

~ One Planet ~
Community Conversations

**Making a Place We Can All Call Home:
Towards Generative Dialogue**

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Making a Place We Can All Call Home

What makes a great place?

Who makes such a place?

How might we make a place
that we can all call home?

Our region as our **home** – our home-**place**

Our precious piece of Planet Earth

~ where 'we' manifest.

Some questions for our consideration, and for some reflective if not generative inquiry. And some context-ideas for situating and orienting our larger/longer 'conversation' – with a particular interest in the themes of 'home' and 'place' – and the 'making' involved in both.

Making a Place We Can All Call Home



The larger 'planetary' context – wondering about bringing it down to 'earth', and closer to 'home' – especially our place on Earth.

Making a Place We Can All Call Home

How might we go about making a place
– on Earth, of Earth –
that we can all call home?

What's the story here, that we might want
to tell together to our future?

... the tapestry we might weave together,
and display proudly?

What might we make together? What story might we like to tell? What richer tapestry might we want to weave? Applying our 'artistry', creatively, innovatively?

Making a Place We Can All Call Home



Expanding our sense of home – as sanctuary and crucible; loving living on a larger scale.

Making a Place We Can All Call Home

via

Conversation as Generative Dialogue

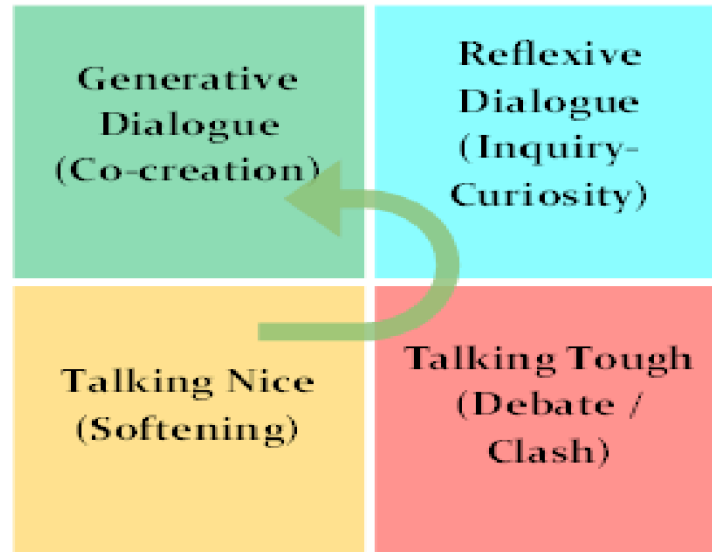
Common-place-making
on a grand regional scale.

Our agency – as makers (*homo faber*)
of our collective home-place.

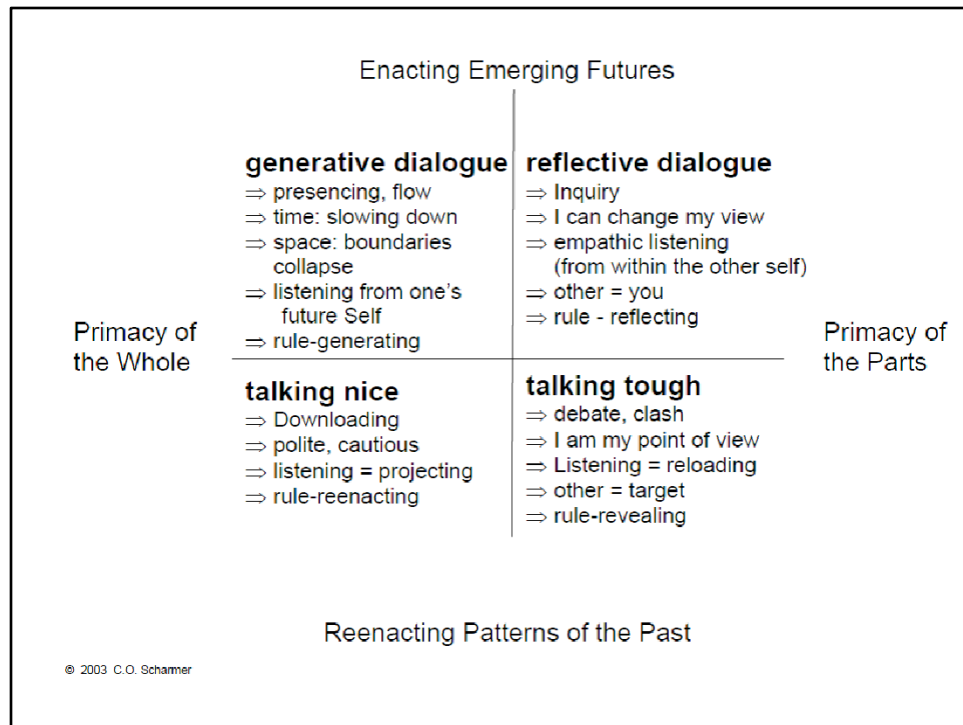
Paying attention to the nature of our conversation – developing it, onto new levels, into new territories. Towards dialogue that is generative, that frames collective action, where our ‘making’ transforms.

Four Types of Conversation

<http://www.mspguide.org/tool/4-types-conversations>



Based on some work by Otto Scharmer, and his Presencing Institute. To support multi-stakeholder partnerships to grow and develop together – by evolving the notion of ‘conversation’.



Paying attention to the framing of the four types, and especially the contrasts between: 're-enacting patterns of the past' (which we might want to guard against) and 'Enacting Emerging Futures' (which we might want to try to stress); and between balancing 'the primacy of the parts' and 'the primacy of the whole'. The latter could be construed as a bias for 'whole-making', which can be taken to embrace 'healing' and 'well-ing'. More discussion at: <http://www.mspguide.org/tool/4-types-conversations>

Making a Place We Can All Call Home

**Transcending 'Region':
Fractal Meets Holon**

Our One Planet Fractal

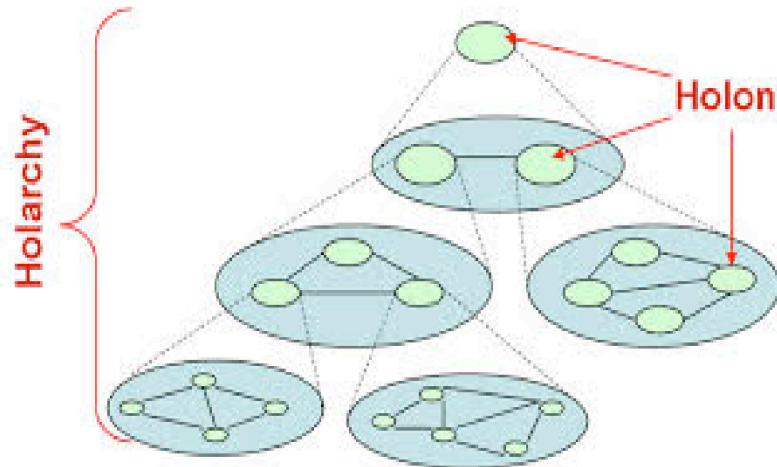
~ repeating patterns, shifting scales

Parts and Wholes/Parts as Wholes

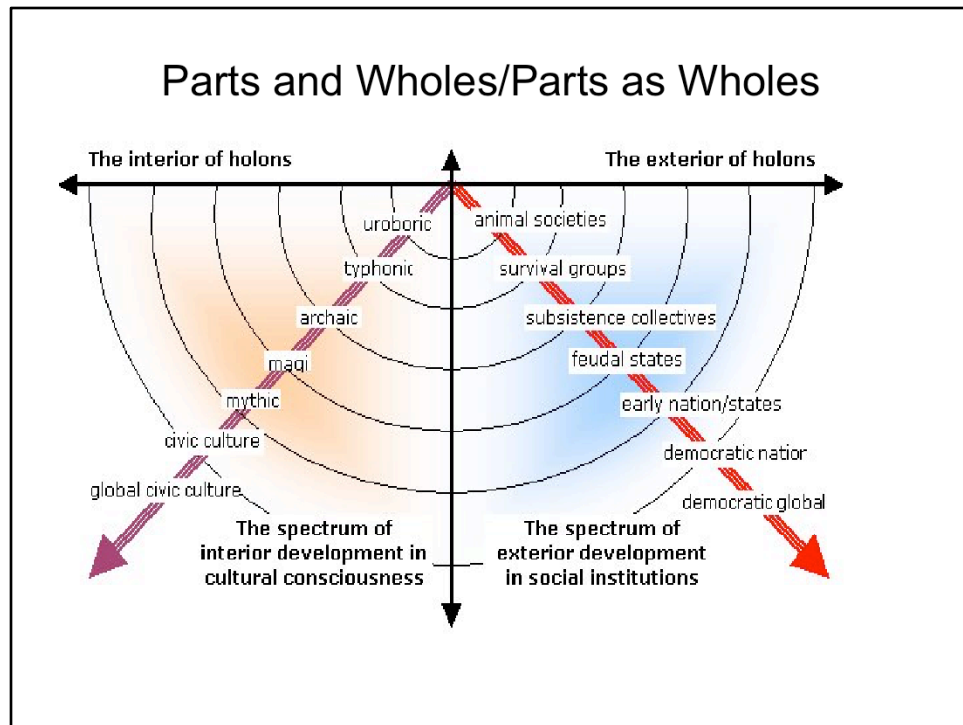
~ the holon that matters most to us.

'Region-' thinking may be associated with too much 're-enacting past patterns'... what might be emerging as a 're-placement', that better fits the future we might aspire to emerge? Two possibilities – fractals and holons – associated with emerging applied complexity science, and with a more integral perspective.

Parts and Wholes/Parts as Wholes



It helps to think of holons in the context of a 'holarchy', rather than a conventional 'hierarchy'



It also helps to think of holons as having an interior and an exterior, with inter-quadrant co-relates (in integral terms)

Our One Planet Fractal
~ repeating patterns, shifting scales



For more on fractals, begin with: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fractal> ... 'and branch out'!

Change Vis-à-vis Transformation
[the transformational 'change' in 'transformation']

CHANGE VS. TRANSFORMATION

Change	Transformation
Subscribes to Vision	Prescribes Vision
Fixes the Past and Current	Creates the Future
Driven by Tactics	Driven by Strategy
Focus on Methods & Processes	Focus on Mindsets and Beliefs
External Influence is High	External Influence is Minimal

Beyond (mere) change; contemplating (integral) transformation – a new way of being and doing and becoming. Much useful 'conversation could revolve around these concepts. Some sort of combining seems in order, but we might want to guard against any interchangeability. Significant differentiation is possible, as this slide exemplifies – but from an integral perspective, it is considered that transformation transcends while including change (in a way that 'change' cannot embrace 'transformation').

Making a Place We Can All Call Home

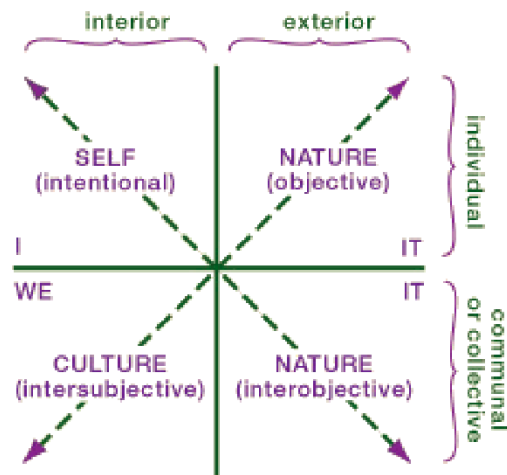
**Beyond Change – Contemplating
Transformation**

Enacting Emerging Futures
Uniting Multiple Perspectives
Transcending While Including
Integrating While Differentiating
~ Self, Nature and Culture
~ Body, Mind, Soul and Spirit

Shifting our macro-context into the sphere of 'transformation', rather than simply 'change'. Trying to better 'operationalise' integral theory at work. 'Integral' may be defined as integrating Self, Nature and Culture in Body, Mind, Soul and Spirit. It is very helpful for indicating what might be being missed, or what might be being privileged... and always involve holding, and uniting wherever possible, multiple perspectives – often through a 'transcend while including' embrace.

Self ~ Nature ~ Culture

~ Integral Quadrants



The four quadrants from an integral perspective, and the associated placing of Self, Culture and Nature.

Body ~ Mind ~ Soul ~ Spirit ~ in You, in your **Self**



One manifestation of the levels from an integral perspective, in this case helping to tease out the dimensions of Self.

Home and Place – Our Makings

[what we ‘culture’]

Home:

Multiple levels, inside and out
singular and plural
~ It, We/Our, I/My

Place:

Multi-faceted, always ‘in-the-making’
an integration ‘par excellence’ of...
~ physicality, functionality, conviviality, spirituality
[more than ‘geography’, more than ‘locality’]

‘Home’ might be construed – differently - in terms of the four quadrants; ‘home’ also may be thought of in terms of one’s Self, especially in the sense of coming home to one’s Self – an inner place. Place may similarly be construed as a four-quadrant ‘integration’ of physicality (Upper Right), functionality (Lower Right), conviviality (Lower Left) and spirituality (Upper Left). It is also inherently dynamic and developmental, having both primalcy and potency.

Towards Generative Dialogue

**Zooming In and Out:
Negotiating Our Inside/Outside Interface**

Zooming In – From Outside
~ The Whole in Our Parts

Zooming Out – From Inside
~ The Parts in Our Whole

A thought-experiment to try to capture the operative dynamics in our notions of home and place, trying to harness the Holonics@Work (a holon is a part that is also a whole, that is also a part – and so on, almost fractally)

Zooming In and Zooming Out

[Holonics@Work]



Becoming comfortable with zooming in and out, as dimensions of our life's constant flow and flux, continuity and disruption. Buttons worth pressing, and 'holding', together. Where agency and communion connect.

Towards Generative Dialogue

1. Zooming In ~ From Outside: Exploring the Whole in Our Parts

What 'common-place-denominator' might we
identify with ~ our emerging 'we-dentity'?

... that we can enthusiastically proclaim to
interested others

~ when 'we' are away from 'here'

Meaning-filled, and Meaning-shared

Some targeted conversation in pursuit of some common-meaning-making
about the commons we identify with... that manifests (the highest and best
form of) 'us'... to be generated in dialogue.

Toward Generative Dialogue

1. Reflect personally...

When you are 'away' from 'here' (up-island, or off the island, or out of the country) how do you name your 'home-place' for the benefit of others you might encounter, who ask you, 'where's home'?

2. Reflect inter-personally...

What seems to bind us to this place,
in common?

Reflect personally – solo/silent journaling/wondering – based on informative (past) experience and/or emerging (future) intuition. Reflect interpersonally, in dyads or triads, with a view to some plenary synthesis efforts, reflecting common-meaning-making.

Towards Generative Dialogue

2. Zooming Out ~ From Inside: The Parts in Our Whole (1)

Embracing our own literal 'back-yard' ~ that
we'd most want to defend and celebrate

And then, together, the 'back-yard' we share
with our neighbours... 'over the fence'..

And then, the 'back-yard' we share with our
wider community, the other 'neighbourhoods'
in our 'neighbourhood'

Switching the general trajectories... referencing your 'back-yard', or equivalent. For some urban – rather than suburban – dwellers this could be one's back patio, or back balcony (outside, but private/personal – rather than public and open.

Towards Generative Dialogue

**Zooming Out ~ From Inside:
The Parts in Our Whole (2)**

And then...

our wider 'community of communities'?

How big is our collective 'back-yard'?

How big can we make it, to better contain
'the all' of us?

Continuing to 'scale' upwards and outwards, noticing the fractals in play along the way. Going inside as well, and wondering what you might fully and openly 'will' – as an expression of what you wish to will into existence.

Towards Generative Dialogue

1. Reflect personally...

(introspection that is also 'extro-spection')

How Big is **My** Back-Yard?

How Big Can **I** Make It?

2. Reflect inter-personally...

How Big is **Our** Back-Yard?

How Big Can **We** Make It?

As before, two rounds of reflection, the first on one's own, going 'inside' – perhaps into heart and soul territory. The second round in dialogue with others, initially on a small-scale, and then expanding to encompass a plenary perspective... curious about the common meanings emerging, being made together, being 'cultured' together (this is often Lower Left 'we' quadrant territory).

Toward Generative Dialogue

[Think 'cascading' ... over, and out-wards... from:]

- your own actual 'back-yard', literally and figuratively, the one you really care about and care for, your 'ground zero'... and then...
- the (bigger) 'back-yard' you share with others, in your immediate neighbourhood, over your fence, or in the rest of your 'block'... and then....
- the (even bigger) 'back-yard' that your 'hood shares with all the other neighbourhoods in your general vicinity... and then...
- the (even bigger) 'community of communities' 'back-yard', where you also commune, on occasion...

Feel into the 'cascading' - like a broad and broadening waterfall, in reverse....
over, and outwards... transcending while including.

Emergent Makings ~ Among Us?

One Planet ~ One Back Yard
One Organism (Gaia) ~ Many Cells
Fractals and Holons ~
at Work for Us, and through Us
The Home-Place We Make Together

... an earthing that is also a birthing of
a new I-dentity as We-dentity

Notice what you are noticing, in terms of actual or potential 'makings' – by the collective... new home-making or place-making. New relations, and new relating.

Emergent Makings ~ Among Us?

What has Our Inquiry Generated?

What are you noticing?

What is more alive for you... surprising you...
exciting you... perplexing you?

- ~ the diversity of our operative world-views
- ~ the sense of home we might share
- ~ the great place-making that we'd want to be
known for, by the generations to come?

Tune into what is alive in you, what is charging you up.

Emergent Makings ~ Among Us?

What Metaphors are in Play?

Lines / Circles : Strips / Spirals

A Mobius Strip / An Escher Staircase

Layers / Strands

Inter-Weavings / Inter-Wonderings

Song-lines / Dream-times

Consider what metaphors might (better) communicate the meaning being made...

Emergent Makings ~ Among Us? 'We-Stories'

What's the 'evolution story' here?

~ that we'd like to 'tell to the future'?

~about

'Making a Place We Can All Call Home'

[the ever-more-whole-making imperative]

Set an intention around creating an 'evolution story', worthy of the pertinent 'creation story', and give attention to this 'evolution' story-ing... Consider interpreting evolve, evolving, and evolutionary as ultimately valuing 'ever-more-whole-making'... around truth, goodness and beauty.

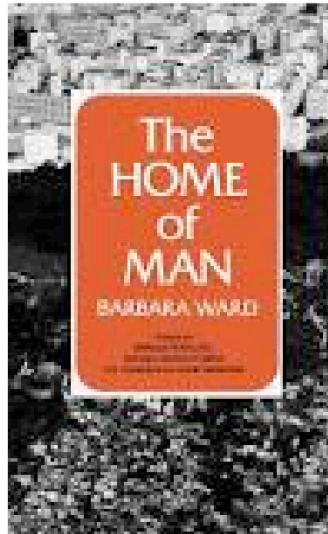
Home Sweet Home ~ Place Sweet Place



Making a place we can all call home - and proudly proclaim to the world, and proudly display in our homes.

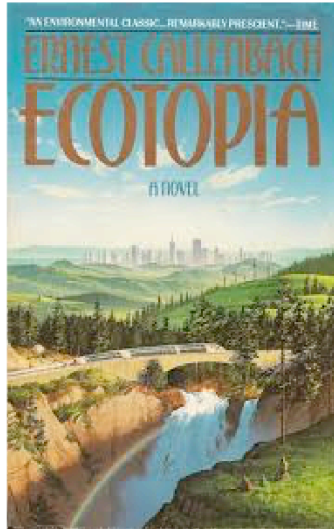
The Home of Man ~ Barbara Ward

<http://habitat76.ca/2016/09/barbara-ward-speech-habitat-i-1976/>



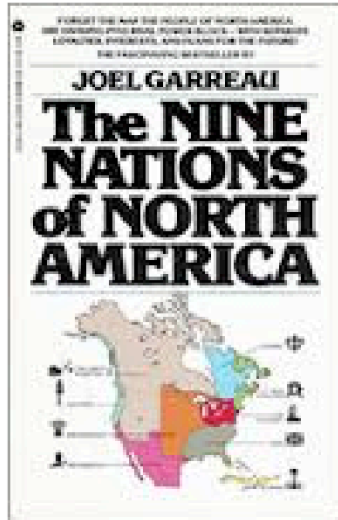
A mid-1970s examination of the issues now being addressed by One Planet/ Happy Planet interests, reaching for the 'global' before 'think globally, act locally' became popular parlance. Framing Planet Earth as 'the home of man'. The author, Barbara Ward, also co-authored a book, with Rene Dubois – 'Only One Earth: The Care and Maintenance of a Small Planet' <http://books.wwnorton.com/books/Only-One-Earth/> 'The Home of Man' was issued in support of the first UN Habitat conference on Human Settlements, Vancouver 1976. Barbara Ward gave the main keynote address.

Ecotopia ~ Ernest Callenbach



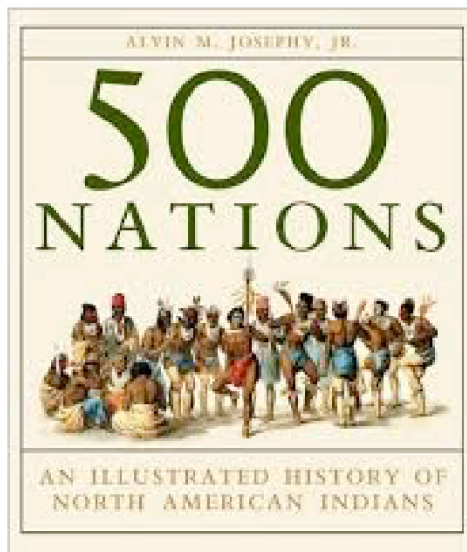
ECO- from the Greek *oikos* (household or home); -TOPIA from the Greek *topos* (place) Another mid-1970s classic – an imaginative offering on a possible future, along the lines that some of us might still be envisioning in our current context, set in the Pacific NW states to the south of us in the US. This 1995 re-issue was characterised as ‘an environmental classic’ and ‘remarkably prescient’. Fritjof Capra lauded it as ‘a vivid, comprehensive, positive vision of an ecologically sustainable world. Essential reading for all who care about the earth’s future’. Will there be an eco-topia in our future?

The Nine Nations of North America ~ Joel Garreau



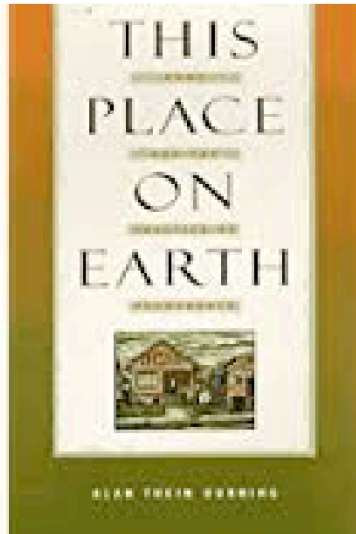
In this 1981 book Joel Garreau (a Washington Post editor) discusses 'Ecotopia' as one of his 'Nine Nations of North America'... elaborating the regional politics and culture within this otherwise 'bio-region'. Putting some real places into Callenbach's vision... as encountered in the early 1980s. One review claimed: Futures are to be drawn from this volume...'. The 'nation' discourse is a contrast to 'region' discourse, but in our case the more appropriate context may be 'city-region-state', or a 21st century 'province', acknowledging the dominance of the urban (rather than the rural) in our everyday life. Consider our One Planet Region as having the institutional identity of a Province or sub-province.

500 Nations ~ Alvin M. Josephy Jr.



A reminder of another 'take' on 'nation' discourse... and a pointer to the importance of our own indigenous roots and tendrils. Perhaps it is time to reflect more deeply on our wider Salish identity, and – especially – to better engage with the 'sal-' in Salish (and its association with wholeness/wellness, and completeness/integrity).

This Place on Earth: Home and the Practice of Permanence ~ Allan Theirn Durning



A 1996 book treating the Pacific North West as 'This Place on Earth', with the sub-title 'Home and the Practice of Permanence'. The author was writing after his re-location from his work-place in Washington DC, to a neighbourhood in his native Seattle). There is particularly relevant commentary in the first chapter, 'Place', where he discusses 'picturing' North America, and the Pacific Northwest, from space. Some wonderful big-picture thinking, that is very well-grounded in a place context that overlaps with ours.

[illegible]

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The Salish Sea ~ and Surrounding Basin



In the past decade the Salish Sea has loomed much larger in our 'we-dentity' considerations. It is less extensive than 'Cascadia' – more 'local', but where we are still pretty 'central'. Worthy of 'holon' consideration, when we think of a larger whole that we might agree we are part of.

The Central Salish Sea



A close-up of the 'central' Salish Sea... extending our gaze, across the straits we share, and across an international boundary.

Salishia?



Just like folks have imagined an Ecotopia and a Cascadia, might we want to imagine a Salishia that defines us on a larger scale... with eco-system and bio-region credentials, but – critically – with an indigenous essence.