

Leadership and Social Complexity: The Wholeness of Life – Towards a New Practice of Change

In Christchurch after the quakes we know more than ever that every time we act within a social context, we are confronted with unpredictability, with ambiguity and uncertainty.

A conventional response to the complexity of social process is to try to simplify. We strive to reduce complexity, so that we may better manage our world. Such a response still seeks to control life, not to enhance it. But our very attempts to 'manage' in these ways create the 'problems' which then can then overwhelm us.

On the other hand, complexity tends towards a kind of holistic coherence when we are not primarily concerned with making the world manageable, but making it more visible, more meaningful. It is our seeing through into the heart of things that enhances our ability not only to understand but also to remain creative and alive to what's possible.

When everything is connected, and when everything is always changing, then every action matters. This workshop will offer a different way of seeing and understanding complexity and an experience of holistic movements of change. We invite you to join us in three and half days of experience, practice and conversation to explore the kinds of practices that may, gradually, lead to a way of seeing and being from the inside out .

Allan Kaplan and Sue Davidoff are development practitioners, teachers and writers based in South Africa. Allan is the author of *The Development Practitioner's Handbook*, and *Artists of the Invisible*, Sue the author of *The Learning School* and *The Courage to Lead*. They have established The Proteus Initiative as a vehicle for working with new and organic ways of seeing and facilitating change. This is the fourth time they have run their workshops in New Zealand. Amongst other programmes, they are currently conducting an international Masters Programme in Reflective Social Practice.

For more information go to their website www.proteusinitiative.org/THome.aspx

Workshop Details

Dates: 3 - 6 March 2014 The workshop is 3 and 1/2 days long finishing at lunchtime on Thursday 6 March

Cost: \$200 + gst for community-based leaders
\$650 + gst for others

Venue: South Brighton Community Centre
Beatty Street, off Estuary Road, South New Brighton

Numbers are limited because of the participatory nature of the workshop. To register or for more information contact Kim Chamberlain 021 851 318 or kim@chamberlain.net.nz

This workshop is supported by Project Lyttelton, Ministry of Social Development and a local organising group Proteus Christchurch: Kim Chamberlain, Michelle Whitaker and Garth Nowland Foreman.

