

**New Story Summit
Feedback Questionnaire
December 2014**

Responses collated by question

1. What is there for you still to do to be complete/current for now with what occurred during this time? Is there something personally that did not happen that needs to and still could happen?

I need to find more time in my schedule to reflect on and digest the notes I took from the Summit, and the challenges they hold for me. I am moving that way, and should be there in a month or so.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

I feel complete with the experience, aside from the ongoing ripples I'm following, each in their own way.

Alan Zulch (United States)

a report / a witness of the summit to make to my community in the Czech Republic.

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

Only to live my life from here on in the manner I did while part of the Summit.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

I am complete with the experience AND relive it when I talk about it and find new learning and takeaways.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

I still want to write about and share my reflections on the experience. I think what happened was really profound, and contained powerful teachings for movements like Transition, and for all people involved in creating positive change.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

I need to find a new discipline to help the heart changes that occurred in me to settle and become more influential.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

Sharing the experience (report is not my wording) - this is past now, but when I returned sharing felt important and was high in my heart monitor..

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

1. What is there for you still to do to be complete/current for now with what occurred during this time? Is there something personally that did not happen that needs to and still could happen?

I'm still curious and feeling for what it could have been if we had collectively stepped into something new in the "We Don't Know" moment - maybe to dissolve out of leadership into spirit directed, intuitive, collective, empathic flow - each drawing from source yet somehow as an integrated interconnected whole? or what? We went to the threshold, and even with Robin's invite, didn't quite step out of the known long enough to feel for a new way. Granted it would take time to do that, and a willingness for each of us to keep putting aside ideas and other mental frameworks so our deeper awareness could really guide us. I sense that next time we could step through.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

nothing that I can think of - I feel complete

(United Kingdom)

The misbehavior of Charles and Pink Lady destroyed a day's work and cost momentum. The rotten transport arrangements forced me to leave early on my own dime. Hence I lost closure opportunities.

Robert Steele (United States)

2. What was challenging for you? What would you have done differently yourself, or asked others to do differently?

I felt 'broken open' for much of the event, in a way that was profoundly challenging, and profoundly good. The thing that was most challenging for me personally I am not quite ready to share in this context.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

Staying present to the roiling dynamics of the collective, while staying present with my own ongoing inner experience, was/is always a challenge.

Alan Zulch (United States)

maybe a little bit more of free space, time to digest between the programme.

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

The only moment I would do differently was during the session that was framed around "Does it improve on the silence?" I took the mic and sat in silence/meditation until someone (Rebecca Strong) picked up the mic and broke the silence. I would have guarded the silence more fiercely - this is where emergence can be born.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

I loved every minute and would not do anything differently

Frank Phoenix (United States)

On the one hand, nothing should have been different - part of the learning was to take it exactly as it happened. On the other hand, I felt we were short of shared spaces to reflect on the meaning of what was happening - on the meta-perspective. Perhaps it's not possible to get a shared meta-perspective with such a large group, but I felt that even after the "rebellion" and the sharing of the mike to get reflections after the pause, there could have been a more specific invitation to reflect on the meaning of what was happening.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

As one of the people who had never been to Findhorn Foundation before I found traveling to, arriving at Cluny, moving to the park, a full afternoon and evening

2. What was challenging for you? What would you have done differently yourself, or asked others to do differently?

ending at 10pm of plenary sessions -- much too much. It would have better I had chosen to be at the Foundation and land physically and mentally for 24 hours before the summit began

Related but not the same. I believe much more time could have been devoted to simply meeting and getting introduced to everyone present at the summit. before all the speakers got going. The web-site directory was an attempt to do this I realise but meeting a critical mass of people one-to-one early on in the proceedings would have served me well.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

I was a bit aware of feeling like the "indigenous" participants were set apart in someways by some people, some of the time. The lack of confidence in the worth of "western" culture was interesting for me...mainly because I don't share it. It almost felt like having trashed the nature and many of the "indigenous" cultures who were participating we were now "mining" them for their native wisdom that was somehow going to save us. I'd like to have expressed that more openly than I did because I found several people who agreed with me. I'd have asked others to respect the stories of these visiting cultures for sure, but also to give a bit of credit to our own ones too.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

Being with so many diverse peoples - folks not trusting the form..

I would like more Council so the diversity and needs people had to 'be herd' got met.

Not just doing everything in a "Doing" way, but remembering the non-doing magical ever present essence of un-word-able source. GOD.

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

2. What was challenging for you? What would you have done differently yourself, or asked others to do differently?

I loved the program - wonderful diversity and inspiration - yet at the same time, how would it have been to have less program, more chaos? Maybe it would be a mess but maybe worth finding out? More open space time? Maybe start with deep times in meditation and move out of the silence?

Biggest challenge for me at the Summit was not enough time, often hurrying, winding up deep conversations because of the clock, rushing to be at the sessions on time ... so many beautiful people to meet and exchange with ...

I'd like to have heard more from the young folk.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

It was all well held in challenging circumstances, of trying to accommodate so much diversity. I felt that you succeeded and balanced the needs well.

(United Kingdom)

I found the entire event enchanting. Although the kum-ba-ya dominance was clear, I was thrilled to find fellow Naked Truth folks. If I could suggest one thing differently, it would be to embrace that contrast and strive to help the two sides come together. I left feeling that no one "got" the need for a quadrant that was rooted in kum-ba-ya, added research and deliberative dialog, and resulted in action.

Robert Steele (United States)

3. What did you let go of, learn or find a new way to do?

I learned to be more and do less, and to refuse invitations to tell my 'CV'.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

I realized that even a group of a greater number of people can meet in a different setting than the usual conference setting (presenter/listeners).

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

I let go of an ordinary life, a degree of trepidation, a shell of my former self.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

I let go of any expectations for the week. I learned that without expectations I was not drawn to judge what was happening and could rather just be present. And I found this a good strategy for attending events and will try it again.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

What I saw was indigenous elders calling in ritual to heal relationships, some white people projecting a power struggle onto what was happening, and others, also white and mainly men, attempting to get to an action plan. It taught me that healing relationships, and ensuring balance in feminine and masculine is at the centre of creating healthy culture, which enables us to make good process and therefore good decisions.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

I let go of some lurking inhibitions, I learned a lot about Findhorn Foundation and from the richness of content and way of being that each of the individual speakers offered. At a more essential level the learning and possibilities emerging for the grief ritual and harmonising the feminine/masculine ritual are profound. There were many magical moments that are jewels in my memory and so so many connections made to be grateful for.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

I let go of quite a bit of fear around expressing heart felt opinions and insights. I learned that I should believe in myself a whole lot more because I found my opinions, thoughts etc shared by many really amazing people.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

3. What did you let go of, learn or find a new way to do?

My judgments and opinions about 'talking heads' and ego's needing to be 'heard'! I spoke my truth to everyone.

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

Increased confidence in the importance of the new story. Empowered by the boldness activists, poets and others expressed themselves. Inspired to use more artistic fun ways to put over message. Inspired by Lesley's clowning. Standing in truth : if Jodie can put a bloody hand in Rice's face, maybe I don't need to pussy foot around so politely!

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

I let go of the need for structure to 'keep me safe', and found that going with the flow worked much better! I learnt a lot about this by watching the indigenous people who were present.

(United Kingdom)

I learned that my approach, the Naked Truth, simply does not work and that if I cannot learn to tell a story, I need to find story tellers to carry the message.

Robert Steele (United States)

4. What if anything died? Was completed?

I laid down an aspect of grief that I had been carrying.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

Not died - just transitioned from one life-phase to another.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

My discomfort with chaos died. I found I was able to be with the chaos and hold space for it to be. My need to get something out of the experience died. I found that by letting go of the need to get something I was about to be present thus allowing the experiences to go deeper and have more impact.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

I felt the grief ritual for healing indigenous people, people of colour, and white people was really powerful. Something always dies when ritual really works, and something is always born.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

Knowing that I'm doing just what I'm meant to do and owning that more - a completion.

What died - being closed and not open.

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

It's an ongoing process - the summit accelerated it.

Perhaps a death to the thought that there is anything we can think that will be the new story.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

My need for control!!!

(United Kingdom)

4. What if anything died? Was completed?

I started a new life. The New Story Summit, coming as it did on top of my 2012 book finally being noticed and profiled in The Guardian, literally put to rest my obsession with helping governments reform secret intelligence, and caused me to focus wholeheartedly on the new story: open source everything.

Robert Steele (United States)

5. What was birthed? Any miracles?

A new way of being for me. And a new land community in the Azores, as a collaboration between myself and Rita Tojal.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

I saw many miracles during the summit - e.g. the rituals that took place, wild geese coming back at the same time, sunny weather.

The awareness of our interconnectedness in the world - so many people working for change / new story and the power of this awareness...

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

I remember saying in my first Home Group meeting that this felt like it would be a birthing for me. It was. I stepped into myself at the level of spirit and embraced it.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

A new way of being at gatherings, see 3 & 4 above. I also came to see there is not one way. I have been trying to figure it out, to solve the big problem and I came to see that there is not one solution, but rather many solutions. It is a relief to not have to figure it all out. Just my part. We all come with particular perspectives and each has validity. My role is to embrace and support those perspectives that resonate with me. And not make the other perspectives wrong, but rather to respect them and let them have space.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

The miracle was in the global system being able to meet itself and have a conversation - indigenous, global south, global north, men and women, young and old.. The miracle was the process itself, the meetings, the "what happens when there are indigenous elders present". The miracle was in the knowing and the not knowing - that we have lots of pieces of the puzzle, but when global south, young people and indigenous elders are in the space along with what for me is the usual mainly global north white gathering., something else happens - if you are listening for it.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

5. What was birthed? Any miracles?

The first miracle was accidentally finding out about the summit through looking at Polly Higgins' online diary in February... thanks again Polly. Actually I found that the whole summit was a journey from one small miracle to another. There were many, many miracles. "Chance" meetings with special people at every meal, bus trip, session, walk, in the loo, etc. being in the presence of creative artists treating me (and us) to exquisite moments of genius at work, and very many group, community experiences and rituals that were each a miracle in their own right.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

A new willingness to speak openly from the heart and about how all our clever tech ideas to save ourselves will come to nothing if the heart is left out of the picture.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

Empathy and acceptance ..

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

A deeper reverence for the intangible, for felt sense, the power of ceremony and the need to release the old so the new can come, a commitment to the new story resonating with the signature of heartfelt joy and freedom.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

Nothing birthed, but a deepened sense of awe and gratitude for the amazing diversity of the human species and how, even in diversity, we can be collaborative through listening and watching, and create something new that serves us all.

(United Kingdom)

Getting to know Elisabet was a miracle. Being introduced to May East was a miracle

Robert Steele (United States)

6. What surprised you?

The new way of being I discovered, and the extent to which the summit and its participants felt like a tight-knit, loving community, in which passion, turmoil and conflict could be safely expressed.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

How a group of such high-minded and good folks can nevertheless, under sufficiently pressured conditions, collectively decompensate into highly-charged emotions and conditioned behaviors, and re-organize into underlying predilections of identity: "do-ers", "be-ers", and "process-ers". And then come back together again into a coherent group when the pressure is mitigated. It was fascinating to observe.

Alan Zulch (United States)

The way and speed our large group was able to become in tune, almost as one organism and to self-organise.

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

To see that I was part of such a huge, diverse and wonderful global community - the Secret World Government.

How easy it was to live from intuition and what fantastic things happen when we do.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

The way the last day unfolded with one art performance after another. A wonderful day. The new story will spread through culture via the arts.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

i was surprised that people asked to give short talks found it so difficult to give just a small piece, and tried to give their whole philosophy in 5 minutes - or talked way longer. I was surprised that anyone could take Open Space as too structured. I was surprised at the strength of the tension around who spoke and who listened. I was surprised that those who were most confident they knew what we should be doing were telling others "We don't know". And i wasn't surprised by any of it - I thought it would be rich and powerful, and it was.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

6. What surprised you?

The audacious vision, courage and commitment of the Findhorn Foundation and the organisers who chose to put this summit on.... and then even more surprising that they stayed with it all the way to harbour and are still staying with it now. Brilliant people.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

People really loved it when I played my bagpipes. That people, honoured visitors especially were unable to find time to even spend an afternoon exploring the country. Bizarre.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

How quickly people, re-grouped back into 'known' safe groups/cliques and a lack of openness was available at times.. At one point I thought I could have been in a large café in central London.

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

Warm weather!

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

That the 'don't know' saboteurs did not stand up and make themselves known, and 'lead a revolution'. That the rest of the people there, although mostly incensed and inspired by the sabotage, did not take power into their own hands and lead a revolution. In then end we all seemed to devolve back into a pattern of letting the nominated leaders tell us what to do, and seemed to find comfort in that. A metaphor for life on a global level?!

(United Kingdom)

The story about the Naked Truth versus the Story Teller. A stake in my heart in a most positive manner.

Robert Steele (United States)

7. What were highlights or significant sessions for you?

Swimming in a phosphorescent ocean after the late night fire ceremony, also two other occasions in the ocean, with seals and Santos, and under a miraculous sunset, Kalani's early morning firepit chat, dancing to the music of the young pianist who would quietly move to play in the Great Hall, Deborah Koff-Chapin's touch drawing of Aida's talk on Gaza, a twenty minute hug with a woman I barely knew, Shaun Nannup's sage advice and friendship, one-to-one...

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

The council session between youngers/olders was the most significant, powerful session, as it vividly demonstrated the need for intergenerational listening and dialogue. I also appreciated

Alan Zulch (United States)

circle with entrances for different voices,

little constellation session with the "industrial powers" standing in front of everyone,

man/women reconcilliation ritual,

art - singing, dancing...

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

Highlights: how music, creativity, song were woven throughout. The ceremonies and rituals.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

It was all wonderful, including down time with other summiteers.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

7. What were highlights or significant sessions for you?

Pat McCabe, Kalani, Kahontine and Viselela bringing rituals - sadly I missed the men / women healing.

Teachings about old cultures that have social technologies that balance masculine and feminine - that ensure men listen to women, where women's menstruation and openness to spirit are put in service of the community and seen as a source of wisdom. I noticed that Findhorn has lost its tradition of really listening to the feminine as it comes through women, and young women especially. And I feel how deeply radical such a practice would be in our culture that banishes and shames menstruation.

Sitting in silence after the Open Space rebellion, and the reflections which followed

There were many many meetings, deep connections, appreciations, knitting among the different parts of the field that I was part of, and saw and heard for many others.

Dancing - something physical, connecting, joyful - at the end of several evenings was great.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

The male/female rebalancing ceremony in the Universal Hall. The chaos of a few of the open sessions. The Open Mic nights in the CC were great fun.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

Meeting and making contact with people I would never have dreamed I could from such a different and diverse perspective of the plant and yet we have the same heart and care..

A gift and a teaching!

The ceremonies, dance, music, song, art - how can any society exist without being supported and laced with these creative expressions making meaning and myth.

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

Ceremonies. Alixa's poetry. Deborah's artwork and vocals/crystal bowl.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

7. What were highlights or significant sessions for you?

The ceremonies in the Hall and elsewhere; the sessions where healing took place in front of our eyes - the Belgian woman and Lua; the Palestinian woman speaking to Robin (a Jew); the gender ritual; the grief ritual. If this is all that the Summit provided it would have been a HUGE contribution to the healing of our species...and yet it still provided more!

(United Kingdom)

The break-out sessions. I was glad to see my home group reconvene as well.

Robert Steele (United States)

8. How do you feel the Summit will make a difference in your life or in the world?

It has fired again the longing for community in me. The longing to live amongst my tribe, and to be able to share my troubles there, rather than going away and returning when healed.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

It has already made a significant difference, through new insights, clarifications, connections, etc.

Alan Zulch (United States)

it was like a stone that fell in the water and is spreading its waves further and further.

My own awareness of "us" in the world is giving me trust and strenght on my own journey.

I experienced new ways of being and creating together which are imprinted now in me and which I can transmit further.

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

The Summit has truly changed my life. I have had a felt-experience of my true self within a community of spirit, within the flow of universal change. There is no going back now.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

I have grown as a person, I am clearer about what I am up to. I am very encouraged by all the good work happening in the world, all the good people I met at NSS. Coming together in the way we did, for the sake of the whole of life on the planet sends ripples in our collective consciousness, has impacts in ways we cannot see. Gatherings in the future will build on NSS, benefit from the work without necessarily knowing it. It is now in the collective.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

It confirmed things I have been feeling and seeing from my own experience of what makes or breaks healthy culture for humans, and strengthens and redirects my

8. How do you feel the Summit will make a difference in your life or in the world?

enquiry. I hope some of the connections will bear significant fruit for me and for my service in the world.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

It has helped me make contact with many people and threads being weaved in the world that I was unaware of before and also to make a firmer connection with some people and threads that I was already aware of. This expands my ability to be of service to dreaming and setting a new world in motion

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

It definitely enabled some new link between my head and my heart which has enabled the heart to come way further to the front. It has energised me around people and somehow I have more energy to continue to strive for the future.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

It opened me, challenged my habits and connected me with other humans in a way I couldn't have anticipated. Communion – this has an effect on the world in my book.

It has made a difference by just being and offering as it is/ was..

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

I feel greatly empowered by the summit. There seems a more powerful light working through me to step up initiatives for change since then.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

Simply being part of something that felt so new, and so alive, and created big shifts and a lot of healing, will make / has made a difference.

(United Kingdom)

Absolutely jump-started my appreciation for a new path, for gratitude, for going with the flow.

Robert Steele (United States)

9. Some feel, in the spirit of diversity, that we should each choose a name for the new story that serves where we are. What is the name you feel best to carry forward?

I prefer to use the name that makes most sense to those with whom I am conversing; and perhaps to explore the nuances of that.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

I agree that New Story as a moniker has real issues, but I don't have alternatives to offer at the moment.

Alan Zulch (United States)

whole story

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

Personally I like the New Story. This title has allowed me to talk about the Summit to people who live within the mainstream. It makes sense to them and therefore has real power. I fear another name would mean something to those of us living from the New Story but would have less meaning to those seeing for the first time the cracks in the Old Story.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

New Story

Frank Phoenix (United States)

don't know

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

the co-creation story

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

NSS does fine for me. It's just a name. It's what the name means that's important.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

9. Some feel, in the spirit of diversity, that we should each choose a name for the new story that serves where we are. What is the name you feel best to carry forward?

Don' know - New Story Summit is fine!

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

whatever works in the various situations.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

The new story works for me....or stories...

(United Kingdom)

The Eternal Conversation

Robert Steele (United States)

10. What do you feel are essentials, non-negotiables in the emerging story?

Humility. That the new story is not about knowing, or about being wise, but about being open to changing our stories. To having our expectations shattered, and acknowledging that.

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

What ultimately got clarified for me during the NSS was that the New Story is a state of consciousness. Through no fault of their own, in retrospect I can see that the NSS convenors introduced and then perpetuated a problem by not defining the New Story as a state of consciousness or Being, instead considering it to be a thing in the realm of dualism.

By considering the New Story as a thing – as something that is tangible and rational and in competition with other things – discussions became chaotic as everything built on this false assumption became ultimately untenable and/or unsustainable, because no matter how well conceived, designed or executed, these were emanating from the Old Story of separation.

By recognizing the New Story as being nothing other (or less) than Conscious Awareness itself, all of the Old Story's dualities and dichotomies are reconciled and dialectically resolved (old vs new, being vs doing, etc).

In the New Story, Being informs doing, because there is no other choice if one is to remain in the new paradigm. The New Story leaves nothing behind.

Framed this way, the difficulties encountered during the New Story Summit make sense and can be thought of as evolutionary struggles along the transformative path of this paradigm shift.

Alan Zulch (United States)

all the voices are valid, we are not alone - there is the more-than human world that needs to be recognised and cooperated with, recognition of who we are as spiritual beings and what is our true role, reciprocity

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

That all things are connected - everything else flows from this.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

Working is for the sake of the whole.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

Below are some things which were missing from the "principles" gathered by Jonathan Porritt's group (I added some during the second meeting of the group), and which I think are essential - but are usually missed by groups from global north culture.

Women are at the heart of decision making, alongside men.

Children, mothers, fathers as the central focus of human activity and not the other way around - raising healthy, happy, community minded children and ensuring they are supported and encouraged to take their place as healthy, happy community minded adults should be at the heart of every decision and act of the adult world. (Community including the community of all life, present and to come)

Happy, loving, peaceful, satisfying relationships are at the heart of our objectives together and individually, and are as valued as the work we do.

Understanding pain and anti-social behaviour as an indicator that something is wrong, and needs attention. Health as a concept of integrated physical, mental, emotional, sexual, social health. Pain (in its larger meaning) is welcomed, given space, listened to, made meaning of and responded to. There are public, meaningful rituals for sharing, releasing and healing pain.

Elders, or people in the role of elders, have an overview and take care of the well being of the whole. They are people who are no longer tied up with personal concerns, their own gifts and mastery and their own intimate and parental relationships.

The culture of leadership is one of collaboration and service to the whole. We stop telling and celebrating stories that are based on the solo heroic masculine.

The nature of dysfunctional masculine and feminine, and the places and reasons they arise are understood. We do not found our movements for social change using

10. What do you feel are essentials, non-negotiables in the emerging story?

the same dysfunctional masculine dominated culture that created the problems we are facing.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

That we re-enchant our relationship to nature and all that is (including the human race!)

A both/and, whole paradigm

We are each free self-creating individuals and we are inter-dependent co-creating beings.

We conjure a sense of separateness to learn and grow as individuals and we are also willing to give up that sense of separateness (and our fierce independence) to serve the whole and become one.

A deep commitment to explore and create harmony and balance of the feminine and masculine energy in us all. And to honour and respect the woman or the man that I am (depending on my gender)

Status is defined by love... how much you can and do love (quality and quantity)

Power (individual, community, corporate, political, global) is gained through working with nature and people (not by working against, controlling, dominating or using nature)

Commitment to expose and heal the pain, loneliness, sorrow and deep scars created by the widely held belief that we really are separate from all that is and by the abuse and ravages of the male chauvinism of the last 500 years ++

Honouring ancient wisdom and tradition and integrating it with the power of uncharted emerging futures

And overall... it is a magical story that turns out beautifully for all involved

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

Heart, acceptance, willingness. bravery, humour.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

10. What do you feel are essentials, non-negotiables in the emerging story?

What ever people (and me) do in the world to serve, help and support a new story - without personal shift in consciousness that opens the innate understanding of something larger than ourselves.. remembering God, Great Spirit, the undefinable universal intelligence.. quiet ever-present stillness within!

Nothing will shift without this 'knowing awakening'...

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

Heart centred. Interconnected awareness. Aligned with spirit and the natural world. Joyous.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

Respect - for self, for others and for the planet. Deep listening. Community / collaboration / cooperation.

(United Kingdom)

Respect for others. I felt deeply violated by what Charles and Pink Lady did. It cost me 30% of the value of the total event.

Robert Steele (United States)

11. What do you feel was missed or may be important to consider for any next gathering, with any suggestions, etc., for yourself personally and for the collective? How might another gathering be different or look, in the spirit of emergence?

I'd be curious to see what a subsequent gathering would look like (who it would attract and how it would unfold) if the New Story was framed as a state of consciousness, rather than a thing/narrative.

Alan Zulch (United States)

The key period for me was the phase of "Emergence". For the next Summit I would welcome more time and space in emergence. I think there are technologies which support this (U process, divination, meditation, Constellations...?....?) which we could employ rigorously and hold fiercely. The more time we spend in not knowing the more likely we are to hear the future world calling to us.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

I suggest we start out in small groups touching heart to heart then build slowly to larger and larger groups.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

It's just a bit crazy that all these people come to Scotland and don't even get a chance to go for a wander without missing some workshop. I'd encourage a bit more scope to use the country itself to help the learning unfold. If you know the MOvie "Local hero" and you see what happens to Mac, the American oil man, you'll know what I mean.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

More "Way of Council" -

The first nations / indigenous peoples presence and ceremonies, high-lighting the connection to nature and the interconnectedness in a visceral congruent way.

Song, dance, laughter, music, the arts laced through everything - Not missing and essential - AS IT SHOULD BE - Love this and is a MUST!

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

11. What do you feel was missed or may be important to consider for any next gathering, with any suggestions, etc., for yourself personally and for the collective? How might another gathering be different or look, in the spirit of emergence?

There was clearly a huge tension around asking people to listen for so long during the first two days. How to bring people together and have some digest of what's actually happening without getting to this overload is really challenging - we face the same dilemmas with the Transition conference.

But there was too much content without digestion time. I thought it got better when the shapes started to change, when there was 10 minutes to talk to people next to you about what you were hearing etc..

i wonder how it would be to organise a whole conference like this around open space.. I'm not sure i would want to do it like that.

I wonder about making a schedule with more free time, a variety of optional talks that can be more interactive at the start, and well designed structures for bringing things different threads together at several points along the way..

In general I think we were missing a space - which could have come at the end of each day or each section, which asked "what has this been like, and what meaning are we making of it".. so we could have asked together, what's the meaning of the tension around speaking and listening?

I'd be happy to be part of a more detailed de-brief if that was wanted.

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

Perhaps some more contrived mixing. I met a lot of people, but I often felt that they were suspicious of me or that I was trying too hard. I would have liked to have been able to mix more without feeling I was intruding.

Robert Steele (United States)

It would be interesting to have a gathering with even less structure, and get into Open Space much earlier, now that the seeds have already been sown.... (note: this wasn't missing this time, because the seed-sowing was important/vital, but now that we are already on the path...)

(United Kingdom)

11. What do you feel was missed or may be important to consider for any next gathering, with any suggestions, etc., for yourself personally and for the collective? How might another gathering be different or look, in the spirit of emergence?

With so much that was included it's hard to say anything was missing. I felt the whole summit was like an overflowing cornucopia.

The one thing I could not fathom was about intention. I do not think that the intention/purpose of the summit was ever really crystalised in a material way. I did not feel the plenary ever really got behind an aligned intention. However there was clearly an intent on the part of the organisers and as far as I can gather from what Richard wrote, that was not accomplished (YET!)

I think that it was more like there were several overlapping domains of intention, some of which were consciously declared and some not. I also felt that in a few cases individual "ego" intentions were exposed from time to time, although they never really got to fly thankfully.

Maybe there was a over-riding intention at play that is mysterious and in a way not in the hands of mere mortals... I felt the touch of divine intent We were guided.

Another time I'd want to include the ancient stories and heritage of as many peoples as possible... in addition to the aboriginal cultures that we honoured... for instance the Norse, the Celtic, etc.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

It would be good to have everyone staying in the same vicinity (not at Cluny - or all at Cluny)

Same spirit of inquiry, willingness to go with what is happening

The quality of people there is what made it very special - truly awesome. Same again!

Maybe more time outside, on the earth, at the sea?

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

12. What did you experience that might serve others, even the world, to know about? What gifts do you carry forward from this time to your land and people?

"Shame is the oldest trick in the book, and we must take it off the table"

"We have become very proficient in our prayer ... but we must make a place for the answers to prayer to come"

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIzJ42sKyZs#t=66m48s>)

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

See above response to #10

Alan Zulch (United States)

building collective intelligence is not utopia, it is possible and essential for the new story,

Art can be a shortcut to the heart and levels in which we are able to create the world of our longing.

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

What I experienced is that the future is real, if we just stop long enough to listen out for it. And that we step towards it when we step into who we truly are.

What gifts do I carry: energy, calm, a sense of the future, an emerging mystical power.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

Coming together with others with purity of intention for the sake of the whole is a wonderful experience. Coming together without personal agendas, dropping the sense of a separate self, dropping the facade, masks we hide behind, and coming together with opening our hearts to truly see each other is the new story. And the more we do it, the easier it will be for us and others to do it.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

12. What did you experience that might serve others, even the world, to know about? What gifts do you carry forward from this time to your land and people?

I think i've said it above

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

That energy and drive that comes from the heart will always outlast work driven just be the intellect. I take back more love for myself and others, more able to express and experience calmness, enjoyment of the pleasure playing music for others brings.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

I speak about this event in conversations all the time,(less now time has moved forward) even though I can't quite define what happened? I talk about/speak and convey the expression and experience of the NSS to everyone, my groups and clients. "Something" is being conveyed and Findhorn name get mentioned all the time!

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

The felt sense of living in the new time, spirit/interconnected/heart oriented, working together.

To the people where I currently live, I bring dialogue, showing the NSS web streaming, bring strong inspiration that change is possible. I have plans for a local (smaller) new story summit next July. I'm increasingly weaving New Story elements into the ceremony, dances, classes and music I've been facilitating the last decades. I'm planning to step up engagement in Transition Ottawa over the next months.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

The importance of including ceremony and ritual in my daily life. Acknowledging the elements, the natural world, a stronger feeling of connectedness with the natural world, spirit world and the ancestors.

(United Kingdom)

I learned it is possible to eat well for a week on a vegetarian diet. I learned that Findhorn has very low rent assistance for airport transfers and will never, ever accept a proffered ride in the future -- I will pay my way. It is downright STUPID to not send the proper bus or to fail to plan for more than 4 people wanting a ride. The negatives of the rides on both ends cost 20% of the total experience.

Robert Steele (United States)

13. What ripples have occurred? Projects birthed, invaluable connections made?

connections - Earth Treasure Vase practice and network, ...

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

Many ripples: conversations with people in the mainstream, emerging groups of people moving towards the New Story, a plan to train myself in facilitating Constellations, lots of contacts with people who were there who I didn't know before, working with business on change, supporting Polly Higgins in her work and writing - blogs, poetry, a short story.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

I vibrate and send ripples every time I share the experience.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

I've been flat out this autumn since the summit, so not sure yet..

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

The ripples are still building... not quite ripe yet. I'll keep in touch.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

That's private. Although I did hear a big Mandala came down through the roof of The Universal Hall during the ceremony and circled over the people until it clicked into place, sending vibrations into the Earth. At least, that's what "she" said happened.

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

More the ripple in my own heart of shared heart-minds of communion and community - it made a difference that is un-wordable and yet informs all my connections and work everywhere and in everything. The ripple effect! A prayer..

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

I've been in touch with many submitters, exchanging information and feel a great kinship.

Yesterday evening for the first time I donned a clown nose and curly hair etc and delivered a skit that, while funny, strongly the exposed oil and economic growth paradigm. I see potential for more linking message with entertainment.

Currently clarifying how the current story has been programmed - emotional, energetic as well as verbal imprinting. If we don't identify the old story, and clear the messaging and emotional underpinnings, the new ways will be surface masks sitting on old foundations.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

New ideas for programmes; many new connections that I know of. Collaborations between youth groups (Generation Waking Up; NextGEN; Be The Change; Pachamama Alliance). Collaboration between the Pachamama Alliance, Be The Change and the European Citizens Initiative (bringing the Rights of Nature into policy across Europe, and into the education system).

(United Kingdom)

Elisabet, the Hawaiian guy, Donnie McClurcan, Roger, May East led to my doing a UN Background Paper that was ignored but that in turn led to something in South America. No question about it, Findhorn Summit was a life changing experience for me.

Robert Steele (United States)

14. Any thing else essential you want the conveners to know?

For me, one of the most important things I learned was to accept the repeated invitations to step away from the timetable if I was called that way. As Kalani put it, "let them have their schedule" :)

Shaun Chamberlin (United Kingdom)

I am grateful to each and all of you for your courage, commitment, heart, dedication, skill, insight, and generosity. Truly.

Alan Zulch (United States)

big appreciation for the whole community of Findhorn and the organising and facilitating team for the courage to hold such an event in new ways (being able to not know and create space for things to emerge, happen, gift economy model...)

Hana Bernardova (Czech Republic)

Just my eternal gratitude - for what you have brought to me and to the world. And an encouragement to keep going. And an offer to be part of shaping and participating in whatever comes next.

Chris Taylor (United Kingdom)

Thank you, thank you, thank you, job well done.

Frank Phoenix (United States)

Well done, you did a great job. Anyone who thinks something else should have happened, or is critical, didn't really understand what happened - in my humble opinion!!

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

Thank you so much. I am deeply grateful to you and your leadership.

Andrew Davies (United Kingdom)

Guid job

Iain Findlay (Vatican City)

14. Any thing else essential you want the conveners to know?

THANK YOU! For skills, your care, your courage and obvious deep hearts and minds.

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

I look forward to next steps and would love to be part of them.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

Thank you - it was amazing! You did an incredible job.

(United Kingdom)

The lemon ginger tea is EXTRAORDINARY -- better than anything I can buy here where I have to double bag to even get a glimmer.

Robert Steele (United States)

Anything else you would like to add?

I sent comments to Janice Dolley's group, and i have had no feedback about what this group has concluded, what will happen to it..?

Sophy Banks (United Kingdom)

More thank you and Gratitude..

Pippa Bondy (United Kingdom)

I'm deeply grateful to have been at the summit. Thank you for bravely hosting it, for all the care and trust that went into it. Ripples are still emanating out into the world. I feel our very coming together was a powerful contribution to a global shift.

Kaia Nightingale (Canada)

A one day course in story-telliing for naked truth people, and a one day course in naked truth for story tellers, would be most salutary. I would be glad to take the first and offer the second.

Robert Steele (United States)
