

# The Gratitude Manifesto For Change

*Gratitude is a complex psycho-social-cultural emotion, a character strength and a human virtue that affirms that there is good in the world. This manifesto challenges leaders to tackle complex problems by grounding their leadership not from positions of power, but from a place of calm, thoughtful reflection. Over time, leadership decisions will be more insightful, generous, courageous, compassionate, clear, and kind.*

<p><b>Purpose</b> <i>What we aim to achieve.</i></p> <p><b>Vision</b></p> <p>To practice gratitude as a defining leadership advantage.</p> <p><b>Impact</b></p> <p>A community grounded in gratitude handles leadership challenges with intentionality, accountability, and mutually supportive actions.</p> <p><b>Solution</b></p> <p>To convene conversations that savour the glimmers of gratitude in our life stories, especially in times of challenge.</p> <p><b>10-Year Goal</b></p> <p>By 2037: Bow Valley will have a community culture of compassionate, empathetic and kind leadership. Stories will be common in resources -- media, school programs and cultural activities.</p> <p>BHAG: A commemorative series of stories (print, digital, public art, open and accessible) with photos of people, place and testimonials.</p>	<p><b>Core Values</b> <i>What we believe in.</i></p> <p><b>We Gather.</b></p> <p>Being together matters. We come not to fix, but to connect and realize that none of us needs to carry things alone.</p> <p><b>We Tell Stories.</b></p> <p>Stories help us make sense of the world, and sharing what we've learned, grows bridges, where there might otherwise be distance and disconnection.</p> <p><b>We Honor this Place.</b></p> <p>Being outdoors refreshes us, inspires wonder, reminds us to care for our homes and the future we are shaping.</p> <p><b>We Choose Gratitude.</b></p> <p>Leaders who choose gratitude, seek the perspectives of others have fewer blind spots, and are more open to more innovative solutions.</p> <p><b>We Listen.</b></p> <p>We lead not by having all the answers, but by staying curious, listening deeply and holding space for one another.</p>	<p><b>Community</b> <i>Who we stand with.</i></p> <p><b>Audience</b></p> <p>Leaders. Educators. Coaches. Mentors. Change Makers.</p> <p><b>Slogan</b></p> <p>In a world that rushes forward, we pause to pay attention and reflect.</p> <p><b>Signature Events</b></p> <p>A regular series of fireside chats, small group conversations, community huddles that are supportive, timely, relevant and grounded in gratitude.</p>
<p><b>2026 Plan</b></p> <p><b>Goals</b></p> <p>Year 1: 1. Strategic alliances - who do we want to link arm with? Stakeholder engagement. Locally. Regionally. Nationally. 2. Communications and Outreach. What date(s) do we want to put on the calendar? 3. Sustainability Planning</p> <p><b>Events &amp; Key Dates</b></p> <p>TBD - This is gonna be a big discussion! See Word Doc with some links and ideas. Leadership. Random Acts of Kindness. Gratitude Project. Something small that we own locally -- or something that we can nest into a bigger conversation. LWC's request: speak to national pride and love of place.</p>		