



THE ART OF HOSTING

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER

Join us for 2.5 days of fresh air.

We are living in vulnerable and potent times. Contradictions collide on a daily basis at every level of our lives and work. What was inconceivable months ago, now feels increasingly possible or alarmingly present.

There are no simple answers.

There are no heroes coming to save the day.

The Outside team invites you to join us at an Island of Sanity in "the river flowing now, very fast." We will bring everything we have learned over the last 25 years of international change work, while exploring with a fresh outlook what it means to meet this moment, and invite you to do the same. We welcome your experience, your questions, your wonderings, your fears, and your longings. Together we'll build our skills for leadership and participation to get unstuck.

This Art of Hosting will explore:

- How can participatory leadership practices be most meaningful and impactful at this time?
- How has leadership rooted in engagement been disrupted? What are the dangers and limitations? What is the emerging potential?
- What is the best strategy at the right time? When to stay under cover and protect? When to accelerate and illuminate?
- How can we develop new approaches that fit the current reality? What changes does that demand of me as a practitioner?

There is a need to build compelling shared work and coherent relationships across our communities, organizations, and institutions to generate steady and unwavering forward movement.

Registration Overview

Day 1: Wednesday, October 22, 2025

Day 2: Thursday, October 23, 2025

Day 3: Friday, October 24, 2025

Location: Oak Island Resort & Conference Centre, Nova Scotia, Canada

Cost: \$1,750 USD

Registration: [CLICK HERE](#)

*space is limited to 60 participants

Cost includes registration, meals and non-alcoholic drinks (breakfast, snacks, lunch, dinner).

Accommodation and transportation costs are the responsibilities of each participant. A group rate for rooms is available to participants.



Meet Your Facilitators



Tuesday (Ryan-Hart) Rivera, Systems Change Strategist + Co-Founder

Tuesday leads large-scale systems change with a deep understanding and practice of how equity, when put at the centre of new movements, frees the path to better ideas that work. She helps diverse organizations and communities with shared interests reframe commonly-held assumptions and persistent issues.



Tim Merry, Systems Change Strategist + Co-Founder

As an engagement specialist and systems change facilitator, Tim helps businesses, government agencies, local communities, and regional collaboratives create the conditions for people to organize together and solve their own problems.



Dr. Gabrielle Donnelly, Lead Strategist

Gabrielle is a scholar-practitioner of social creativity and social change. A Lead Strategist with The Outside, Gabrielle's research and practice focuses on theories and methods for meaningful dialogue, participatory leadership, equity, and systems change; including the Art of Hosting, Deep Democracy, and Developmental Evaluation.



Gian Paul Ganzoni, Organizational Development Strategist

Gian Paul is an Organizational Development Strategist with The Outside. His passion to "enable organizations and individuals to succeed" is the driving force behind his initiatives with The Outside and its clients. Gian Paul brings extensive Human Resources management experience, including most recently serving as the Head of Organizational Change at the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

Who is this training for?

- Established and emerging hosts, facilitators, and leaders interested in learning or deepening their understanding of methods, models and worldviews from the Art of Hosting Conversations that Matter.
- Strategic thinkers and practitioners who are engaging at all levels - personal, relational, organization, systemic, and structural.
- Committed to a strategic lens that emphasizes working with power in participatory spaces.



Art of Hosting Overview

What is the Art of Hosting and Participatory Leadership?

No matter what sector we work in, what community we live in, or what family we were born into, we are all faced with situations that demand people work together across their differences. Increasingly, there are external forces and pressures devaluing and erasing the importance of creating spaces of deep belonging.

For over 25 years, the Art of Hosting (also known as the Participatory Leadership) has offered simple yet powerful participatory practices to host generative conversations leading to collective action and long-lasting change. The Art of Hosting is more than just a training program. These participatory leadership approaches are used in wide-ranging contexts worldwide, scaling from the personal to the systemic using personal practice, dialogue, facilitation and the co-creation of ways forward to address complex challenges.

You will have the opportunity to learn about:

- Shared Work
- Chaordic Path and Chaordic Stepping Stones
- The Diamond of Participation – Divergence- Emergence-Convergence
- Compelling invitation and design
- World Café
- Open Space Technology
- Circle Practice
- Knowledge Café
- Biomimicry for organizational development (a taster)
- Action Learning and prototyping (a taster)

Throughout these explorations, we will weave in themes and attention to:

- Listening for the future
- Working with power (yours and others)
- Engaging and transforming limiting beliefs
- Crafting powerful questions
- Articulating principles of action



THE OUTSIDE