## Igniting Innovation & Sustaining Positive Change



## The Foundations of Appreciative Inquiry

Winnipeg, Manitoba | August 19 to 22, 2013 8:30 - 5:00 | \$1,650.00+tax

Your organization's success hinges on its people's capacity to innovate and to connect diverse (even opposing) ways of thinking. Innovation is best done in ways that spur bursts of creative genius, leading-edge design, and strengthened partnerships – all of

implementation.

Join us to develop your capacity to lead strength-based, transformational change! Organizational innovations in design, process, strategy, structure and culture are deeper and faster when engagement is collaborative and focussed on strengths – in other words, when people and teams take a positive focus on what they want more of, versus a focus on solving the weaknesses and deficits that they are trying to avoid.

which contribute to swift, solid, dependable

This limited enrolment workshop is designed for managers, leaders, organizational & community facilitators, and change agents - anyone who want to spark engagement and innovation in their organizations and communities and who are seeking a strength-based, participatory approach to high engagement for innovation and organizational effectiveness. It provides a foundation for the practice of Appreciative Inquiry (AI); an approach, philosophy, and process for igniting innovation through focussed inquiry and high-engagement.

"The ΑI **Foundations** workshop was full of all the elements needed to begin to incorporate the approach work into your and life....theory, group work, stories from the field by Al practitioners. self-reflection and the completion of the next steps you will take to continue the AI journey. This was all customized to respond to the interests of workshop participants in addition to being fun!"

~Julie Girard, Healthcare

In this four day highly experiential workshop you will learn the principles, theories, assumptions and practices of Appreciative Inquiry. It will prepare consultants to work with AI in client systems and prepares leaders and managers to use AI for working with organization and community change.

Rather than just another technique, AI is presented as a radically innovative approach to facilitating change. Illustrations of this constructive approach to organizational transformation will be drawn from work with small and large corporations, with communities, with all levels of government and with not-for-profits. Canadian and international examples will be shared. It will provide you with a solid grounding in both theory and practice.



## You will learn about:

- The multi-disciplinary principles, research and theory base of Al.
- Reframing from deficit conversations/topic to conversations/topics filled with possibility.
- Creating a flourishing organizational climate that can thrive in these times of increasing complexity.
- How to design high engagement change initiatives that spark commitment and innovation.
- The power of crafting positive questions that ignite discovery, connection, and knowledge sharing.
- Recent case studies and lessons learned from applying AI in health care, finance, IT, professional services, government, education, social services, and international development.
- Crafting and implementing micro-practices that weave the principles and concepts of AI into your work and life activities.
- Critical first steps for applying the Al framework to a variety of interventions such as: *Strategic Planning, Teambuilding, Performance Reviews, Process Improvements, Coaching etc.*

## About your instructor



Maureen McKenna is a dynamic and innovative facilitator, mentor, thinking partner and executive coach. She is the co-founder of Innovation Works. She has more than 20 years of experience in organizational development, change leadership consulting, executive coaching, training design and delivery. Maureen is an expert in strengths-based approaches to strategic planning, large-scale change, organization design, community consultations, customer loyalty, and employee engagement and is well respected by her clients for her ability to challenge their mental models, helping them to successfully reframe from traditional problem solving to focusing on their strengths.

She has taught Appreciative Inquiry since 2001, studying with Jane Magruder Watkins. Maureen is a Certified Management Consultant, a member of NTL (National Training Lab), a TAOS associate and a well respected practitioner within the international AI community.

"Of all those that I have taught in AI courses around the globe, there is one colleague that stands out for her knowledge about AI and her amazing skill for imparting that knowledge and skill to others. Maureen McKenna is a master teacher of Appreciative Inquiry with experience of both teaching AI and using the AI process as a master consultant."

~ Jane Magruder Watkins, co-author of 'Appreciative Inquiry: Change at the Speed of Imagination'

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