

TALKING CIRCLE SCRIPT

WELCOME

Welcome everybody.

I have invited you today to take part in a circle process to have a discussion about...

This is a discussion about how do we as a community...

It is also an opportunity to talk about how we might train/educate individuals to ...

OPENING CEREMONY

Stars that shine together form a galaxy. Flowers that grow together create a garden. Buildings that stand together begin a city. People who work together make a difference. This is what valuing differences is all about. The Michigan Tech Values Statement indicates that as a University we inspire Community, Scholarship, Possibilities, Accountability, and Tenacity. These Values provide guidance for the work we do at Michigan Tech.

GUIDELINES

The primary expectations of you as a participant today is that you adhere to the spirit of the full value contract which is: Be Here; Be Safe; Pay Attention; Speak the Truth; Be Open to Outcomes.

By doing so, the process will create an environment in which everyone can speak freely and fully about how they feel about what happened.

As facilitator, my job is to ensure that everyone here has a voice. This process is voluntary. Individuals are free to leave at any time. We will set a time limit of ... for the discussion today.

We will start the process by asking everyone to introduce themselves and then I will pose some questions for discussion.

We will be using a talking piece that will be passed around the Circle, allowing the holder to speak. Only the person holding the talking piece may speak. The only exception is that I as facilitator may speak at any time without the piece to ensure a functioning Circle.

CIRCLE

- Introductions
- What are your issues/concerns with ...?
- What do you think the community needs to do to address ...?
- Where do you currently see there being opportunities to ...?
- Who should be involved in ...?
- What other ideas do you have to restore integrity to the community?
- Closing Comments

CLOSING

Look around the circle. Notice the similarities and differences that exist. We wear different clothes, have different hairstyles, probably like different foods, and/or listen to different music. And yet, we all belong to the same human race. Inside we are all the same. We all wish to be recognized, we all wish to be called by name, we all wish to be loved, we all wish for friends, we all wish for peace.

In the spirit of the Values, we must pledge ourselves to inspire them in all we do. Thank you!