

Woman's Way RED LODGE

Dear Red Lodge Sisters~

"Bringing the Dream to Ground" was a huge success!! The Red Lodge Wisdom Council, Nov 4-5, 2005, was a momentous occasion for our community and the development of WWRL organization. You may have already heard the buzz; the experience was amazing.

On behalf of the whole working group, we want to extend a huge thank you for all the ways you have supported and trusted us, throughout this past year, to tend the evolving vision of our community's service to the world. We are thrilled that this vision has now landed in the bowl of the newly formed Interim Board.

We are pleased to share that we met our intention and desired outcomes for this Wisdom Council:



Intention

To co-create a dynamic and engaging council where we will delve into a juicy intention, manifestation and relationship building process to support the evolution of WWRL organization. *YES!!*

Desired Outcomes and Results

- Those present gain clear information which helps them understand where Red Lodge is now in this phase of development, helps them make their personal decisions concerning their involvement, and raises energy and excitement about Red Lodge.
Women reported they now have a clearer understanding of Woman's Way Red Lodge, and there was no denying the excitement during the weekend.
- The circle of committed co-creators of Red Lodge expands and more have a sense of "ownership".
Every single woman shared her commitment to Red Lodge through her presence, contribution and devotion to the processes that led to our council decisions.
- Women lean in and volunteer, making a clear commitment and leaving with concrete ways to be involved.
Every woman present stepped up to serve on a council. We also have all Interim Board Positions filled.
- At least one project will be decided upon for 2006.
Through several rounds of silence, brain/heart storm, dialogue and heart agreement, we decided to put our energy behind two projects. One is an open house event for our community to raise awareness about what is evolving with Red Lodge. The other is to create a new CD that will be marketed and sold to people both within and outside our community as an education and fundraising tool.
- To experience a Red Lodge gathering together.
DID WE EVER!!! We birthed strategic planning in the Woman's Way—pouring our prayers and investigating what we're passionate about in Manifesting Lodges, a new form inspired by Mary Shackelford. A balance of process and results, we infused the weekend with creative activity, spontaneous unfoldings, and concrete information. We balanced the masculine and feminine in a variety of ways, which allowed us to get some specific decisions made and next steps identified. We drummed, sang, engaged in ceremony, danced, and played. It was juicy!
- To create solidarity in our purpose statement.
Through patience, trust and devotion, we came to a collective knowing about our new purpose statement. This process culminated in the rising of our voices and bodies as we sang our new purpose into being.

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In addition, we updated our vision statement to reflect the dialogue and collective understanding of what we are about. We also decided to revise our mission statement, which will begin at the Board retreat in January and be finalized at the Spring Wisdom Council.

New Purpose Statement

To enliven the sacred feminine
Honor deeply all life
As we serve our world

Revised Vision Statement (change in italics)

Red Lodge offers the opportunity to participate with a community of women
Grounded in the natural web of life (the Beauty Way)
And the way of the spiritual warrior (impeccability)
Collaborating in the work of creating space, time, relationship, and ceremony
To invite each other
To engage through sacred mystery
In the evolution of human kind
As our world moves into balance

Our utmost thanks to Marsha, for her generosity and hospitality in inviting us to have this council at her Grandmother's home. Twenty of us slept, cooked, dined and held 3 separate manifesting lodges comfortably inside this LARGE family home, which her grandmother requested in her will become a healing center. Visualize us meeting in a spacious room with broad, high windows overlooking a sweeping southern slope, a magnificent expanse of water and sky, and a pair of nesting eagles flying over our heads!

We thank Mother Earth for holding us in such beauty, and all the unseen mentors, guides and angelics who gathered with us to guide, protect, inspire and rejoice as we move forward with our purpose. Aho .

With Love and Respect,

Peg, Kendra & Kristina

Co-facilitators

Woman's Way Red Lodge Wisdom Council

November 4-6, 2005



Woman's Way RED LODGE

List of Interim Board Members and Council Members

Peg Hopkins	Chair
Kendra E. Thornbury	Vice Chair
Susan Landau	Treasurer
Marsha Cook	Secretary
Claire D'Gaia Johnson	Communication Council Chair
Sarah Blum	Abundance Council Chair
Mary G.L. Shackelford	Program Council Chair
Ruth Raven Burns	Elders Council Chair
Kristina Turner	Conflict Evolution Chair
Lauryth Dwyer	Long Dance Facilitator Representative

Council Members

Norleen Overman	Communications Council
Valli Sanstrom	Communications Council
Lori Kramer	Communications Council (tbd)
Susan Landau	Abundance Council
Mariah Wind Dancer	Program Council
Nan Draper	Program Council
Paula Rathburn	Program Council
Gaia Maeve Aeolus	Elders Council
Grandma Billie Sockwomyn	Elders Council
Julia Bear Heart Moore	Elders Council
Bonnee Lee Cleverdon	Conflict Evolution Council
Gaia Maeve Aolis	Conflict Evolution Council
Julia Bear Heart Moore	Conflict Evolution Council
Kendra E. Thornbury	Conflict Evolution Council
Kim Orte	Conflict Evolution Council
Paula Rathburn	Conflict Evolution Council
Willow Dreamfeather	Conflict Evolution Council

Drai Bearwomyn Graphic Design



Next Steps

The Interim Board will formally meet at a Board Retreat, January 6-8, 2006, to further our relationships, define roles and responsibilities, engage in Board development activities and review the tasks ahead for 2006. From now through December, we will learn about conference calls and group email procedures, connect with our council members, set up bank accounts and delve into record keeping methods, and explore and evaluate satisfying ways to communicate to the community at large.

This is an exciting time, as we begin anew with our full hearts, commitment and a deep vision that resonates throughout. All that we are setting out to accomplish this year can be held in the deep, rich container of our Woman's Way. We begin.

