Let's talk about values: Care, community, creativity and love

Yesterday I was fortunate to be referred to Max Harris's You Tube clip

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NqHcio3dfug

As I watched and listened I was immediately inspired and moved by the ideas Max discussed.

For many years I have held concerns about the neo-liberal operations of our political system in Aotearoa which has rippled through our institutions and organisations. This has produced very real effects for people and contributed to ongoing colonisation. The current political system fosters very Westernised individualism and competitiveness with every possible facet of our society becoming market driven and profit focused. The effects are that people have become products and money and power feed competitiveness and greed. People, community, values and health have all been affected and the bleak penal, health and mental health statistics support this. Loneliness, isolation, stress, poverty, divisiveness, fear, judgment, blame and shame have very real effects for people. Currently, it is hard to see how bi-culturalism is evident or demonstrated in many legislation, policies and practices of government, institutions or organisations. It may be espoused, accompanied by good intentions, but frequently not so well demonstrated.

Over recent months, several of our politicians have stated that neo-liberalism has failed, but, so far, alternatives have not been proposed. Until now, the backlash to these claims, usually made by media, has been the threat of returning to the past and to pre-neoliberal politics. For a long time, I have believed that if we address hegemonic power and put people and community values before profits, the country would prosper. Happy, healthy, connected, valued people stand more chance of generating wealth (of all kinds) than those who are isolated, exhausted, sick, stressed, abused and demoralised. Research supports this.

Max Harris has proposed some alternative ideas and visions for turning around the political environment of Aotearoa. These begin with values - care, community, creativity and love. I can't agree more. These reflect the work Adventurous Conversations Ltd was founded to develop with organisations who seek to embrace values-based, people-centred organisational cultures.
Here are some other links to interviews of Max discussing his vision for our Aotearoa Political Environment and related areas including our penal system. I hope they provide some encouragement and inspiration for you.


http://ondemand.facetv.co.nz/watch.php?vid=9ab1edadf

http://ondemand.facetv.co.nz/watch.php?vid=2e9194fce

http://ondemand.facetv.co.nz/watch.php?vid=2789ba5c6

http://ondemand.facetv.co.nz/watch.php?vid=7dbf8fa76

Adventurous Conversations Ltd work with organisations to develop values driven, people centred, relational and collaborative culture and relationships. Call, email, or book a no obligation 30-minute introductory consultation if you want to turn the tide towards more relational organisational culture and approaches.