

February 2011 "Building Connections, Partnerships and Alliances"

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Choose To...

Highlights

Connections -A chain of connected and related links, where there is a sense of common beliefs, purpose and a realization of how two or more of these links can strengthen, influence and increase relationships with each other and a building of personal and

Quotable Quotes

"The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes, but in having new eyes." ~ Marcel Proust

"Peace, commerce, and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none." ~ Thomas Jefferson

"How did I get here? Somebody pushed me. Somebody must have set me off in this direction...for I would not have picked this way for the world." ~ Joseph Heller, American novelist

Dear Jean,

The Top 10 and a Few Other Resources

TEN STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING COLLABORATION

~ from Radical Collaboration by James Tamm & Ronald J. Luyet $\, \odot \, 2004 \, p. \, 170 \,$

- 1. Go first.
- 2. Be open and direct about your intent to collaborate.
- 3. Pay attention to responses.
- 4. Keep talking.
- 5. Forgive quickly (respond positively when others cooperate).
- 6. Agree ahead of time on systems for conflict resolution.
- 7. Conduct regular reviews and actively monitor relationships.
- 8. Use graduated sanctions.
- 9. Make a commitment to a higher ethical standard.
- 10. Use interest-based problem solving to negotiate disputes.



professional communities.

Partnerships defined as a party of two, the smallest of teams. For most, partnerships initiate a more formal arrangement for work and business. A collaborative effort where it is imperative that the partners know their strengths, clarify what these mean and their expectations for the partnership.

<u> Alliances</u> coalitions, groupings, associations or unions with an intention to work with an agreement or pact. There is a purpose to solidify connections among a group of people and organizations, to reach a common goal, share joint resources, strengthen and foster professional

PARTNERSHIPS - THE SMALLEST OF TEAMS

~ The Choice Connection, April 2008

"Are you currently working in partnership? And is the partnership achieving what you had intentions for? If yes...consider what more the partnership can honor for the two of you! If you are struggling or believe your partner is struggling and not sure if the partnership is in your best interest...STOP, take a deep breath and ask yourself:

- Are we providing honest communication to each other?
- Am I committed to this partnership's objectives do I think my partner is?
- Are we clear on the purpose of the partnership do I understand that purpose?
- Am I fully engaged in our strategy and tasks?
- Do I trust my partner? Do I believe they trust me?
- Are we clear about our processes and structure?

CONNECTIONS from JEAN'S BOOKSHELF

Making Questions Work by Dorothy Strachan. A Guide to What and How to Ask for Facilitators, Consultants, Managers, Coaches and Educators. A great resource!

People Smart - Developing Your Interpersonal Intelligence by Mel Silberman. For those who ask themselves these questions - Are you less successful at time than you ought to be, given your intelligence and work ethic? Do you reach out to others on the job or at home but your efforts are sometimes rejected? Is your energy drained by conflicts with certain individuals? Do you wish your relationships with people close to you were more harmonious and fulfilling?

Radical Collaboration - Five Essential Skills to Overcome Defensiveness and Build Successful Relationships by James W. Tamm and Ronald J. Luyet. Check out the 5 Skills - Collaborative Intention, Truthfulness, Self-Accountability, Self-Awareness and Awareness of Others and Problem-Solving and Negotiating.

Face-to-Face Communications for Clarity and Impact ~ Harvard Business School Press.

The INTERNET CONNECTIONS...

Plugging in: networking skills that promise success - Making Connections (article)

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1365/is_7_34/ai_112647847/

Beyond the business card: how to turn business cards into meaningful partnerships, alliances, or mentorships - Making Connections (article) http://findarticles.com/p/articles/mi_m1365/is_8_34/ai_113601011/

How to Build Global Alliances ~

http://www.microsoft.com/canada/midsizebusiness/businessvalue/globalalliances.mspx

The Global Alliance for Ministries and Departments of Peace ~ http://www.mfp-dop.org/

connections, teach skills, etc. - be more than an individual can be alone.

The Goromonzi Project ~ http://www.goromonziproject.org/index.htm

Wishing you joy in your connections and partnerships that support your life's design,

Jean

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CHOOSE to...

... Connect...strengthen first your connecting links...identify the strongest link...connect your strongest to another chain or links present in your life...live your responsibilities...throw paint on your canvas...add a link...be present...smile...reach out and touch another heart or hand...connect.

...Partner...become a team of two...share your strengths, your dreams, your hopes...build on your expectations...be more than you can be as one.

Administrivia

My Constructive Choices Audience...

- * Professionals wanting to be at choice in their career and daily work,
- * New Managers (and aspiring leaders) transitioning to establish a leadership role in their communities,
- * Individuals wanting to sort through the choices, build a more fulfilling life, lift their voices, and...
- * Coaches who choose to step out, show up, and say YES, it IS all about YOU!

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