



# Peace For All Canada

PEACE BY PEACEFUL MEANS



## Building Capacity to Engage with School Systems and Support Students' Success

Peace for All Canada holds a vision of building capacity and solidarity among parents and youth to work together to engage with school administrators and teachers toward paving the way for your children's success in school.

- ❖ Are you a parent or community member who is concerned about how your children are being impacted by discrimination and racism at school?
- ❖ Are you interested in helping your community engage with the school system to improve the educational experience for children?
- ❖ Would you like to be trained to build your skills to be able to hold space for difficult conversations in your community?

If yes, then register for this upcoming Circle training!

### What is Circle?

Circle is a dynamic process for creating space to empower and hear different voices, sustain relationships, and work together to build communities. The Circle process, as offered in this training, is rooted in the tradition of Talking Circles used by Indigenous peoples in North America, acknowledging that similar processes are used in other cultures (i.e. African cultures).

The Circle training topics will include:

- The foundational values and philosophy of Circle practices
- Structure of Circle process
- Ritual and ceremony of Circles
- The applications of Circle process in a range of domains such as community development, community engagement, team building, and teaching/learning.

**You are invited to join this project and be trained in how to hold Circle discussions within your community.**

This is a **3-day training** that is offered through the University of Waterloo at \$825 but is being provided to you free due to project funding from the Region of Waterloo (Upstream Fund and Community Capacity Building Fund) and the vision of Peace for All Canada.



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## Five Training Dates – choose which one works for you:

- March 11 & 12 & 18 (Sat & Sun, & Sat)
- April 22 & 23 & 29 (Sat & Sun, & Sat)
- May 6 & 7 & 20 (Sat & Sun, & Sat)
- June 3 & 4 & 10 (Sat & Sun, & Sat)
- July 8 & 9 & 15 (Sat & Sun, & Sat)
  - Arrive 8:30-9am
  - Start 9am-5pm
  - Lunch and Breaks provided

You will receive a **Certificate of Completion** at the end of the training.

**General Information Session On:** February 18 at 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** 23 Water St. North, Kitchener (Entrance and doorbell on Duke Street)

**For Registration or further information, contact Ayiko Solomon:**

- Email: [ayiko@peaceforallcanada.org](mailto:ayiko@peaceforallcanada.org)
- Phone: 519-589-7565

**Registration will be ‘first come, first served’, so register now!**



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## Trainer Bios:

### Jennifer Ball, PhD, RPP, MCIP

Jennifer is an international facilitator and Circle trainer, with experience in North America, Australia, and East and Southern Africa. She has authored three books: *Doing Democracy with Circles: Engaging Communities in Public Planning*; *Better Decisions Together: A Facilitation Guide for Community Engagement*; and *Women, Development and Peacebuilding in Africa: Stories from Uganda*. Jennifer holds a Ph.D. in Rural Studies, with a focus on Sustainable Rural Communities from the University of Guelph. For the last seven years, she has been on faculty in the Peace and Conflict Studies Department at Conrad Grebel University College, University of Waterloo. There, Circle became central to her pedagogy. Jennifer co-facilitates annual Circle trainings through the *Certificate in Conflict Management Program* at Conrad Grebel. Since 2012, she has been contributing to the leadership of Gather the Women Canada (GTWC), a Circle organization focused on women and transformation. Jennifer is a registered professional planner and worked for several years in rural Ontario. Of English, Irish, Scottish, and Cree ancestry, but born in rural Zambia and raised in Zambia, Kenya, and Canada, Jennifer bridges multiple diverse cultures and identities. She has lived within both Indigenous and Western worldviews, and her ongoing journey is an attempt to understand and reconcile these two worldviews, acknowledging the inherent tension this creates. She is interested in processes that build capacity for being in community, responding constructively to conflict, and ultimately healing ourselves and our communities toward a more hopeful future.

### Deborah Carson, BA

Deborah is a Soul Coach, trained in Transpersonal Psychology with Clearmind International and is a SoulCollage® Facilitator. She trained in Circle in 2014 and has since engaged in multiple trainings with her mentors, Jennifer Ball, Kay Pranis, and Tahnahga Myers, offering Circle Trainings in collaboration with Jennifer. Since 2017, Deborah has volunteered in leadership with Gather the Women Canada (GTWC), an organization supporting women to gather in Circle. Her role on the Core Circle of GTWC centres around structuring the organization non-hierarchically in a Circle way and born out of a Circle worldview. For 30 years, Deborah co-owned a high-end craft manufacturing business. Searching for a way of working that felt aligned with what is natural for human beings and our human potential, she found a mentor in the field of Open Systems Thinking and Developmental Businesses. She applied what she learned and brings this consciousness to all of her work. Deborah has been involved in the planning and visioning stage of the creation of an Ecovillage; in supporting children with Nature connection through the Guelph Outdoor School; and with Transition Guelph. Other paths her curiosity follows are in Cultural Regeneration, Norse/Celtic and Bee Shamanism, Indigenous Teachings, Ancestor Work, Mythology - personal and collective, Sacred Masculine/Feminine, Holistic Health, Herbalism, Sound and Breath work, Bird Language, and Dream Work.

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