



invites you to a  
**Special Skill Session**

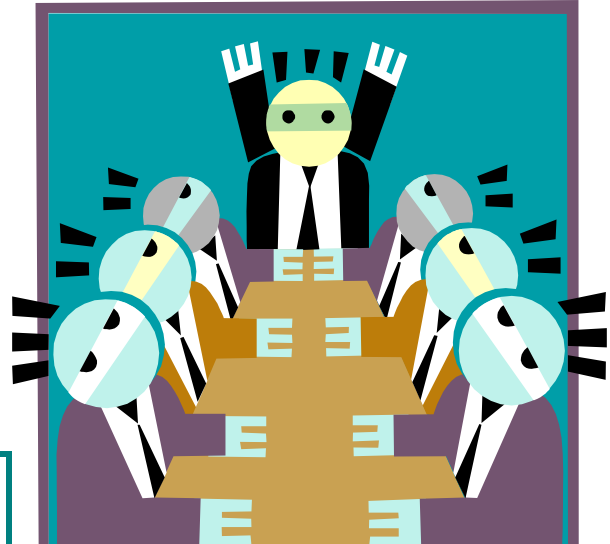
## **Civil Discourse: Restoring Respect & Order to Difficult Meetings**

**Thursday, October 21, 2010**

**7:00 to 9:00 p.m.**

**North St. Paul City Hall**

**2400 Margaret Street**



Polarization, insults, raised voices....the tone of public discussion and political discourse has been rancorous for the past 10 years. The art of civil discourse is the antidote.

Civil discourse is the dialogue that admits differences yet bridges to commonalities. It leads to thoughtful decision making and away from "my way or the highway." It is not compromise. It is not angry silence. It is not dismissive. If there is no argument, there is no civil discourse.

This workshop teaches essential skills and techniques for:

- ◆ *Positioning meetings to be useful and civil*
- ◆ *De-escalating polarizing discussions, especially in meetings*
- ◆ *Strategies for finding middle ground*
- ◆ *The Leadership Paradox and its role*

**INSTRUCTOR:** **Karen Ray**  
*Trainer, Consultant, Author*

Karen has 26 years of experience working with the public and nonprofit sectors in the areas of collaboration, innovation and leadership. She has consulted with a state departments, counties, municipalities, federal and local education groups and human services in a dozen states, and school districts across the nation. She is the author of "The Collaboration Handbook" and the "The Nimble Collaboration."

Karen has taught leadership at the university level and has helped to found dozens of collaborations. She splits her time between training workshops and leading ongoing partnerships. Karen is a dynamic trainer who focuses on real-time problems and solutions. This is her second workshop for RCLLG.

**To Register:** Email or call Catherine Dubbe at GTS, [cdubbe@mngts.org](mailto:cdubbe@mngts.org) or 651-222-7409 x200

**Fee:** \$20 (includes light refreshments) **To Pay:** Send check to Government Training Services (GTS), 2233 University Ave. W, Ste. 150, St. Paul, MN 55114 or call Catherine with credit card number.

*Payment will also be accepted onsite. No-shows who registered without payment and did not cancel will be billed.* **Registration & Cancellation Deadline: Monday, October 18**