

## Learning Circles

A learning circle is a highly interactive, participatory structure. The goal is to build, share, and express knowledge through a process of open dialogue and deep reflection on the learning they experience throughout ASI. The structure balances individual ownership with collective responsibility to provide a setting which helps everyone achieve their learning objectives.

Learning circles were introduced at ASI 2016 for the first time in response to feedback from previous Institutes where people said they wanted a space to have a voice and to begin processing next steps. A key purpose is for participants at ASI to have a place where they meet with the same people each day to reflect and share. They are able to take what they heard and process it so they deepen their understanding, through integration with their existing experiences and sharing their unique perspectives.

Each group will be led by a Circle Keeper who keeps the space safe for learners and facilitates the learning of others.

### Coordinator

**Cathy Leslie** lives in Halifax, Nova Scotia and is employed by the Nova Scotia Health Authority. Both her professional and volunteer background is in community and partnership development, capacity building, and volunteer management. She is committed to collaborative practices, community consultation, equity-informed decision making. She follows local, regional, national news and current affairs. She relaxes by reading, playing Scrabble, and doing crosswords. Cathy is a member of the ASI Board of Directors.

