Introduction

In 1968, Licklider and Taylor envisioned a new way to achieve an ancient human imperative. We are social creatures. We use every means available to come together, communicate and build communities. Forming and maintaining communities has been a basic human activity since time began; it is part of how we survive, thrive, and evolve. Now, over thirty years after Licklider and Taylor's first efforts, the Internet is a powerful and ever-present mechanism enabling us to work toward common goals together, to learn, share, amuse, debate, console, trade with, and enlighten each other. Yet we are just beginning to understand its full potential.

Source: http://www.darwine.nl/weblog/downloads/12principles.pdf

The 12 Principles of Collaboration

1) Purpose: We have a shared goal or interest.

2) Identity: We know who's who.

3) Reputation: We recognize and build status based on our actions.

4) Governance: We agree that our behavior can be regulated according to shared or stated values.

5) Communication: We have ways to share information and ideas.

6) Groups: We can relate to each other in smaller numbers.

7) Environment: We interact in a shared space that is appropriate to our goals.

8) Boundaries: We know who belongs and who doesn't.

9) Trust: We know with whom we're dealing and that it's safe to do so.

10) Exchange: We can trade knowledge, support, goods, services, and ideas.

11) Expression: We have a group identity and know what other members are doing. We can easily indicate our preferences and opinions.

12) History: We can look back over our history and track our evolution.

These principles are ordered in two groups: The first six relate to the underlying human needs and expectations inherent in any community, while the final six focus on the framework and structures that must exist to ensure a group's viability and success.

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