

## Stoplight Cards

**WHAT:** A technique for checking the pulse of a group and/or making a decision.

**WHY:** To ensure all voices are invited in and heard.

**HOW:** Give each person 3 colored cards (red-yellow-green). Introduce an idea or proposal; ask clarifying questions to be sure you understand the proposal. Invite individuals to simultaneously show their position using their cards; invite people with different positions to share their thoughts. Re-vote your position based on any new input that influenced you.



**WHEN:** When a decision needs to be made.

**VIRTUAL APPLICATION:** *This technique is easy to use online and is meant for synchronous sessions. Cards can be mailed to participants in advance or they need to be asked to prepare 3 individual colored pieces of paper; giving a size range for these card can be helpful to ensure they can be easily seen by everyone on the computer screen - no smaller than 4'x6' will work.*

**RESOURCE:** Global Learning Partners' course *SURE-Fire Meetings*

Red-Yellow-Green Cards	
<b>GREEN</b>	<p><b>"I agree."</b> I agree with the proposal and would like it to be the decision of the group. I will help to make it work.</p>
<b>YELLOW</b>	<p><b>"I will stand aside."</b> I am standing aside, or I support with some hesitation, or I can live with it. And, I might wish to voice what would make it green for me.</p>
<b>RED</b>	<p><b>"I want a better way and I'm willing to help create it"</b> I am essentially saying "no go" – I don't agree with this decision and am taking responsibility to improve the choices and/or the decision.</p>
<p>We don't know exactly how to credit the colored card technique because many have used and adapted it. You may want to visit: <a href="http://www.cohousing.ca/consensus">www.cohousing.ca/consensus</a>.</p>	