

THE ROLE OF THE KEEPER

Keepers are guides who move a group towards consensus. They set the initial tone when they welcome participants and they induce a sense of comfort and safety as well as a sense of collective responsibility.

They also facilitate discussion by summarizing, acknowledging and paraphrasing. Below is a list of things a keeper does, and things they might say while doing them.

Promote Equality:

“We all have important experiences and something to offer.”

Generate Respect:

“We are different—but we all have something to learn from each other.”

Share responsibility:

“The problem belongs to all of us—and all of us are responsible for finding a solution.”

Encourage New Ideas:

“There is no bad idea. Let’s work together to find solutions.”

Call Timely Breaks

Maintain a positive, upbeat perspective