### SEY2KT LEARNING COMMUNITY COMPASSIONATE SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP

#### FEBRUARY 13, 2025

BC COMPASSIONATE SYSTEMS LEADERSHI NETWORK HUMAN EARLY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP



Ministry of Education and Child Care My dream is that in the future we won't use words like over-represented, at-risk and vulnerable to describe First Nations, Inuit and Metis children, but words like healthy, strong, proud, and having their rights respected.

Cindy Blackstock

#### Grounding and Check In – Why is it Important?

- Practice of self-reflection
- Facilitates emotional settling
- Creates a generative and compassionate social field
- Increases readiness to be together; builds community



BC COMPASSIONATE SYSTEMS LEADERSHIP NETWORK

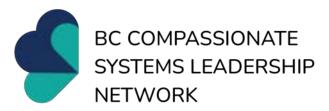






#### Mental Models





#### Shifting Mental Models (Elena Aguilar)

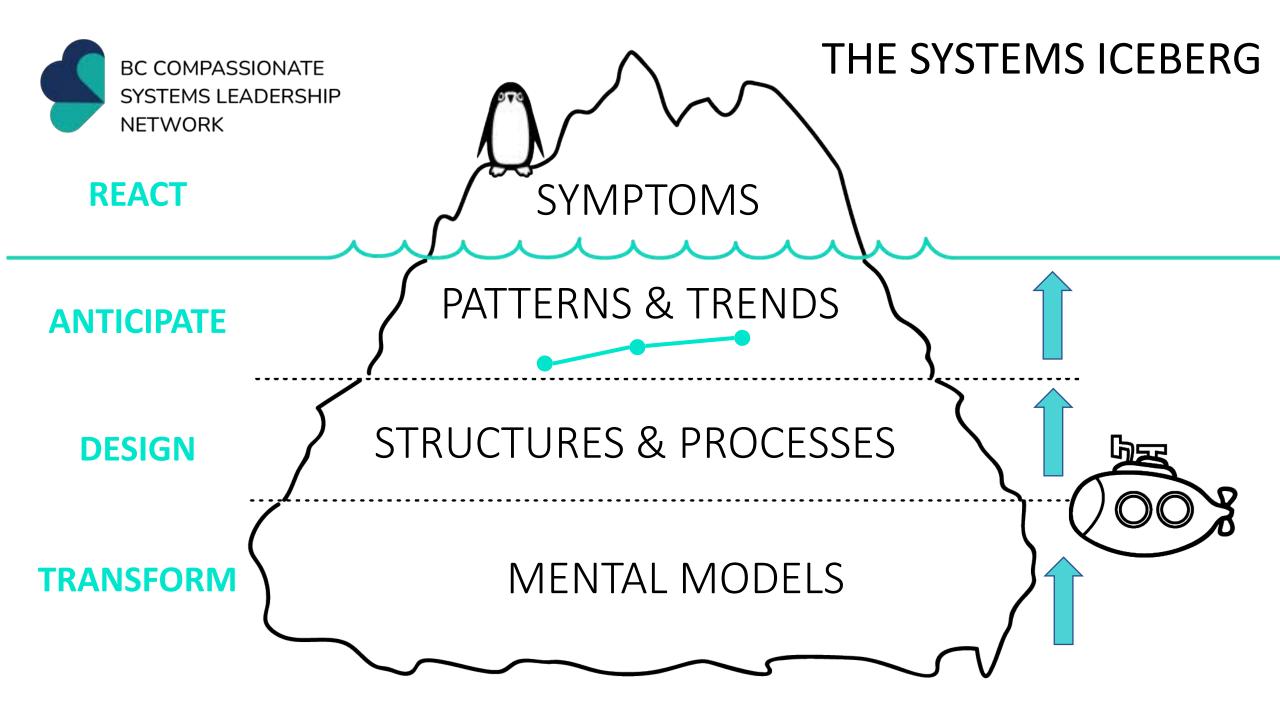
Greet the mental model with curiosity.

Where might this mental model have come from? What might be all the elements that contributed to its creation?

What's the impact of holding this mental model? What can and can't I do if I hold it? How has it served me to hold it, and what might be possible if it shifted?

Look for any-and-all evidence that the model might not be "true."

Commit to trying something new to test the mental model.





#### How did it go?

#### What is Compassionate Leadership?

The collective capacity of a human community to shape its future

Grounded in care creativity and courage

Builds from the personal mastery and personal growth

The ability to motivate others and nurture generative work

Contrasted with hierarchical positions of authority



### COMMON HUMANITY

Just Like Me Practice



# Compassion is a way of being and leading....a mindset

Our human compassion binds us the one to the other - not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learned how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future."

Nelson Mandela

I believe that at every level of society - familial, tribal, national and international - the key to a happier and more successful world is the growth of compassion

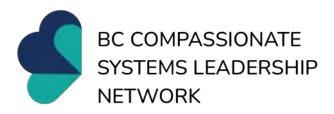
His Holiness the Dalai Lama



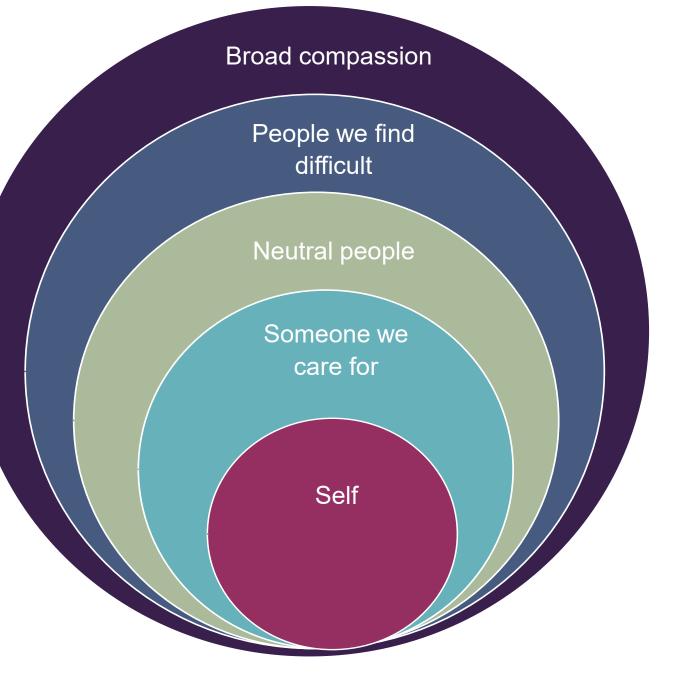


#### Compassion is.....

.....the "feeling that arises when you are confronted with suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering."



## Individual & Broad Compassion



### Compassion unfolds when....



**PRESENT AWARENESS -** of our own and others experience

**FEELING** – being emotionally or cognitively moved by this

**DESIRE** to see the relief of that suffering (intention)

**ACTION** – respond with kind intention)

a WARM GLOW ("intrinsic reward")

# Compassion has Three Components

#### Mindfulness

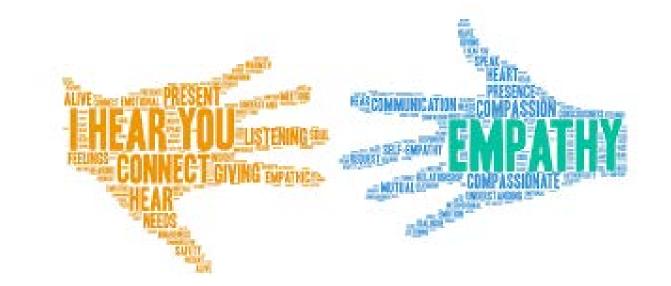
Recognizing when when we or others are stressed or struggling ..... without being judgmental or over-reacting

#### Kindness

Being supportive and understanding towards ourselves and others when we're having a hard time, rather than leaping to negative narrative and judgement.

#### **Common Humanity**

Remembering that everyone makes mistakes and experiences difficulties at times. We all experience suffering.....it is what connects us as humans



## What compassion is not

Empathy Pity Selflessness

••••



Compassion fade and fear....why?

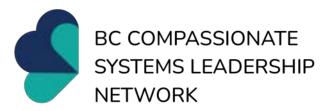
# What does it mean in practice?



Compassion can and must be cultivated.....like a muscle!

Practice is everything







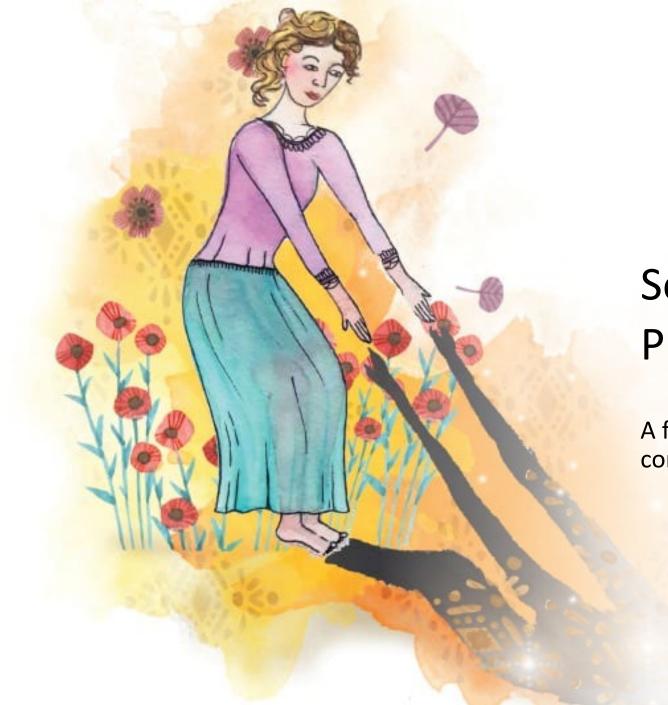
The Ladder of Inference - YouTube

Chris Argyris | Peter Senge

INFERENCE

# Site Groups Discussion

Talk about a time you experienced going up your ladder What kind of emotions, bias were at play? Do you have any reflections about mental models that might have been at play?



#### Self-Compassion Practice

A foundation for sustainable compassionate leadership



- Continue your conversations about how you lead with compassion
- Reflect on your own personal practice and development.
- Take the self compassion and fears of compassion questionnaires
- What structures and processes can you put in place to support your team build compassion?

See you next on 17<sup>th</sup> of April, 2025 8:30 a.m. Pacific Time



Joanne.schroeder@ubc.ca

phrowcliffe@gmail.com

tracyelainesmyth@gmail.com

## Thank You!

Compassionatesystems.earlylearning.ubc.ca



Ministry of Education and Child Care



