

# Unitarian Church of Vancouver



## Covenant of Healthy Relations

This is a covenant to guide how we behave towards each other and to groups and individuals within the congregation. The objective is to enhance a safe climate that is courteous, friendly, supportive, respectful of others, open and honest.

Because I believe in the inherent worth and dignity of each person, I will endeavour to:

- ♥ Be compassionate and supportive in my relationships with others, assume their best intentions and be curious rather than judgmental.
- ♥ Communicate with active listening and consideration. Explain concerns to the person directly and share differences respectfully. Focus on the current problem - not the person.
- ♥ Balance being open to new ideas with respect for our traditions.
- ♥ Be attentive to our community's needs, generous with my talents and careful with the church's resources.
- ♥ Keep the big picture in mind, be patient with myself and others and stay engaged in the process of change; participate in the decision-making and respect the decisions that are made.
- ♥ Discuss conflicts in our church in a way that respects the privacy and dignity of those involved.
- ♥ Recognize and praise others and myself for the work we do in the church and be forgiving when we make mistakes.
- ♥ Support, in a constructive way, the work of the minister, staff and congregants.
- ♥ Deepen our connections by getting to know and understand people of all ages and points of view within the congregation.
- ♥ Nurture my own spiritual needs in this community and support others in their search for truth and meaning.