

Norms

IN THIS COMMUNITY WE MAKE A COMMITMENT TO TREAT ONE ANOTHER WITH CARE AND RESPECT.

We work intentionally, attempting to be:

a community of learning,

- Taking responsibility for our own learning
- Making a commitment to the learning of other members of the circle.
- Participating with care in the learning journeys of other members of the community.
- Sharing our questions, concerns, insights and opinions as openly and honestly as possible, acknowledging that respectful challenge can lead to learning and growth.
- Receiving from others in a spirit of openness and gratitude, acknowledging that this is not always easy.
- Coming to sessions with the readings for those sessions having been done.
- Being responsible for the work of all sessions and being accountable to staff for all work or sessions missed.

a safe community,

- Ensuring that any gatherings of the community and any events that are open to all members of the community are alcohol free.¹
- Limiting the use of scented products (personal care products, candles, etc.) recognizing that they can be harmful to others and be willing to identify specifically which products are irritants.
- Providing a nut free environment.

a compassionate community,

- Acknowledging and respecting the diversity of experience, styles, and needs in the group.
- Regarding all personal information shared as confidential and to be held in trust within this group.
- Taking responsibility for meeting our personal needs, taking into consideration our accountability to the community and the importance of supporting one another
- Taking shared responsibility for expressing special needs and for responding sensitively and appropriately.
- Agree to challenge and be open to challenge concerning homophobia and heterosexism.

a considerate and consultative community,

- Being conscious and careful of the language we use, recognizing the potential impact it may have.
- Starting and ending all sessions on time.
- Including regular times of evaluation.
- Providing intentional “check-out” times.

1. As per the report of the Use of Alcohol Task Group, approved by the Central Council in December 2003, Woodsworth House is to be alcohol free at all times, with the exception of agreed upon options of wine or grape juice for Eucharist/Communion. The CCS management has discretion to negotiate with renters for specific occasions. A more detailed policy statement will be in the Student Handbook.