

Connecting for Change Dialogue 2006 Quotes from Participants

I was struck by the value and power of partnering individuals from the corporate and social sectors. It was a unique approach that when combined with the "safe environment" that you created, allowed us to test and explore ideas.

Anita Roper, Director Sustainability, Alcoa

I was amazed by the caliber of people who attended, and especially by the work being done in some of the social agencies.

Peggy Fowler, CEO, Portland General Electric

I was blown away by the audacious dreams that have come true for so many of the Connecting for Change participants. The common desire amongst business and social sector leaders to be helpful and participate in meaningful change is so inspiring!

Silken Laumann, Canadian Olympian, Speaker and Author (Child's Play Rediscovering the Joy of Play in Our Families and Our Communities)

I hope that the Dalai Lama Center creates an environment that generates within people a true understanding of the value, joy and fulfillment of seeking a life of compassion and meaning. My sense is that the Connecting for Change dialogue was a great example of what the Center can be and stand for.

Rud Browne, CEO Ryzex (an Inc 50 Company)

I hope that the Dalai Lama Center will continue to create opportunities for business and social sector leaders to come together and share the same sense of energy, commitment and hope that I sensed we had over the weekend.

Tanny Crane, President and CEO Crane Group

Connecting for Change opened my eyes to the number of others with similar dreams and goals, who are willing to share for the sake of the good of the whole, I gained inspiration and courage to continue doing the work that I know most matters.

Sheri Flies, Chief Council, Costco

This event, unlike any other that I have intended, commanded self-reflection. Business and social sector leaders came with open hearts and open minds. To a large extent I believe this is because the Dalai Lama, or our perception of him, that puts us in this 'space'. For me, this begs the question, how we can best seize this energy to create a movement for good.

Stephanie Hanford, Institute for Governance and Sustainable Development

I am a practically oriented, focused person who works on making change in my own sphere of influence. My experience with the dialogue broadened my view considerably and, while I was initially skeptical about 'peace and love, harmony and compassion' as the central theme, the dialogue opened my mind. I was impressed and inspired by the sincerity of both business and social sector leaders in their desire to work for deep and meaningful social and environmental change.

Mike Houck, Executive Director, Urban Greenspaces Institute, Portland, Oregon

The Connecting for Change dialogue was a great example of what the Dalai Lama Center can become. My hope is that the Center will create an environment that generates within people a true understanding of the value, joy and fulfillment of seeking a life of compassion and meaning.

Rud Browne, Chairman, The Ryzex Group

My experience at the Connecting for Change dialogue added to my life in a way that I never thought possible and helped to guide me in making a life altering decisions. I want to thank the Dalai Lama Center for giving me the opportunity to examine my life's work and personal priorities - I will never forget and will be grateful of this experience for the rest of my life.

Brenda Baptiste, Aboriginal Health Program Lead, Okanagan Indian Band