



## Spiral Flower System Map of Abbotsford

This system map was developed for Abbotsford Community Foundation, Retreat 2003 - *Exploring A Vision for Our Community of the Future*. It is based on responses from a random survey of residents that asked questions about what makes community work and what holds it back.

1. Within the petals of the flower of community are those capacities that help make community work. If these flourish in an integrated manner, community will grow and thrive. Arrows in the background of each petal illustrate the push for the petal to bloom more fully.
2. In the gray background surrounding the petals are those barriers that prevent the flower from blooming larger. The background arrows pushing against the petals represent these negative forces.
3. There are many different ways to foster community. The four petals of the flower show how survey responses cluster into four different but essential categories. Like this flower, community is made up of all four clusters.
  - The **upper left** petal reflects **personal intentions** (like attitudes) and **self-development goals**, such as mental and spiritual growth. Think of these as what is happening inside you that no one else can see.
  - The **upper right** petal shows **individual behaviors, traits, and other physically observable characteristics**. Think of this petal as action oriented - in other words, what others notice you doing.
  - The **lower left** petal relates to **culture, family, and relationships**. This petal expresses how we relate and engage each other to make meaning in community.
  - Lastly, the **lower right** petal demonstrates community fostered through **workplaces, institutions, government policies, and other social systems**. This petal shows how we produce and build society's establishments and agencies to create community structures.

4. This flower is a multicolored rainbow of community values. Each of the values shown here is crucial to ensuring that the flower of community is as full and vibrant as possible. Consider these community values like multiple layers of petals - each layer is a different colour that creates an award winning Flower Show masterpiece. Consider the positive contributions of each color.

- **Purple** harmonizes the values of kinship and familial traditions that bond people together most tightly.
- **Red** speaks to the pure unrestrained energy of pleasure and enjoyment in community.
- **Blue** honors commitment and order to life and work, a sense of direction for a greater good, stability, and even recognition of duty to creating and sustaining it.
- **Orange** strives towards achieving great things together with strategic and goal oriented plans.
- **Green** shares those elements that are about care and sensitivity to others, with an egalitarian perspective that celebrates diversity.
- **Yellow** meshes responses about flexibility, spontaneity, and knowledge as a spur to integrating community development.
- **Turquoise** hints at aspects of community that are about wholeness and global connections.
- **Coral** splashes represent what we might create in the future with all our good works for the common good.

The flower map displays the answers to the question "What do we know about our community?" However, the map is not the territory - we are far too complex and dynamic ever to be fully mapped!

This map was adapted by permission from David Sando & Karma Ruder, Center for Ethical Leadership (2002) [www.ethicalleadership.org](http://www.ethicalleadership.org); based on research by Marilyn Hamilton PhD. (1996, 2003) [www.globallearningconnections.com](http://www.globallearningconnections.com)

This work is inspired by models developed by Ken Wilber; Spiral Dynamics in the Integral Age; Don Beck & Christopher Cowan. Graphics by the Abbotsford News, from Gylan Green.

