

Young Adult Decision-Making Agreement

This agreement was adopted by consensus at the plenary on June 6th, 2010. Prior to this agreement young adults were by default participatory members.

What values are being met by this agreement?

Having a method for young people to participate in our community decision-making is very aligned with our vision, allowing both the young person and community to benefit from each other's wisdom and grow together. Here are points from the vision that we think this agreement brings to life:

- Welcoming, honoring and sharing a diversity of experience, wisdom, heritage, beliefs and spiritual paths
- Nurturing a rich and vibrant social fabric Creating a true sense of belonging
- Sharing, respecting and tending to each other's lives
- Learning and growing together
- Providing the support and freedom to pursue our dreams.

Agreement

If a young person wants to get more involved in the community, they can request a buddy from the membership team (MT). If that young person then wants to become a decision-maker, they can pursue the following steps:

1. Young person requests to be made a decision-making member by contacting the membership team (MT). The young person and the MT request time at a plenary for the young person to formally make the request to the community and offer reasons why it is important to them. Review of next steps provided at that plenary as well.
2. MT agrees that the following criteria have been met and gives provisional approval:
 1. parent has approved
 2. young person has read a consensus book
 3. young person has read a cohousing book
 4. young person regularly participates in consensus trainings, as they are available
 5. young person actively participates in plenaries
 6. young person actively participates on at least one team
1. MT requests unanimous assent from community (via email and phone)
2. After self-evaluation period of 3 months, the young person decides to remain a decision-maker or not.

Note: If anyone in the community has any concerns, the responsibility is to raise these with the MT, parent and young person to get those concerns addressed as early in the process as possible.