

# Letting Go

(based on teachings from Nelson Mandela)



Increase the power of your vision to pull you forward. An inspiring vision of what this collaboration could achieve needs to be bold enough (like Mandela's vision) to motivate and inspire the effort that will be necessary. A strong vision is more than words. It includes images. You need to be able to 'see' elements of the desired future. If groups or individuals that don't currently work together become able to do so, what are they doing, how does it feel, why is it making a difference (and to whom)

Once you know WHY it is worth the effort to build a collaboration with someone, then you are ready to look at any barriers that exist in your own heart. These need to be removed to make a sincere, whole-hearted effort to succeed.

- ① Is there some grievance, part betrayal, or lingering resentment that need to be cleared out of the way?
- ② If so, can you let go and move on for your own sake?
- ③ Is letting go an 'inside job' changing without discussing it with them directly?
- ④ Or, do you need to speak about this with them to put something on the table, clear the air, or seek accountability?
- ⑤ Does accountability for the past really need to be addressed now or is it for another time and place?
- ⑥ Timing and setting are important. How, when and with whom, should this conversation take place?
- ⑦ If you want the conversation to be different than previous conversations, how can you be different?( see Mandela's words of wisdom below)
- ⑧ Offer unconditional, 'no frills' respect.