



# INNER LEADERSHIP

LEADING THE CRITICAL EVOLUTION OF  
BUSINESS AND ECONOMY GUIDED BY  
INNER WISDOM

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**MAIN THEMES:**

Regeneration  
Reconnection  
Whole Systems Change  
Wellbeing Economy

**ORGANIZERS:**

Alexander Evatt  
Christopher Evatt  
Shruthi Vijayakumar

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# Introduction

Are you a leader seeking to make a positive impact on people and planet through business? Do you feel daring and courageous to let go of habits, ways of understanding the world and explore new territories? Are you hopeful and willing to be an instrument of transformation at this time of disruption? We welcome you on a guided journey to grow your regenerative leadership capacities and leverage your organisation to usher in a new 'wellbeing' economy.



Society has been calling for a new way of organizing and leading that better serves us all.



**Einstein famously said, “you cannot change a problem with the same thinking that created it”.**

In a world of turmoil a neat “cook book” of methods do not bring us far. We guide leaders on their journey of inner exploration, bringing awareness to the mindsets, the paradigms and the ways of thinking and being that have created the systemic challenges we face today and support them to transform these, by widening their perceptual horizons, accessing their wisdom and growing their capacity to bring about a more harmonious and flourishing future for all.

Over the past decades, whilst life expectancy has increased, economies have grown and technology has developed immensely, we have also witnessed rising inequality, ecological collapse and mental health crises among many other issues. We bring a different economic system: one that no longer sees humans as rational, self-interested actors and progress in short term financial terms. A wellbeing economy, that truly puts the care of people and our Earth at its core rather than an unrestricted pursuit of profit. This shift is already beginning to happen, as slowly in the fringes of society people start to turn to indigenous traditions, ancient wisdom that has been with humanity for many thousands of years, guiding us on how we can lead and live in harmony with the Earth, a model we call ‘Inner Leadership’ - with reconnection and regeneration at its foundation.



# Background



## DIFFERENT THINKING

Inner leadership challenges us to change the way we think about ourselves.

**The word 'regenerative' means creating the conditions conducive for life to continuously renew itself and flourish.**

In a business context, this goes beyond traditional CSR or sustainability initiatives as it is not primarily aimed at reducing negative impacts or 'externalities' created by the current mindset; rather, it is a move to an entirely new mindset, a 'new way of being and doing in business where organizations help rather than hinder the evolutionary dynamic of life.

Modern sustainability in many contexts has become a slave to business interests and a mere label for strategies driven by efficiency and economic gain. Leaders try to articulate the business case for sustainability and fit sustainability into the dominant

beliefs embedded within the market, profit driven economy - the very beliefs that caused the problem in the first place. "If we learn to make a product or service more sustainable, all we've done is figured out how to make (what was possibly) the wrong thing last for a longer time" - Dr John Ehrenfeld.

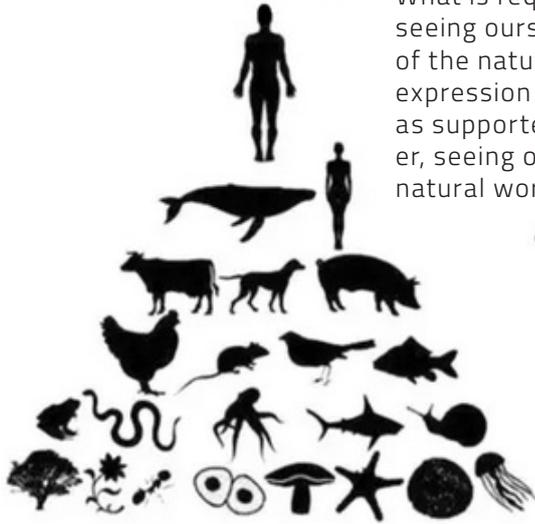
**Inner leadership challenges us to question the way we think about ourselves, each other, the world around us, and why we are here.** It

recognises how interconnected we are to everything around us, and our interdependence with one another and the Earth. It invites us to look beyond the cognitive capability of the mind and cultivate our intuition, wisdom and capacity to listen and draw from the timeless, deep wisdom of life and natural world. It guides us to our inner source of strength, wisdom, peace and allows our actions to draw from this source rather than from a feeling of discontent, anxiousness, worry, guilt, fear or a host of other emotions that can drain us.

**The metaphor of the machine served well in the industrial Age; the metaphor of the living system serves us well in the 21st Century.**

- Giles Hutchins Future Fit Leadership

# EGO

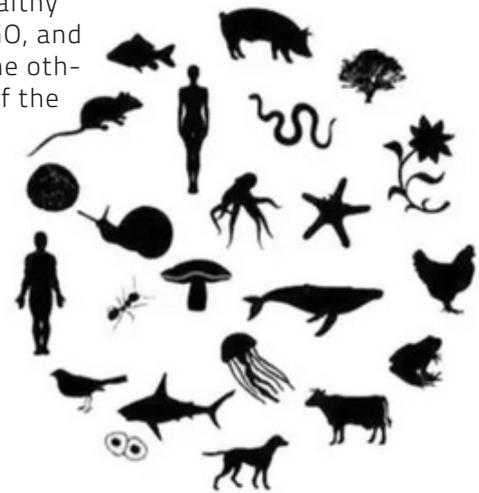


## DIFFERENT THINKING

What is required are two ways of seeing ourselves in relation to the rest of the natural world: One is a healthy expression of the self, i.e. our EGO, and as supporters of one another. The other, seeing ourselves as healers of the natural world, i.e. our ECO.



# ECO



(Image: Social Gabe / Flickr)

**Inner leadership strengthens our connection to ourselves, each other and the Earth.** If we are to bring about a wellbeing economy, a way of leading our lives and businesses in harmony with ourselves and the Earth, we must first cultivate a different, regenerative source of personal leadership. The more we embody inner leadership, the greater our capacity to embed this into our organizations - into the culture, processes, structures and the metrics, into every aspect of our organizations, and then into the wider ecosystems and economy that we are also a part of.

This way of leading that may feel 'new,' is ancient. It is found in many philosophies and wisdom traditions, spanning the East, the West including indigenous traditions spanning thousands of years, as well as in the work of many modern day system thinkers and leadership development practitioners.

In 1922 the entire Universe was thought to be only 100,000 light years in diameter. Fast forward to 2017, the Universe's diameter was believed to be 93 billion light years. What happened? The Universe didn't grow from 100,000 to 93 billion light years in less than 100 years, only our understanding of it expanded. Today modern science is bridging the commonalities of unified theory and ancient wisdom. Just as the circle of creation has no beginning and no ending, consciousness itself is not something that happens inside our minds, but a universal field through which everything and everyone is connected. Just as the field has influence on us, we, too can influence it. (Nassim Haremein)



# Our offering

online transformational leadership program  
for co-creating a wellbeing economy

## INSIGHT

The deeper dimensions of transformational change are yet to be explored in the inner landscapes of who we are individually and collectively

This online Transformational Leadership Program is designed for you to lead in a world that's undergoing significant change and transformation. It will take you on a journey where you will expand your conscious awareness about who you are, cultivate your innate wisdom, connect you with a community of like-minded catalysts of change and give you tools, frameworks and support to bring change to your organisation in service of creating a wellbeing economy.



“The changes in which we will be called upon to participate in the future will be both deeply personal and inherently systemic. Yet the deeper dimensions of transformational change represent a largely unexplored territory...this blindspot concerns not the what and how - not what leaders do and how they do it - but the WHO: who we are and the inner place or source from which we operate, both individually and collectively.

- Senge, Scharmer and Jaworski & Flowers

## This is for you if:

- You recognise that your inner state shapes the world around you and your experiences and you are willing to work on yourself
- You are frustrated with how our economic system operates and feel called to transform it
- You are passionate about the potential of business to drive positive change
- You are willing to unlearn and be open to ideas and practices that support the thriving of people and planet
- You are grounded in reality - you dare to see the ugliness in our world
- You are positive and hopeful - you see yourself as an agent and a catalyst for positive change rather than as a victim
- You feel a sense of empathy, care and compassion for people and the Earth
- You don't take yourself too seriously, are humble and willing to be brave and vulnerable

## Content

The content centres on you discovering your life's calling, refining your values, developing and expressing your inner leadership capacities, in-born strengths and intelligences for you to positively impact the world. The course is highly experiential and practical with theory and case studies to support your progress. The pedagogy takes an inside out approach. It supports you to develop your self-and-life understandings, access your wisdom and express your inner capacities for you to bring this approach to your teams and organisations and eventually into the system in which you and they operate to co-create a wellbeing economy.

## Length

3 modules.

1st module 6 weeks. 2nd and 3rd modules 4 weeks. 4hrs/week

## Format

The program will blend online group workshops, guest talks and peer coaching, with offline exercises and practices to be completed by participants. The teacher is the learner and the learner is the teacher - an ecosystem of learning together.

## Outcomes

You will gain:

- Deeper self-knowledge including a clear sense of purpose, how to best apply your strengths and understanding of your place in the systems we live and work in and how to best support positive change
- Strengthened abilities to manage your emotions, thoughts and energy and stay centred and calm in the face of turmoil and rapid change
- The ability to readily access your intuition and wisdom
- Greater connectedness with your inner source of power and wisdom as well as a whole-systems appreciation of the inter-connectivity of life and what is required for humanity and the planet to flourish
- An appreciation of alternative paradigms, an expanded understanding of yourself, the world and your ability to bring about change by drawing from different wisdom traditions
- A supportive community of fellow leaders committed to deep systemic change to walk alongside you as you apply life-serving approaches to how you lead your life, your team and organisation.

# Structure

## **Module 1: BASECAMP**

The first 6 week module gives you a foundation in self awareness and systems thinking as it relates to creating a wellbeing economy. We explore the most fundamental questions of who we are, why we are here and how we relate to the world around us. This module helps you access and ground yourself in your personal power, inner wisdom and natural strengths. It helps you shine a light on the stories and beliefs that unconsciously drive our own and our societies behaviours. We unpack the story of 'separation' which to a large degree underpins our society and economic system today as well as alternative paradigms, rooted in oneness, interconnectedness drawing from indigenous and wisdom traditions from around the world.

## **Module 2: EXPLORATION**

We explore more deeply the big social and environmental crises that are affecting our world today, seeing more clearly the social, cultural and deeper drivers that underpin these. We cultivate an appreciation for whole systems thinking, embracing complexity, and explore the changes needed at the personal and societal level to create lasting transformation and a regenerative future. We continue to cultivate a deeper connection to one's inner wisdom and the wisdom of nature in navigating the changes needed.

## **Module 3: SUMMIT**

This module supports you in taking action and embedding life-enhancing transformations in your own life and organization. It explores the practical nature of how to live a regenerative life and creative regenerative cultures, processes and structures. It provides support in application, and creating structures for lasting positive change in your own life, organization and broader sphere of influence.

**“In times of turmoil, the danger lies not in the turmoil itself, but in facing it with yesterday's logic.”**

**- Peter Drucker**

Summit

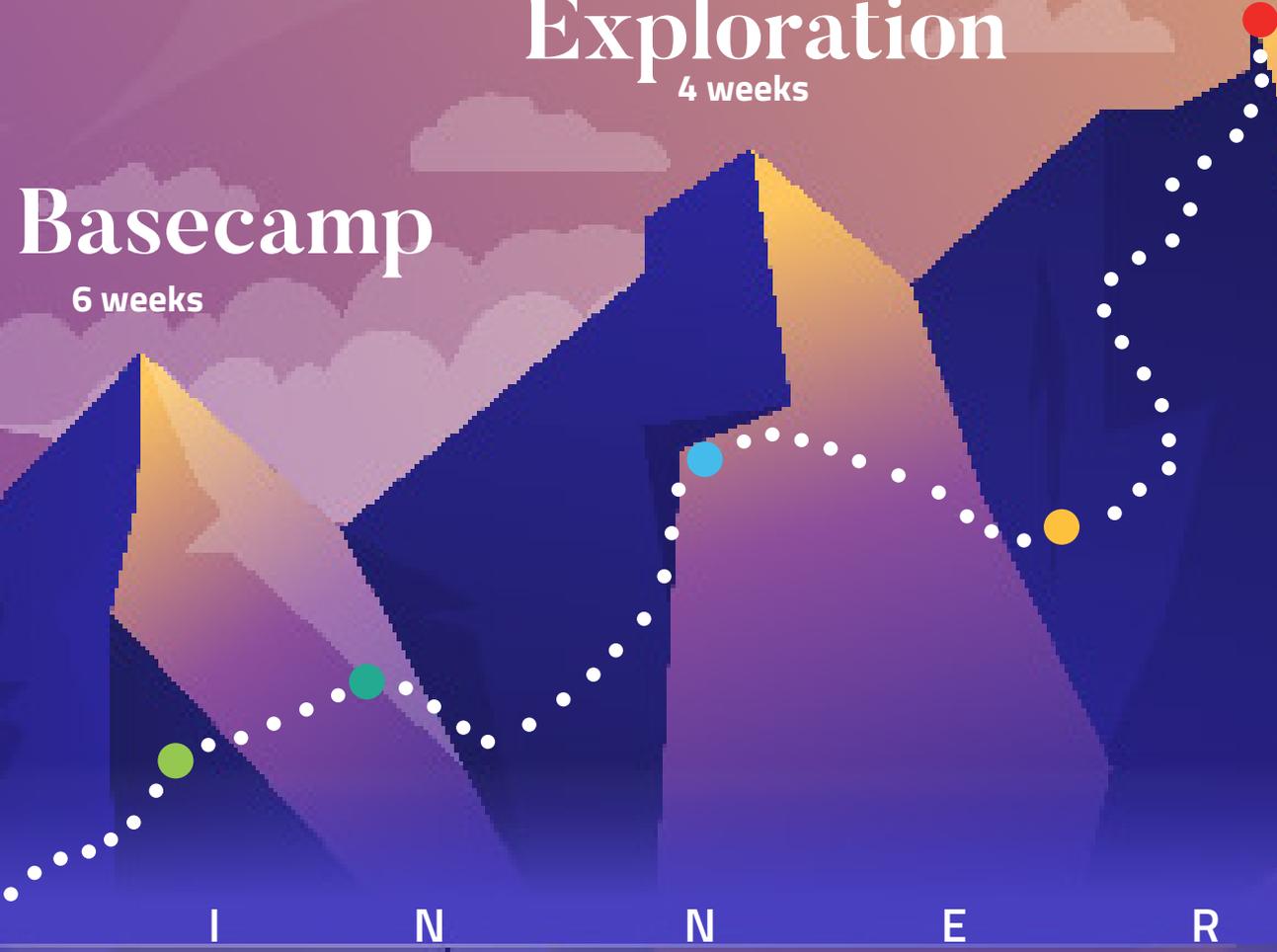
4 weeks

Exploration

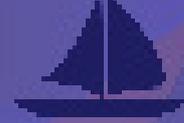
4 weeks

Basecamp

6 weeks



I N N E R



L E A D E R S H I P  
J O U R N E Y

Guest Talks

Peer Coaching

Implementation in  
Life and Work

Offline Exercises,  
Practises

Online Group  
Workshops

# Be the change you wish to see in the world

We invite you to join us on this journey of inner exploration through our online Transformational Leadership program for co-creating a wellbeing economy. It provides a whole raft of opportunities for you to discover and develop your natural leadership capacities to co-create



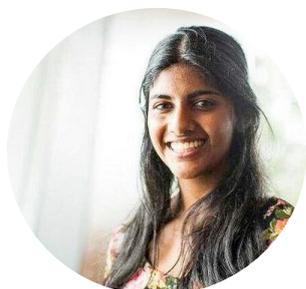
LEARN MORE &  
COLLABORATE WITH US

[www.newdirection.nz](http://www.newdirection.nz)

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# ABOUT US

## OUR INTENTION



**Shruthi Vijayakumar   Christopher Evatt   Alexander Evatt**

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The world of leadership and societal development is transforming before our eyes. Leaders either learn to cross the threshold or struggle with approaches from outdated mindsets. Global New Zealanders Shruthi Vijayakumar, Christopher Evatt and Alexander Evatt catalyse authentic change for this crucial transformation in leadership consciousness for a whole systems change for co-creating the wellbeing economy.

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### **Shruthi Vijayakumar**

Tēnā koe, Vanakkam, I'm Shruthi Vijayakumar, originally from Southern India having since embraced New Zealand as a second home. I'm passionate about bringing about a way of living, leading and running business and our economy that is in harmony with our Earth. I've worked as a management consultant with Boston Consulting Group, run my own social enterprise modelling new ways of doing business, and today teach, coach and facilitate leadership and sustainability programmes. I received an MBA from University of Oxford, and have been fortunate to speak at platforms such as the World Economic Forum meeting in Davos.

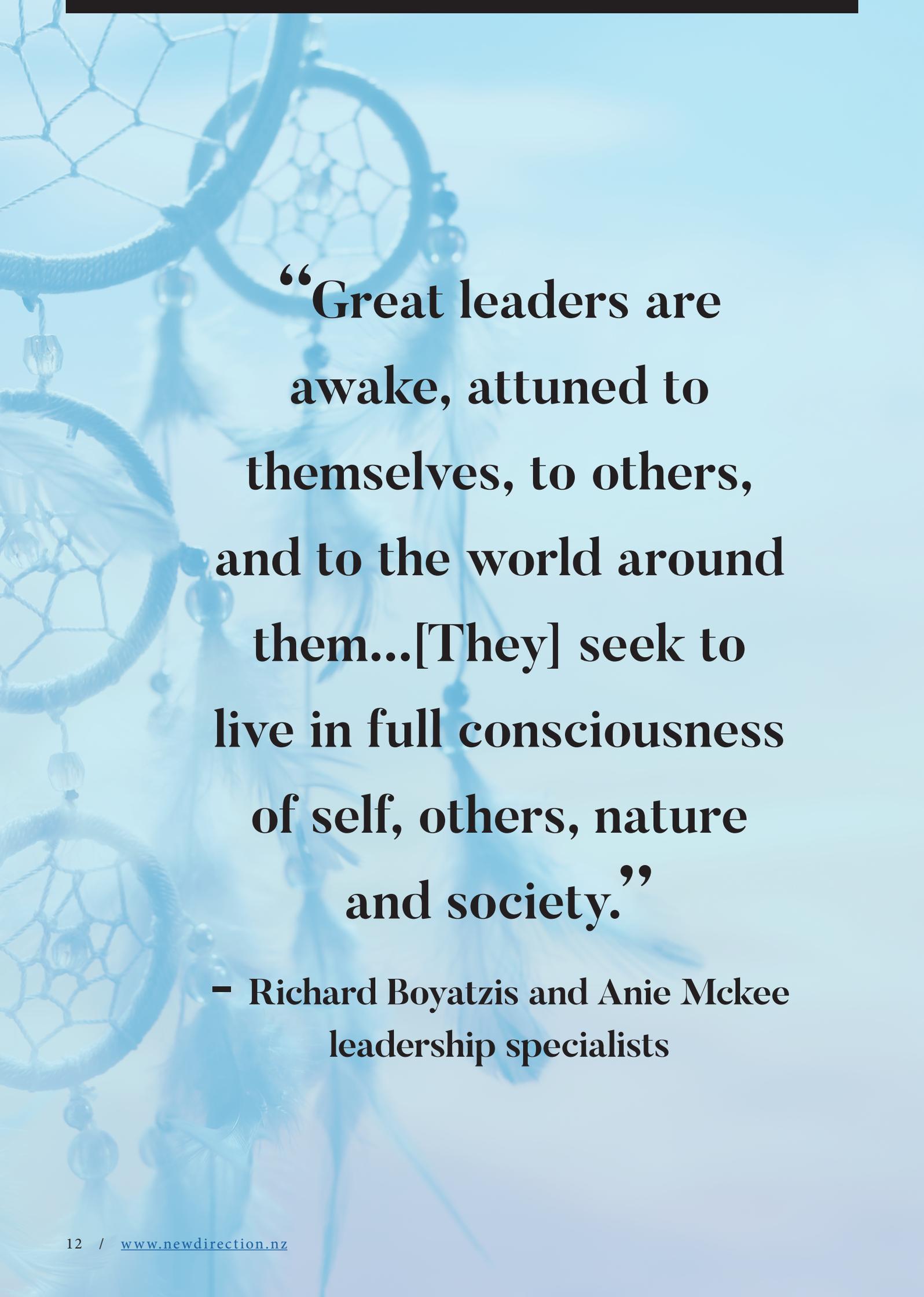
### **Christopher Evatt**

I am a business philosopher, educator, international speaker and I mentor leaders. My background has been founding and leading enterprises that instigated new and improved approaches in the fields of personal development, education, public health and business.

My deep life-interest and work is for people to access all their capacities to live fulfilled and rewarding lives by positively impacting the lives of others and the world around them, and for businesses and communities to thrive by doing the same. In recognition of my company being at the forefront in New Zealand in providing equal employment opportunities, it was awarded by the United Nations, for my "outstanding contribution in business" the Prime Ministers of Australia and New Zealand awarded me the first ANZAC Fellowship and later I was nominated for the title of 'World Class New Zealander'. I love supporting the next generation of leaders and sharing my experiences of Inner Leadership and how it can positively transform our lives and our world.

### **Alexander Evatt**

Kia Ora, Bures! I am Alexander Evatt, I coach and speak on Next Generation Leadership. My interest in business, societal and personal transformation is a natural expansion of who I am and my conscious upbringing in New Zealand and Finland. I grew up with dance, nature, multi-cultures, and philosophical conversations about life. I received an MSc in Leadership and Change Management from Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, researching the new paradigm of business and leadership and how to bridge generations. I am on the advisory board of three conscious consulting firms supporting managers and their teams to make the critical transformations needed in business. I am the founder/director of a social enterprise New Direction Ltd. With my father Christopher we support the next generation of leaders to create the conditions for all life to thrive.



**“Great leaders are  
awake, attuned to  
themselves, to others,  
and to the world around  
them...[They] seek to  
live in full consciousness  
of self, others, nature  
and society.”**

**– Richard Boyatzis and Anie Mckee  
leadership specialists**

# Source of inspiration

**We wish to acknowledge the wisdom that these great pioneers and organizations among many others have brought to the world for the co-creation of a whole-systems change for people and planet to flourish.**

Rev. Māori Marsden  
Pamela Mang  
Bill Reed  
Daniel Christian Whal  
Giles Hutchins  
Laura Storm  
Donella Meadows  
Peter Senge  
Gregory Cajete  
Fritjof Capra  
Dr. Otto Scharmer  
Charles Eisenstein  
Frederix Laloux  
Dr. Bruce Lipton  
Eckart Tolle  
Ken Wilber  
Dr. Gregg Bradon

Kate Raworth  
Thomas Björkman  
Dr. John Ehrenfeld  
Sathya Sai Baba  
Dr. Joe Dispenza  
Richard Rudd  
Margerat Mead  
Nassim Haramain  
Jiddu Krishnamurthi  
Thomas Hübl  
Christian Felber  
Barbara Marx Hubbard  
B Lab and Sistema B  
Presencing Institute  
Schumacher College  
Wellbeing Economy Alliance  
And many more...



# NEW DIRECTION



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