

# Restorative Learning Communities

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# Restorative Approach in Nova Scotia

- Nova Scotia Restorative Justice Program
  - Youth Justice/Adult Pilot
- Restorative Approach in Schools Project
- Corrections
- HASA – Healing Approach to Elder Abuse Project
- RJ @ Dal (on University Campus)

<http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect/process/report-from-the-restorative-justice-process.html>

- Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission
- Workplaces (e.g. Halifax Fire Service)

What is common to these examples?



# Restorative Communities

- Whanganui / New Zealand
- Vermont
- Hull
- Leeds
- Canberra



# Umbrella Concept



# Restorative Approach is a Relational Approach

- What is a relational approach?
  - Rooted in a relational idea of human beings and the world  
*“We live in and through relationships with others”*
  - Relevant for all levels of relationship (interpersonal, social, institutional)
  - Relationship can be healthy or unhealthy, harmful or positive
  - “restored” relationships focused on conditions/structure of relationship needed for wellbeing
  - relationships that are based on equal respect, concern/care and dignity





# An Approach not just programs or Practice

*If we want to do things differently we must also think differently about what we are doing.*

- No “add water and stir” recipes for restorative processes
- Not something you can “train” for but can learn from others experiences of what has worked
- Equip you with knowledge, capacities and skills you need to take this approach



# Principles of a Restorative Approach (Principles for Practice)

- Relationship focused (relationship centred)
  - Contextual /Flexible
- Comprehensive/holistic
- Subsidiarity
  - Inclusive
  - Participatory
  - Dialogical
- Forward-focused
  - Problem solving/solution focused



# Implications of a Restorative Approach across Communities

- Approach to process and substance of work
- Approach to governance and regulation
- Approach to organizational structure and culture
- Approach to policy and practice







***MONDAY, JUNE 27 & TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2016***

***“Exploring Possibilities:  
A Restorative Approach to  
Climate and Culture in  
Education, Workplaces and  
Professions”***

***Hosted by: Dalhousie University, Dalhousie Faculty of Dentistry, Nova Scotia  
Advisory Council on the Status of Women & Crime Prevention Unit of the  
Nova Scotia Department of Justice***

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