

# Building Consensus = Effective Decision Making

Decision-making can leave some people feeling like winners and others like losers.

To strengthen the commitment of your members and promote ownership in the projects and procedures your group develops, use consensus-building strategies.

## Consensus means ....

- ❖ All team members can paraphrase the issue to confirm they understand it.
- ❖ All team members have a chance to voice their opinions on the issue
- ❖ All team members agree to implement the final decision.

## Consensus does not mean ....

- ❖ An unanimous vote
- ❖ The final decision is everyone's first choice
- ❖ There are no differences of opinion

Consensus-building strategies can reconcile diverse opinions and integrate them into a common solution to which everyone agrees.