

Bill Veltrop's breakfast with the Mayor session

Notes taken by Bruce Holland 11/3/2011

The following notes were taken by Bruce Holland following the presentation by Bill Veltrop on the 11/3/2011 at the Mayor's Office. The notes are not complete and may not be totally accurate but taken overall they give something of the reaction to the presentation. Apologies to the brilliant ideas I did not trap.

Nick Gerritsen talked about the importance of increasing the pace of energy. He said Wellington has unusual energy. He said we need something that is scalable. He spoke about the major screen industry in Miramar and its importance for tell stories and giving dreams to 12 year olds. He also spoke of not just doing new things, but doing the things we're already doing differently.

Bruce Holland talked about how positively people respond to deeper subjects like increasing consciousness, if you have the courage to talk about it; however, it does take courage since few people do it.

Allan Frazer spoke about the alignment of Bill's thinking with Maori. He talked about his contacts with Maori and how he could help involve some in our followup sessions.

Peter Glensor talked about the Greater Wellington Strategy and how narrow it had become. He said Bill's approach was a breath of fresh air and he would like to put more effort into it.

Chris Laidlaw also talked about the Greater Wellington Strategy saying it was stuck in a mechanistic mire focused mainly on increasing business and competitive power for the Region.

Paul Callaghan spoke about story-telling and how it can change the way we think. He said it needs to be subtle and done respectfully; it needs to be built on good stuff.

Morgan Williams said the nodes will be in the city, including wind generation. He referred to the 20-person Kiwi group that visited and studied Curitiba's enormously successful transformation of that city in 2002 (?). The study they published will be an important resource for 'regional metamorphosis' work everywhere. He also mentioned Transition Town groups.

Bill Veltrop referred to the amount of time/energy that Jaime Lerner and his core team of Curitiba leaders spent in strategising and planning Curitiba's future as a classic example of regional 'Chrysalis Work'. Bill also made the point that highly innovative social system designs don't naturally spread. The other existing systems seem to find ways to discount breakthroughs of those innovative systems. (It's like the caterpillar's immune system killing of the imaginal cells because they're different) It's important to create a larger game that's exciting, compelling and broadly owned. Then evolve the 'contained, selective first steps' in ways that are also broadly owned.

Richard Whatman talked about visual technologies and their applications to development. They can be useful to measure and view things, e.g., to portray a vision of what might be in relation to what is.

Celia Wade-Brown said she was interested in leading the way (next steps). She said next steps should be contained and selective; based on selected communities (like Newlands or Miramar where activity is already occurring; or selected industries (like water). She undertook to hold a followup breakfast for participants in about a months time. She was requested to include more Maori/Pacific Islanders, women and youth if possible.

Bill Veltrop's slides are available at:

<https://prezi.com/secure/45622956e8d37426a672d23bdb14a6130ec313c1/>

Attendees:

Wes Brown	Wes.brown@justice.govt.nz
Paul Callaghan	paul.callaghan@vuw.ac.nz
Allan Frazer	allan.frazer@paradise.net.nz
Peter Glensor	pglensor@xtra.co.nz
Bruce Holland	bruce.holland@virtual.co.nz
Chris Laidlaw	chrislaidlaw@paradise.net.nz
Teena Pennington	teena.pennington@wcc.govt.nz
Bill Veltrop	Bill@MISA.ws
Marilyn Veltrop	mveltrop@comcast.net
Celia Wade-Brown	mayor@wcc.govt.nz
Richard Whatman	whatmanrichard20@gmail.com
Morgan Williams	morganwilliamsnz@gmail.com
Nick Gerritsen	Nick@crispstart.com