events and CG conferences.
6. Note the existence, growth, and accomplishments of the Community Group Network in the annual report and board reports.
7. IONS refers all newly emerging groups to the CGLC New Groups Coordinator and keeps an up-to-date list of all current community groups and contact information for leaders on the Community Group website.

Note: IONS Hubquarters holds the final responsibility for decision-making regarding any activities that utilize the Institute of Noetic Sciences or IONS name. Also note that all of the above is funding-dependent. If a significant change is made in funds available or overall strategy, IONS Hubquarters will work with the CGLC to determine any necessary changes to the above agreements, with an eye toward preserving the continuance and thriving of the Community Groups Network as a whole.

Community Group Leadership Council Commitments to IONS Hubquarters

1. Encourage and facilitate all agreements between individual Community Groups and IONS Hub as outlined in the Agreement between IONS Hubquarters and all Community Groups.
2. Agree to provide assistance to individual CG leaders with their needs in support of the Hub.
3. Identify a New Groups Coordinator who will respond to people who would like to start a new community group in their region.
4. Identify a facilitator to assist in monthly Community Group Conference Calls.
5. Support the IONS Hub Community Group Liaison and CIO/Web Team in their efforts to support the Community Groups and CGLC, by providing requests with as much advance notice as possible.

Contact the Community Group Leadership Council at CGLC@noetic.org