

# Summer Of Peace 2012

## Jon Ramer

Philip:

All right, hello everyone and welcome back to the Summer of Peace 2012. This is Philip Hellmich, the Director of Peace with The Shift Network.

I have a couple of quick announcements just as reminders. First of all, we have a call today at 5:00 pm Pacific Time and that's with James O'Dea. James O'Dea is the lead faculty for peace programs here with The Shift Network. He's also the former director of the Amnesty International Washington, D.C., former president of Institute of Noetic Science. And James is hosting a call where you can share what you're doing to cultivate peace in yourself, your family, your schools, your communities and the world. So we look forward to hearing your stories at 5:00.

And then also tomorrow we have a special call, they're all special, but this one is live from Kathmandu, Nepal and we will have Serena and Rajendra who are with the Search for Common Ground program and they have been doing a societal-wide, countrywide communication, peacebuilding initiative that is just pioneering the edge, just completely pioneering the use of media and on the ground peacebuilding. So you want to make sure you set your clock for that. That's 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time tomorrow.

And those who missed yesterday, we had just an incredibly wise call, just profound call with Gregory Kramer, the founder of Metta program, which is taking ancient Buddhist principles and creating an insight dialogue where it's possible to practice being completely present with oneself and another person while in dialogue, and in the process opening the hearts and the mind's innate ability toward kindness, compassion and essence of connection. So I encourage you to listen to that call if you missed it.

Now, today with this session we continue the journey of looking at communicating peace and we're thrilled to have Jon Ramer with us and he's going to be talking about Deep Social Networks in sharing the peaceful future for our children. Jon is an American entrepreneur, civic leader, inventor and musician. Sounds like a Renaissance man here. He is cofounder of several technology companies including Ramer and Associates, ELF Technologies and Smart Channels, as well as the designer and cofounder of several Deep Social Networks. Jon is the former ED of the Interra Project. He is currently cofounder and chief technology officer at Ideal Network, a "best in the world" B Corporation that functions as a group-buying social enterprise which donates a percentage of every purchase to nonprofits or schools.

Jon also, and this is how we know Jon is through our colleague Emily Hine, Jon is also the designer and cofounder of the Compassionate Action Network, an organization based in Seattle that led the effort to make the city the first in the world to affirm Karen Armstrong's Charter for Compassion. There are now 85 cities around the world that have started similar campaigns and Ramer is also -- he and Emily Hine and many were key instrumental in that initiative. So he's also a songwriter and lead guitarist.

So Jon this is quite a wealth of a background that you have. Thank you for being with us today.

Jon: It's my pleasure Philip. Thanks for doing this.

Philip: Yeah. Jon, it's been so much fun on this journey of Summer of Peace of looking at all the many, many different ways that peacebuilding is emerging around the world, and compassion certainly has been a key part of it.

Jon, I just want to say I've enjoyed reading your article on "Deep Social Networks and the Digital Fourth Way." It sounds like you gave it quite a bit of thought. Could you tell us just in your own words what is a Deep Social Network and why does it offer a way of creating just and lasting change?

Jon: Yeah. Well, the paper grew out of a relationship that I formed with Hereditary Chief Phil Lane Jr. and we wrote the paper in 2009. At that time, social networks weren't what they are today, but we also saw that they were not just useful for friendships and building the kind of frivolous connections that you can establish on Facebook and Twitter, which are good, but we saw that the challenges we're facing meant that we could use the connectivity that the social networks offer to go deeper, to build deeper kinds of relationships that can produce even more meaningful results given the challenges that we're facing.

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So Chief Phil Lane had spent 40 years of consultation with indigenous leaders to articulate the 16 principles that are expressed in the Fourth Way, and what I was doing was suggesting that the emergence of social networks could be well served by bringing those principle-centered approach so the wisdom that is indigenous wisdom is articulated.

There's a summary statement there, Philip, that I love. It says "Starting from within, working in a circle, in a sacred manner, we develop and heal ourselves, our relationships and the world." And I felt as if as I've learned

from the past with technology but technology is agnostic. It isn't good or bad. It's really how we use it. So the thought was that by taking this indigenous wisdom and bringing a principle-centered approach to social networks we can use the connectivity that we now have to really bring about the kind of changes that are needed.

A perfect example is what you guys are doing with The Shift Network is that we're connected all over the planet now. It's always on now with the infrastructure can we take the values that we have to bring about the changes that are needed.

Philip: Nice. Jon, I just want to acknowledge this it's quite interesting that in your paper you talk about those predictions of bridging indigenous ways more with -- you're bringing indigenous with them more into the forefront at this time. Could you talk a little bit about that prophesy?

Jon: Well, yeah. This year of course, 2012, against the background of the entire year of the whole notions that the ego and the candor would once again be reunited and there are prophecies that are ancient that are emerging here.

Actually, I grew up as part of the Brooklyn Jewish tribe and yet in New York City I would stare at the map and I wondered what was happening out in the Pacific Northwest. We live in a remarkable place here where in fact the city of Seattle is named after an indigenous leader here.

So I came out here with some heavy heart realizing that there had been a tremendous history of despair and tragic episodes in terms of how we treated Native Americans and became interested in what would it take to do some healing there, and that's been a big part of the works here in the -- we called this bioregion examination if you will. And I came to understand that there's a different thinking system.

When I was a kid they'd say there's a hundred words for what we call snow; that the Eskimos have a hundred words for that. I often wonder, we'll what do they actually see that we don't see? And I realized without -- it took a lot of effort to appreciate that there are different thinking systems and that what we don't just see with our eyes but we see with the distinctions we have, and the indigenous thinking system, which is a holistic thinking system, is very different than the dualistic thinking system that we've been brought up in, that has everything as win-lose.

So the natural order of things are very different. It's not based on the same idea that we're trapped in and we need to go beyond win-lose because win-lose is lose-lose. So there's this holistic thinking system that is rooted in things like the sun coming up. It doesn't require an ideology

or philosophy or any belief in order to recognize the power of the natural order. And it doesn't belong to the Native Americans either; they're so wise to recognize that. It belongs to all of us which is our natural inheritance.

Now, we've got a mess to clean up there and there are some real wounds there that it hurts to be healed. Yes, it says the hurt of one is the hurt of all. So knowing is learning and this is a big part of the work that I think we all have to do is to own some of the mess we've made and find a way to come together at this amazing moment in time.

Philip: Right. And we'll be exploring that more, that particular aspect of healing the cultural wounds later in the Summer of Peace.

I just want to acknowledge in your paper that you talked about how the ancient prophecies talked about that there would be -- for indigenous people to be in long winter, death, deprivation, violence and despair, but then at the same time indigenous elders and spiritual leaders advocated holding on to the ancient spiritual vision of oneness as human family and teaching the way out of the spirit of oppression and suffering.

**[0:10:15]**

Jon: Yes.

Philip: And that is just truly profound to have the elders and the spiritual leaders talking about holding on to this essence that you're describing and that this now, that essence you're describing, is what is needed more in the world today.

Before we go into the technical part of Deep Social Network can you talk a little bit more about the key values of this indigenous wisdom that you've been bringing into Deep Social Networks, and again not talking about the technical part of it but just more of the values, the 16 points.

Jon: Yeah. Well the Fourth Way is -- The first way is assimilation. I come in, take over, and then make you like me. Well, we've done that. The second way is conflict. We say, "No, I'm not going to let you do that," and we fight. The third way is resignation and hopelessness and despair, which is the state of many reservations and many of the lives of indigenous people.

Well, the fourth way is cooperation. And that's why I was so humbled and grateful when I met Chief Phil Lane and came to understand that just like you say so, there are wise elders who recognized that there would be a

time when all of us would need to return to this kind of timeless nature and timeless wisdom.

So the 16 principles as I said before summarize this starting from within, working in a circle, in a sacred manner, we develop and heal ourselves, our relationships, and the world are articulated as really a principle center approach to development. So it starts from within, that all development happens and that we can transform the world; that that's one of the early principles that were articulated here, and that without a vision there can be no development, and that healing is a necessary part of that at all.

So it starts from within. In fact, we talk about a four-way partnership here where it's the bottom-up, it's the top down, it's the outside-in, but it's the inside-out. And that working in a circle speaks of the interconnectedness, and without any unity there is no development, and without any participation there is no development. That's why I think what you're doing here is so important because we're heightening people's awareness of what's going on and encouraging people to get involved.

And justice, I mean that's another key aspect of what we're talking about here. Like I said earlier, the hurt of one is the hurt of all, and the honor of one is the honor of all. So spirit, morals and ethics, and then authentic development is culturally based. These are all some of the principles that are articulated here, the 16 guiding principles that came after 40 years of consultation amongst indigenous leaders.

We're learning beings, and learning is healing and healing is learning. This is another key aspect. I once heard the wisdom of the Cosmic Lady, Philip. She said that planet earth is the place that the souls of the slow learners are sent. And it's given many comforts over the years when I look at the situation we're in and wonder why aren't we responding that the urgency that's being called for. I think we need patience and we need to realize that we're learning beings and it will take time.

And we need to move to the positive. I mean that's another key principle here. And of course being the change that we want to see that by walking the path we make the path visible. That's kind of the summary of the 16 principles. And of course I'm a student of this every day. Aren't we all?

Philip:

Great. What's interesting, Jon, is keeping yourself and working with Chief Phil Lane to then have this wisdom inform how you're engaging the new social media technology. So let's start into that area there. Could you describe a little bit about how you're creating these Deep Social Networks?

Jon: Well, the idea is applying those principles. So there's the four directions and that's a very useful framework to operate within.

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So looking to the east there is where the vision gets born, and that's how we started with this notion of co-creative situational leadership that we need different ways of thinking about sharing power and privilege and different ways of tapping into the collective resources that we have. So by looking to the east we begin the process by identifying the purpose and principles. So all of these networks are principle-based in terms of bringing this value set but it's got to be clear as what identifies and binds us together in the network. And that's a purpose and with those purposes we articulate these principles and the principles are what govern our behavior in pursuit of that purpose.

So this first approach in looking at it from the four directions begins with articulating the purpose, principles, a vision and a mission. These are some of the key elements of how you begin to articulate these networks.

And like I've said, Facebook and Twitter, these are great communities unto themselves but we're talking about carving out the space where we can go deeper, where we can be focusing on producing results. For instance, there's a network called Young Partners in Development that Phil and I have been a part of which is about empowered youth, empowering society, and that's one example of what we mean by Deep Social Network. The work we did with Karen Armstrong's Charter for Compassion and starting the Compassionate Action Network, that's another example where we're interested in creating cultures of compassion and people bringing a different approach to how we live in cities and communities.

So it starts with the clear articulation of the purpose and principles, and the approach that we're taking is a co-creative situational leadership approach which means that authority and power just isn't invested in one or a few, but we start to think differently about how we share our gifts and use the contributions that each of us can make to articulate such a vision.

And then move to the south, and in the southern direction is where the learning and the planning and the knowing and the doing, all the mobility starts to happen. And like I said earlier, these learning circles are so key. I mean it's so important for each of us to be able to be beginners and learn from each other and learn from our mistakes and our failures too. I mean it's amazing how we, for whatever reason, hide those failures as opposed

to realizing that there are important lessons there for us to learn from each other.

So we articulated this whole approach around the four directions. So the south speaks of the learning, the planning, the knowing and the doing, and then the west speaks through relationships and the sharing and taking care of each other and knowing our gifts. I mean that's one of the things everybody knows about community is that you build abundant communities by knowing and sharing your gifts. But unfortunately, there isn't a lot of spaces in which we get to really share that and learn from each other and get familiar with each other that way. So that's a deep part of Deep Social Network is giving people a chance to learn from each other and know each other and reflect back to each other.

There's a distinction I've learned from indigenous wisdom they call emptying. It's not venting. It's emptying where people can just have a safe and supportive environment to let out what's there and discover each other in the process.

And then to the north is really the reflection, the reverence, the authenticity, the mystery of it all. And the paper has articulated a variety of steps and practices that are necessary to have guidelines to building these kinds of social networks.

Philip: Very nice, Jon. Tell us a little bit more then about how you've been recently applying this with the young leaders, you and Chief Phil Lane, how you take these concepts and now you're actually applying them. Tell us a little bit about the development of these recent Deep Social Networks.

Jon: It's hard to believe but most people don't know this. It's a fact that more than half of the planet is under 25 years of age. There is what's called a huge youth bulge. And it was very much present recently in Rio at the Earth Summit, the Rio+20.

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And we're fortunate that we have a secretary general Ban Ki-moon who totally gets this. I mean he's got initiatives focusing on Youth 21. His recommendation is that we use the youth uprising to reach to a global transformation.

So we just hosted a webinar seminar at the University of Victoria, Chief Phil Lane, it was Dr. Phillip Cook and Gordon Smith. They are founders of the Center for Global Studies and the International Institute for Child Rights Development.

So we brought young leaders together physically in Victoria but also connected them online. So in Victoria we had Don Popo, the hip hop artists from Araya La Familia; and we had the Arab Spring leaders and we had Alison Ramer, my daughter actually who lives in east Jerusalem teaching nonviolence to the Palestinians and that's a part of Grassroots Jerusalem.

So we had representatives from all over the planet coming together to engage in this conversation about how do we take the connectivity and the infrastructure and the use of social media to bring a more mindful and intelligent approach to using these technologies and realizing that -- they were saying there that in many ways what's happened in Russia a few years ago was like the Twitter revolution and then what happens with Facebook in the Arab Spring. Well, now in Syria the role of YouTube is increasingly important as people were able to take videos and using video to identify where snipers are. I mean it uses social media which is the whole theme of that event. It was on youth, governance, peacebuilding and the role of social media.

So we had academic institutions, the UN as well as youth-led organizations, for instance Generation Waking Up. You guys had Josh Gorman on. We had Barbara Jefferson as part of this. We're all thinking about how we use the new capabilities to realize more effectively the results which I have to accomplish. I mean in the end, strategy is about turning what you have into what you need, and in order to do that you need to build the trust and the relationships to share both what you have and what you need in a way that is co-creative and in a way to actually starts to realize the results that we need to have happen.

So Young Partners in Development is a Deep Social Network. Of course now like everybody you've got to have many versions. So we have a presence of the social network at [youngpartnersindevelopmentmet.org](http://youngpartnersindevelopmentmet.org). There's a Google+ page, a Facebook Page, Twitter account and these different access points are ways that people can touch base with us. But we're inviting youth-led organization to co-create a youth empowerment network in which we need -- we as this next generation that's emerging, we, those who have been around and have benefited from all these resources, need to really share those resources. There's a whole notion of intergenerational equity and it's up to the boomer generation and those of us who followed to now start to make it possible that the resources and the power and the voices and opportunities are being shared with this upcoming generation, like I said, which is more than half the planet. It's just our responsibility to do it.



So we're looking for ways. We'll have a regular YPID Google hangouts where we will identify and support work of youth-led organizations happening around the world and inviting others to connect up with them, to share resources with them, to again create a more just and sustainable world.

Philip: Yeah. And Jon, it's interesting; I've noticed how there's similar ideas that pop up in multiple places around the world, like there's Picnic Global which is like based in Canada that's a large network of youth activating around the world. How do you see these multiple different efforts to create online networks? How do you uphold that within the context of what's emerging in Deep Social Networks? Because we can't be members of all of the different networks, I don't think, but just reflect on that a little bit for me.

Jon: Yeah. There's a term called pluralism and pluralistic networks, and I'm convinced that this is what's at least for me personally in my own development. It isn't like -- again, back to the win-lose. We got to get out of the idea that there's one right answer or one right way to do everything. And pluralism and pluralistic networks allow you to recognize that there are in fact many expressions and many examples.

In fact, in spiritual traditions you learn that; that there's all like metaphorically this mountain, and we're all climbing the mountain. We may be on very different paths but it's all headed to the same place.

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So I celebrate all these efforts and recognize that we need it in as many shapes and forms as possible. There isn't about getting one right answer. I think that's part of why things get stuck where we are.

Now, it's a miracle when you discover that like it's like new world. It's like The Shift is one of those examples. When people come across this, it's so hopeful to realize that there is a network emerging like this and supporting this. But it doesn't have to be that this rise in the support of The Shift Network means that others are going wane. I think we need them all to succeed and to really bring about the things that we need.

So I tried myself to stay out of that either or, one or the other thinking, which is so prevalent, to try to suggest that we know we can sell -- the phrase I like, Philip, is connect through our similarity and innovate through our diversity.

Philip: That's nice. That's similar to Search for Common Ground where I worked for 14 years. I had a quote from a South African friend. It's like "Understand your differences; act on your commonalities."

Jon: Beautiful, yeah.

Philip: Yeah. It's interesting, also Jon, talk a little bit about the experience of this younger generation in social media. Because yesterday or a couple of days we had Shamil Idriss on, and he was talking about the difference of people who are not 25 and below and the different reality in terms of relying on social media. Just provide a little insight here into any generational aspect you see there and how if the 25 and younger group is actually more inclined to a Deep Social Networking experience than older folks.

Jon: Yup. Well, there are those that were born digital, right? And it isn't about it being introduced. I mean I remember, if you asked some young people dial tone, people will go, "What's dial tone?" There aren't dial tones on mobile phones, right? And those of us who remember dial tones will probably remember phones that had cords attached to them. That's kind of the wonder of it all; that there's pioneer species and that's who we are.

It's not unlike with the emergence of the printing press. From what I understand, there was like 30,000 books at that time. Of course they were all handwritten. And yet, it was a miracle and it changed the world and it took a while though for people to sort it out and for Martin Luther to come along and say, "Hey, here we have this tool and how it can be used." In fact, I heard that the whole invention of the Renaissance with Impressionist Movement happened as a result of oil-based paint; that up until that time, if you were an artist you're painting in your studio because you haven't mixed the paint. So you were doing portrait.

All development is driven by changes and the limits of the possible and the structures of everyday life. And what's happening for this generation and for all of us right now is the limited, the possible had profoundly shifted. We are all human, we are connected, and this generation that's emerged now starts from that place where you better learn how to understand time zones and understand the differences in language and learn how to move beyond those barriers because all of a sudden they've been shifted and listed. And that's the situation where we find ourselves in and for this next generation.

Now, there's challenges there too and opportunities there. I mean one of the great thinkers in this regard is Howard Rheingold. I'm a big fan of Howard and his recent book Net Smart is something everybody should

look at because Howard's point is that it's not like social media is making us stupid. It's actually how do we really use these new capabilities mindfully and intelligently. And he talks about digital citizenship and what it is to be a digital citizen and that how you use social media matters not just to you but it matters to me and it matters to all of us.

And I see us in this race to build capacities so we can better serve each other in the process. And I'm hopeful by what this next generation is capable of, and it's clear that we need to learn from each other and for those who were born into this world where it's always on and just assume that we're connected.

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I mean that's one of the whole areas of mindfulness. I really see this attention issue where now everybody has got their phone in their hand all the time, and probably anyone listening to this call is multitasking.

Of course, multitasking is really task switching, and I think the conversation about attention is going to be an important one. In fact, Howard identified it as one of the five literacies, he said, that we need to understand. And I think that maybe the fact that people are clearly on their phones all the time, it isn't like they were paying attention before. It's just now more visible. They were just building their thoughts while you're talking. Now, you can clearly see their head is in their phone while you're talking. And I think this is on the whole new conversation about mindfulness and about attention and for us as a society to learn how to be aware of our attention and start to bring our attention there.

Philip:

Right. It's interesting you mentioned that, Jon, because yesterday in the conversation with Gregory Kramer, he was just talking about bringing mindfulness into dialogue, and it's interesting to think this rise of technology.

And then there's been an exponential rise in the number of people practicing meditation yoga. In fact, in the United States there are more lawyers practicing yoga than golf. So it's interesting to see the potential blending because several of the people that we've interviewed in the Summer of Peace have talked about the need for individuals to feel connected with one another, and then once there's a sense of connection, in my doing studies on neuroscience, that it expands the person's potential for compassion and empathy.

So it's going to be interesting to see this mindfulness that you're talking about and have that come to play in with the social media and leveraging these innate qualities of compassion. I would like you to reflect on that.

And then also, can you describe what's the end user experience in a Deep Social Network? What's the difference of end user -- end user may not be the right word but someone who's working with the Deep Social Network, what's their experience that's different from what they would be doing on Facebook?

Jon:

Yeah. Well, each network has its own context, right? We talked about the four terms of purpose. But they are all principle-based. So the values that we talked about before is the 16 principles that are governing and guiding the behavior.

So there is a chance to go deep with people. That means there's nothing that you can't talk about; that it's not just asynchronous but it's combining synchronous and asynchronous. In other words, what's happening right here on this call right now, this is happening synchronously at the same time. Even though we're not in the same location, it's happening at the same time in many locations. The joy of our connectivity is allowing us to marry both synchronous communications.

So you're in a Deep Social Network when you're face to face, you can be in Deep Social Networks on hangouts and on Skype calls and group video conferencing. As well as then you have the asynchronous aspects afterwards when you're not connected at the same time where people can create content and share content and build upon collaborations that way.

So all of these networks have some outcome that you're trying to produce. I mean it's got to be clear what we're up to, whether it be empowered youth, empowering society, or we've got 85 cities that are pursuing, creating cultures of compassion within their cities by affirming the charter and bringing actions to bear there. They all have some outcome and some specific results that they're trying to produce, and we need to be able to talk with each other honestly about that.

My whole theory of change is that awareness plus commitment equals change, and getting people more aware and learning in the process and getting us clear about how we commit, how we track those commitments. I mean what social networks need in my judgment are ways to keep each other informed, better ways to coordinate and track commitments that we're making and more creative ways to make decisions and consensus. It looks like Wikipedia is a beautiful example and we need different ways of governance and different ways of thinking about how we come to resolution.

Alignment is not the same as agreement and we don't need to agree on everything. Unanimity is not a realistic outcome. But in a consensus-based model, you can gain the consent of others by respectfully recognizing everyone's objections. We need to get better at working together.

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So these social networks invite us. If you're going to participate in one of these networks we encourage you to be open and make yourself available for that kind of interactivity where we can clear each other to account and hold each other responsible. I mean there's an urgency. There's a real sense that if this isn't going to happen, I don't know what it's going to take. We need to do it together. Things will only be different if we learn how to live differently.

Philip: Nice. Can you mention a few different websites where people can go to see examples?

Jon: Well, one of the early projects we did was the Interra Project which focuses on how people use their purchasing power. Their physical agent for Interra was the Natural Capital Institute. So I had the good fortune to work with Peggy Duvette and Betsy Powers at that time and Paul Hawken to create WiserEarth. It's now called Wiser.

And we envisioned there as Paul beautifully articulated in his book "Blessed Unrest" that there is an emerging network of organizations all over the world that is the immune response to what's going on in the world. So Wiser is an organization that people should be aware of. There are groups that we saw in order to not just have a directory that names all of these organizations but to start to build the work that needs to happen and that was one of the first Deep Social Networks. So wiser.org and the groups within Wiser are good examples of what we're talking about.

Well, then we started to build some platforms around here in Seattle. We had the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu visit for an event called the "Seeds of Compassion." It was a five-day event free to the public. Over 150,000 people participated.

And we built the Compassionate Action Network and the URL for that now is compassion.is. But what happened was is that same year that we have the Seeds of Compassion Karen Armstrong won the TED Prize. And as we know, when you win the TED Prize you're given 100,000 and one wish to change the world, and Karen wished that we implement globally the golden rule. So we've said why not get behind that and we formed

the Compassionate Action Network and challenged our city leaders here to be the first city to affirm the charter and we did and now that led to now 85 cities around the world.

If you go to [compassionateseattle.org](http://compassionateseattle.org), you'll see another example of a Deep Social Network. And we're here in the city coping with a lot of challenges. And when you start to listen to what's going on you get a real sense that people are hurting. There's a sense of dislocation and social isolation that people are experiencing in communities. And a lot of that is from the social media, and the connectivity that's available can also separate us.

So there's an example there with Compassion Seattle and what we're doing with other cities around the world. There's the Young Partners in Development like I mentioned earlier, which is another example of a Deep Social Network.

And these networks, they get more active and less active and they come and flow and ebb and flow. That's the natural order of these things. They go through rhythms and cycles. Events create attractors to bring people together and that strengthens the will to get stuff done.

Because you need the will and the way. I mean having all the great technology is the way, but without the will you could do nothing. And activating the will and the communities, that's the challenges that we face. That's where music and art and inspiration, so we're starting the compassion games here in Seattle.

On September 21st, which is the International Day of Peace, we're inviting folks in our community to get engaged. Things like the TED Talks have been incredibly inspiring for people. And we've learned about brilliant examples like Nipun Mehta work from ServiceSpace and we're going to be sharing all that with our community here in Seattle inviting communities all over the world to engage. There's a period there, September 21<sup>st</sup> launching with the International Day of Peace to October 21<sup>st</sup> in which we're going to do the Compassion Games: Survival of the Kindest.

So creativity, ways to engage. If not us, I don't know who's going to do this, Philip. And if it's not now, I don't know when.

Philip: All right.

Jon: And I want to learn from others. I mean I'm hoping that this call reaches others who are inspired in doing similar things that we should know

about and we can learn how to weave our strategies together. That's really the key.

Philip: Right. Beautiful, Jon. Let me open the lines and invite people to ask some questions.

**[0:40:00]**

If you're on the line on the phone and you would like to ask questions, please hit \*2, and if you're online please go ahead and write in your question. And there's one question here I'm going to answer just right off the bat. Someone asks, "Is there a central location online listing the options of websites/webinars?"

I think this is in reference to the websites you mentioned. If you go to the summerofpeace.net site you can go to resources. Under the Communicating Peace section we've placed the paper by Jon and Chief Phil Lane on Deep Social Networks. So you can visit there and read the paper and in that paper Jon lists some of the websites, some of the examples.

Okay, let's see. We've got a caller here from Tampa, Florida. Please go ahead.

Participant: I'm Jill Chadnel. I've been a teacher and an advocate of holistic healthcare and affiliated with the CSA, Community Supported Agriculture here in our community. I would like to know if you can help us develop a network of sustainability and action here in our community like you do in Seattle and what suggestions you might make for that.

Jon: Yeah, that's perfect, Jill. By the way yes, because actually food is one of those subjects that if you touch on the food system you'll get all the issues of the community in terms of equity and access. We're involved here in Seattle. We're building a food policy landscape map and a project called "Food Web." If you Google Food Web you'll see what we're doing here with this. There's a group called "Just Gardens" that's going in and planting food veg in low income neighborhoods. The whole idea of food deserts where they're just isn't access. And there's so much creativity around the whole idea of food systems and local food systems.

So bravo to you and the work you're doing. Jill, if you send me an email I can point you to some more stuff on food. There's the notion of the "Food Comments," another project growing out of the Roots of Change. I have the good fortune to work in the California Food System on this project. So if you look up Food Comments, there's the whole idea of how

regional food systems can become more autonomous in terms of their financing of projects like this.

Here in Seattle, the Clean Greens Farm is a beautiful CSA. It's a pastor in our Central District who's got a farm just a couple of miles out of town and where youth at risk are working to grow food and bring in healthy organic food into our central district where there just isn't that kind of food. It's that classic example where there's mostly liquor stores and no ways for people to get access to food.

Participant: Please tell me your email address?

Jon: Yes, so you can reach me at [jon@idealnetwork.com](mailto:jon@idealnetwork.com). And as Philip mentioned earlier, Ideal is a B corp, a for-benefit corporation that gives money back to nonprofits and schools. So [jon@idealnetwork.com](mailto:jon@idealnetwork.com) and let's talk more about how food can be an important vector and topic for creating community.

Participant: Thank you for your support.

Jon: Absolutely, Jill. Bravo!

Philip: Wonderful. Jill, thank you for question and your comment.

All right, we've got one online here from Andrew in Los Angeles. Andrew writes, "The number four is a common theme both in your work and in our world. What do you think is the significance of this and do you use the signs of numerology in your work? Is the fourth way you speak up a reference to the work of Gurdjieff?"

Jon: Yeah. I'm familiar with some of that. And being Jewish and studied Kabbalah, of course the Gematria and numbers are a big part. But there was an indigenous leader who really made the point well in saying to me that the three is very different than the four. The three is a pitch fork, the whole Father, Son and Holy Ghost; and that the fourth way is a more balanced approach because it does recognize the four directions.

So I'm no expert on that subject but I moved personally from thinking in three to thinking in fours, and my life has been better ever since. I say that halfheartedly. But I do think you touched on an important subject and I actually oftentimes challenge myself to say there must be another leg to that stool. It's not always just a three-legged stool; that the fourth leg in fact does speak to more of the natural order of things.

**[0:45:10]**



And I'd be interested in learning more about it if you got something you want to share. Please send it on to me.

Philip: All right, Andrew. And again, Jon, your email for Andrew?

Jon: Yeah.

Philip: Could you tell your email again?

Jon: Yeah, I'm sorry. Its jon@idealnwork.com

Philip: Wonderful. Great. Thank you, Jon.

Okay, next question. Can you tell us more about the prophecies, indigenous peoples' prophecies about this time?

Jon: Yes. Okay. So this is where people should check out Phil Lane's site, FWII, Four Worlds International Institute, fwii.net. It will take you to the Four Worlds International Institute, and Phil has got beautiful articulation of these prophecies, and as a student of Phil I really feel that it's my job to not attempt to summarize this.

Phil is the real deal though. He is the pipe holder of Crazy Horse. He is the cane holder of Baba Muktananda. He's involved with this film "Shift of the Ages." He's a gift to our community and to the world.

And if you go there you'll be able to learn more about these prophecies that Phil is speaking to. In fact, they just released down in Rio, and I'm looking at it right here on my screen, Indigenous Contribution to Building Sustainable and Harmonious Prosperity in the Americas and Beyond. That goes into detail about the prophecies.

So fwii.net, Four Worlds International Institute, and that's where you can learn more about these prophecies and about the work that Phil and I have been doing.

Philip: Okay. It seems like they've finding that website. You said F as in Frank, WII?

Jon: Yes.

Philip: So there's two I's. Okay.

Jon: There's two I's, Four Worlds International Institute.

Philip: Yeah.

Jon: And it says, "Dedicated to unifying the human family to the fourth way."

Philip: Great, wonderful. All right, thank you for that, Jon.

Jon: Yeah.

Philip: All right. Next question is what most excites you about the future potential and social networks?

Jon: Well, I just think that it's -- there's this Chinese prophecy, Philip, that says "If we don't change our direction, we're likely to wind up where we're headed."

So I'm convinced these things get worse and they probably will; that it's going to draw us more and more together. And functional capabilities like what we're doing here with The Shift are going to be increasingly essential to make change happen.

And we need each other. The only thing communities can do in response to these challenges is get organized, and this is an infrastructure for organizing. And I think we've seen it around what happened at the Arab Spring leading to Occupy here in the North America. This is a global phenomenon.

So it's kind of a bittersweet situation, I think, as you see more and more of the challenges we face. Just look at the climate issue that's going on, how it's so obvious that it's going to drive more and more people to say, "I just can't stay on the sidelines anymore." I think it takes the will and the way, and I hope fully that these networks are going to mature and we're going to get better in how to make it easier for people to come and participate not just peer to peer but in small groups and in large-scale collaborations.

And every now and then we see what we're capable of as a whole, this whole idea of collective intelligence and collective wisdom. This is our inheritance. This is what's up for us to sort out. I feel like we're entering a new world and we don't really yet know what to do with these capabilities. That gives me hope and that gives me a sense that it's worth getting up in the morning and discovering things like everybody every day. I mean you get on the right email list, it's a miracle what comes in your inbox. And how do we build our capacity to understand and learn and respond and be there for each other. This is the challenge we face.

Philip: Okay, beautiful.

All right, let's see. If anyone is online and would like to ask question, please hit \*2. And if you're on the webcast, please go ahead and type in your question. Okay.

**[0:50:05]**

Jon, can you tell us a little bit more about the Compassion Action Games in Seattle that are coming up and how people can participate either remotely or directly there.

Jon:

Yes. So actually, what happened was we gave Kentucky, Louisville the Model Compassionate Cities Award; and the mayor there, Greg Fischer, is remarkable, and they turned around and challenged us because they did this thing called "Give A Day" which they had 90,000 days of community service in partnership with United Way there.

So in the spirit of responding to the challenge from Louisville, Seattle said well we're going to create the Compassion Games: Survival of the Kindest, and we're envisioning a large scale scavenger hunt but we're also working in partnership with United Way making it possible for people to put up projects in their community or in other people's communities where they want to collaborate together. So we see the idea of that large-scale game, projects, as well as a stream of ad hoc self-organizing random acts of kindness. I mentioned earlier the work of ServiceSpace and helpothers.org.

Increasingly on the internet you can go and find creative wonderful things that we could do for each other and this whole notion of using this period of time. In our case it happens to be that the Seattle World's Fair Celebration goes that last month as focusing on civic action. So we're going to go from September 21<sup>st</sup> to October 21<sup>st</sup> and perform these Compassion Games and ask people to tell stories about what happened during that period of time.

And of course given that it's the International Day of Peace on September 21<sup>st</sup> we invite people from all over the world who are interested to let's use that period of time to transcend ourselves and look for ways of creatively bringing our attention and intention to each other in these spirit of games. There are social impact games, there are games for change, and we're learning about those now and we want to learn more from anyone who's interested so that we can do that kind of things in our community that get people more connected with each other that breaks some of that social isolation.

So that's the vision for the Compassion Games: Survival of the Kindest starting here on September 21<sup>st</sup> going through October 21<sup>st</sup>.

Philip: Beautiful, Jon. Will any of that be streamed live?

Jon: Yup, of course, you can do it that way. We're in this new world where everything is on always, yes, especially that we're having the opening ceremonies here at CenturyLink Field. We're going to be, like I said, partnering with United Way. And then the closing ceremonies, we're looking at how we're going to do that at the end of October. So yes, thanks for asking, Philip. That's an important point.

Philip: Sure. And I would imagine PeaceDayTV would be interested in helping with some of that live streaming or have some of the content there.

Jon: That's absolutely right.

Philip: Okay. We have another caller here. I can't see the name. So if you called in and raise your hand, please say your name and I'll repeat it back to you?

Participant: Hi, Philip. It's Kennedy. Hi, Jon.

Philip: Kennedy.

Jon: Hey, Kennedy.

Participant: I just love what's happening. I used to live in Seattle, Jon, so I have a great deal of respect and love for that city and what you're doing. I just think this idea of the Compassion Games is fabulous. I'm wondering if you're going to be able to set up a template so we can duplicate that in our own cities all over the world.

Jon: I love that. Thank you for asking. Of course. In fact, we have the domain secured but we haven't put up the site yet. But we'll do it. We've already been envisioning that.

If you check out the Compassionate Action Network or Compassionate Seattle you can find more about the Compassionate City's campaigns, and it's through that resource that we want to share this with other cities. So yes, thank you for asking. And it's good to know that somebody is hoping that we'll do that. That way we'll make sure we get it done.

Participant: Yes, that would be fabulous.

Jon: I'm sure you have a lot of detail.

Participant: Yes, an interesting idea about that is to also bring it in to the Huna traditions the cellular communities within our bodies and have inner Compassion Games too.

Jon: Yes, I love that. There you go. It starts from within, like starting from within, working in the circle, in a sacred manner, we heal and develop ourselves, our relationships, and the world. That is the summary statement that has guided me for so many years now.

**[0:55:05]**

Participant: Beautiful, thank you. Thank you, Philip, too.

Philip: Yes, thank you, Kennedy. It's always great to have you. And Kennedy, I hope you will be with us at the 5:00 call with James O'Dea, you and everyone else in the line to share what you're doing for the Summer of Peace.

Participant: I'll be there.

Philip: Okay, wonderful Kennedy. Great.

And let's see. We have one more quick one. This is from Lynn Mystic Healer. Lynn, if you could keep it brief because we're ready to wrap up. Lynn, go ahead.

Participant: Blessings! Blessings! I just wanted to share a game, a compassionate game that came out of Findhorn and it's called "The Transformation Game" and it is incredible. I just couldn't say enough about it. I'm sure you can find out more about it online out of Findhorn, The Transformation Game. It's just a game of the future and it's got four different levels. You work with other people but you're working on your own purpose or your own problems or your own interest. It's incredible, very compassionate, and very spiritually transformational, and community and unity and world healing and peace and love. Love you, guys. Thank you.

Philip: Wonderful, Lynn.

Jon: That's amazing. So I did know about the Transformation Game. I'm already on their website at Findhorn. So if there has ever been evidence of how connected we are and the difference we can make by speaking up, thank you for sharing that with me. This is now going to influence things out in the work we're doing.

Philip: Wonderful, Lynn. Thank you so much. Great.

Participant: Thank you so much. Blessings. Thank you. Love. Lots of love to you, guys.

Philip: Yes. And Jon, I've got a confession to make. I've been so aware of mindfulness and dialogue at the same time the tendency of wanting to multitask. I put a couple of your resources up on the website during this call and while trying to stay mindful too.

Jon: Well, you're honest, Philip. Thank you for sharing that. It's a conflict of interest between serving everybody by sharing it and putting attention. I know we're learning. We are learning.

Philip: Yeah. And I think it's really powerful what Gregory Kramer is talking about just being fully present with another person, and to do that virtually also, I think it's powerful.

Well, Jon, we've had a rich dialogue. You have a 30-second farewell message before I give some closing announcements and we say goodbye to people.

Jon: Well, I'd like to use Winston Churchill's saying that "This isn't the beginning of the end. This is just the end of the beginning." And by that I want to encourage everyone to stay engaged. Contact me. Let's stay connected. A moment like this is so precious and I want to see it lead to something. I think we all sense that we're a part of something that is emerging; and therefore, it's been great to spend this hour together, but let's dedicate this hour to the future and what we can make happen not just for ourselves but for those generations that are waiting in the wings and hoping and rooting for us that we're going to be able to figure out how to make this change and make the shift that needs to happen.

Philip: Beautiful. Thank you, Jon.

And Jon, I just want to acknowledge you for your Renaissance -- I don't know if Renaissance is the right word but just your wide range of experience and your commitment to social transformation and the way you've also really integrated indigenous wisdom and brought it into Deep Social Networks. So just thank you, Jon, for who you are and everything that you're doing.

Jon: You're very welcome. I'm very blessed to have great teachers and good friends. Thank you, Philip. I look forward to more.

Philip: Yeah, it's great. Again, thank you for being with us.

And for those on the call, reminder 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time we have James O’Dea hosting you, and this is the time for you to share what you’re doing to cultivate peace in yourself, your family, schools, community and the world. So please be with us.

And also a reminder that tomorrow morning our call is at 9:00 a.m. Pacific Time because we’re going live from Kathmandu, Nepal where we are talking with Serena and Rajendra with Search for Common Ground who are doing pioneering work with the use of media and social engagement. They help on a national-wide transformational process.

So thank you everyone for being with us. We look forward to being with you again in a few hours. And wherever you are, just have lots and lots of peace whether it’s morning, afternoon, evening or night.

All right, folks. We’ll talk with you again soon. Okay, bye-bye.

**[1:00:15]**

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