

# Community Survey - Spring 2023

Following is our detailed analysis of the responses to the Trillium Awakening Community Survey.

The goals of the survey were to engage community members to provide bottom-up future direction, help TATC better understand and serve the community, and solicit ideas how to co-cr eate a thriving community.

The survey was sent in three separate emails to 576 recipients on the Trillium Awakening mailing list. On average, there were 280 recipients who opened the email (48.7% open rate), and there were 47 unique clicks (8.2% click rate). In total, 80 community members completed the survey.

The highlights from these survey results were shared in brief presentations during the community meetings on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The survey responses were generally very positive and reminded us of how much members of the community value this community. At the same time, several possible growing edges or challenges were named. It is our hope that sharing this information with the TA community will help us to think collectively about the state of this community, our shared values, and our hopes for the future growth of the community.

We hope you will take a few minutes to read through and contemplate this report. If it stimulates your thinking, we hope you will send us an email at info@trilliumawakening.org.

Here's to the growth and flourishing of this community and this work in all of us, and our world!

- Bill Epperly
- Bob Epperly
- Gena Netten
- for the TA Community Building Working Group

# Question 1: Which of the follow indicates your role in the Trillium Awakening community?

80 responses

Participant: 57 (71.3%) Teacher: 19 (23.8%) Mentor: 4 (5%)

# Question 2: What country and state/province are you from?

The survey respondents primarily come from the United States, Australia, and Canada, with a few participants from other countries. Geographically, there is a widespread distribution across different states, provinces, and regions. The largest TA local communities currently are Olympia, Fairfield, and New Jersey/New York/Pennsylvania. A number of respondents were from California, but they appear to be spread over a broad geographical area rather than a concentrated community. The international presence highlights the global reach and interest in Trillium Awakening beyond national boundaries. The locations of 9 respondents are unknown.

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USA (67)
       Arizona (3)
       Arkansas (2)
       California (11)
       Colorado (1)
       Connecticut (1)
       Indiana (2)
       *Iowa (8)
       Maryland (1)
       Massachusetts (3)
       New Mexico (2)
       *New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania (8)
       Ohio (2)
       Oregon (2)
       Vermont (1)
       *Washington (13)
Canada (4)
       Alberta (1)
       British Columbia (1)
       Ontario (1)
UK (1)
       Surrey (1)
Australia (4)
       New South Wales (1)
       Victoria (3)
Malaysia (1)
Thailand (1)
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# Question 3: Do you have a local community with which to meet?

80 responses

Yes: 36 (45%) No: 44 (55%)

# Question 4: Why are you participating in Trillium Awakening?

Responses were broken into these top categories:

- 1. Awakening, deepening, spiritual development, growth, evolution (34)
- 2. Community, connection, companions, family, home (29)
- 3. Teachings (9)
- 4. Diversity and quality of teachers (8)
- 5. Like-minded, lovely people (8)
- 6. Culture: Love/heart, ethics, sensitivity, attunement, skills, self-responsibility, student-focused, non-hierarchical (8)
- 7. Mutuality (6)
- 8. Support & guidance (6)
- 9. Embodiment (5)
- 10. Transmission (5)
- 11. Events (5)
- 12. Helping others awaken (5)
- 13. Welcoming/acceptance (4)
- 14. Meaning/purpose (3)

These responses highlight the key aspects that individuals find valuable in this community. The focus on awakening and personal growth is complemented by the sense of connection and belonging to a supportive community. These aspects are both central to the community members' experiences. For some, it may be a surprise how important community is to our members. However, it should also be stated that the 80 community members who completed this survey may be more interested in community than those who did not complete the survey. There's just no way to know how representative this sample is of the whole community.

Additionally, the presence of valued teachings and the diversity of teachers, the distinguishing TA culture and being with like-minded people, the emphasis on mutuality, support, acceptance, embodiment, transmission, events, service, and the opportunity for shared learning and helping others awaken all contribute to the overall appeal of this community.

# Question: 5: Is Trillium Awakening your primary spiritual community?

78 responses

Yes: 53 (67.9%) No: 25 (32.1%)

# Question: 6: What are you looking for in Trillium Awakening that you aren't currently getting? What kind of activities and services would you like to see offered?

#### Top Responses

- 1. More variety of online offerings (29), including:
  - 1. More practices and practice groups (6)
  - 2. More workshops from a TA view (5)
  - 3. Opportunities to gather online just to interact (no paywall) (4)
- 2. More in-person events/gatherings (20)
  - 1. Sittings, workshops, retreats, mutuality circles and local community
- 3. Improvements in offerings (16)
  - 1. Improvements in WBR offerings (6)
  - 2. Deeper experience of awakening, more advanced teachings (5)
  - 3. Going beyond down work, blend and balance with waking work (5)
- 4. Logistical suggestions for events (9)
  - 1. Convenient times, clarify meeting requirements, breakout rooms, dyads, lower prices for Australians due to exchange rate

#### Response Details

Responses were also broken into the following categories: events, education, culture, service, structure, and communication.

#### **Events**

- More in-person events/gatherings (sittings, workshops, retreats, mutuality circles) (15)
  - Miss having in person workshops lead by teachers from outside my community (Olympia). (1)
- More practices and practice groups (6)
  - o Circling (relational meditation presence practice) (2)
  - o Collective 30-day practice (1)
- More workshops that engage a topic from a TA view (5)
  - o like aging (Cielle/June) and love (Susan) (1)
  - o Recognition Sutras (1)
  - o Women's spirituality (1)
  - o Mind "programs" (1)
- Longer (week or more) in-person retreats (4)
  - o give 6-month advance notice so people can plan for it

- More opportunities to get together with the community, just to interact rather than timed sharing format, or something behind a paywall (4)
- More meditations and gazing sessions, at better times (3)
- WBR/Not WBR offerings
  - o More post-WBR offerings for those not interested in mentor/teacher track (3)
  - Offer Navigating Your WBR (NWBR) class more often (some people couldn't go to Deepening in Your WBR because they missed the last NWBR, or had their WBR after the last one was offered). (2)
  - O More courses/offerings for those who haven't had their WBR (1)
- More variety and diversity of online offerings
  - More online courses (live and evergreen), 2 to 8-week courses featuring various teachers (2)
  - o More "closed" groups (for constancy and trust) (2)
  - o More frequent 2-hour events (1)
  - o A larger assortment of teachers doing online sittings (1)
  - O Different ways to be with teachers other than sittings (1)
  - o Study groups (e.g., explore one's Gene Keys in a group embodiment work) (1)
  - o Book clubs (1)
  - o Healing groups (1)
  - o Community-led activities like sharing of Awakening Journeys (1)
  - o Embodiment Summit and Mutuality Summit (1)
  - O Sunday gathering in the form of sharing, devotion and song (1)
  - o Retreats for mentors, maybe once a year (1)
- Logistical suggestions for events
  - More convenient times for online events, including for Australian/Asian time zones
     (4)
  - O Clarify requirements for events (which are open to newcomers without experience or those who haven't been active for a while) (2)
  - o More breakout rooms with dyads and triads, especially for online retreats (1)
  - O Day of the week to be listed with each event on the weekly events email (1)
  - O Lower prices for Australians because of exchange rate (1)

#### Education/Experience

- Deeper experience of awakening and more advanced teachings (5)
  - O About stages of consciousness ahead of my current stage of development (1)
  - o Integration of scientific research bringing powerful insights into higher consciousness, evolution, embodiment, the nature of reality, etc (1)
- More recordings of the teachers' presentations at their sittings, workshops, retreats. Any and all talks! (1)
- Teachers regularly post essays and videos, and feature them in the newsletter (1)

#### TA Culture

- Local community (5)
- Going beyond down work, blend and balance with waking work (5)
  - Explicit acknowledgements and opportunities to practice integrating the dark sides and shadows (blind spots) of spiritual human development and mutuality relating, as much as we emphasize the light sides and benefits (bliss, ecstatic states, love). (1)
  - o Expressing "vulnerability" can keep people stuck (1)
  - O A community where advanced conversations are more the ordinary. (I feel many Trillium folks are stuck in overusing 'greenlighting' or the 'Down'.) (1)
  - O Tired of the heaviness of the 'down' (1)
- Bringing more healthy masculine (2)
  - o Going beyond handholding; bring in appropriate challenging & discernment (1)
- Less emphasis on WBR (2)
  - Not emphasize who's had their WBR because it can land as bragging and a kind of spiritual materialism (1)
- More playfulness and creativity (2)
- Appreciate the diversity of teachers and the freedom for them to express their own teachings aligned but not based in TA dharma (2)
- All people and teachers are willing to engage in two-way communications (versus only one-way lecturing, teaching/preaching) and are willing to listen to each other, be supportive without taking responsibility for others' shadows, and everyone is willing to receive feedback from anyone is the community. Feedback doesn't have to internalized, perceived as "true" or accurate, but should be allowed for everyone's infinite learning to continue. (1)
- Settings where teachers can facilitate but not take the lead (subtly dominate), where they hold the space, empower participants and draw out their wisdom and gifts. (1)
- An atmosphere of mutual trust, care and LOVE, especially among teachers, instead of distrust, fear, and competition. (1)
- An atmosphere of engagement, where everyone takes responsibility for the offerings and the health (including the finances needed to keep things going) of the community. Follow cohousing community models: everyone "owns" the property (in this case the offerings), and contributes financially (e.g., community dues) and time/work. (1)
- Teachers with integrity (1)
- Greater community participation (1)
- Authentic friendship (1)
- Love and respect between everyone in TA (1)
- Community members encouraged to reach out to each other (1)
- TA needs to have goals to help its community (1)
- Appreciate evolution to include more emphasis of heart, soul, love, in addition to consciousness (which is dry/flat) (1)
- Expand the range of teaching (1)

#### Service/World

- Service into the broader communities (4)
  - o Explore how we can have positive impact on our communities and the world (1)

- O Do collective awakening/healing projects together (holding space for shifts in world issues like Thomas Hubl does and VortexHealing<sup>TM</sup> community does). (1)
- o More meetings and gatherings between the teachers, mentors, and community members, where we all get together and can collaboratively share our love, gifts, skills, and inspirations, to help make the world a happier, healthier, kinder, and joyful place for all of humanity. (1)
- More new people coming in/ growth & recognition of TA (2)
- More opportunities to integrate (through conversation, courses, presentations) current events and world challenges into the spiritual arena. (1)

#### TA Structure

- Bring subgroups together as one community (2)
- Open structure that connects us as community members; less hierarchical levels (1)

#### Communication

- WhatsApp or Signal for local communities (1)
- A directory of practitioners who wish to connect with one another and a forum/zoom meeting room so groups of practitioners who can meet together in various ways (1)
- Listing of services offered by community members (1)
- Return newsletter to a teaching-related focus, with artistic features as complements (1)
- Online forum and blog where anyone can contribute (1)

These responses reflect the participants' desires for connection, growth, learning, and a deeper engagement with the Trillium Awakening community.

# Question 7: What does community mean to you?

Responses were broken into these top categories:

- 1. Welcoming, acceptance, nonjudgmental, people see and get me (18)
- 2. Supporting each other (17)
- 3. Shared values, ideas, beliefs, perspectives, goals, interests, purpose, practice similar principles (16)
- 4. Connected, vulnerably authentic relationships (11)
- 5. Foster/empower each other's growth & evolution (11)
- 6. Hang out & share our lives together, online or in person (10)
- 7. Safe, healthy container, holding the wholeness of each other (9)
- 8. Friendship & love (7)
- 9. Diversity of thought, tolerance of differences, skills with managing conflict (5)
- 10. Shared trust and care, for the vitality and health of the whole and individuals (5)
- 11. Chosen spiritual family, sense of belonging (5)
- 12. Kind interactions & generosity of spirit (2)
- 13. Mutual respect (2)
- 14. Co-create & co-responsibility for community to thrive, shared projects (2)

#### Sample full responses:

"Ideally, an extended chosen family of like-minded and like-hearted souls in divinely human incarnations, mutually recognizing and reflecting the Source-divinity of one another, enjoying each other in cooperative relationship and true friendship, and putting our hearts together and co-creatively working/playing together to make a positive difference in the world--we help tip it back into loving balance."

"Connecting with like minded souls, who's spiritual journey creates a shared experience. connecting from the heart, vulnerability and deep openness. Trust, trust developed over time creates a heart bond of love and connection I cannot find anywhere else."

"Community is the activating force to manifest love and awareness in the world. By enlivening community we're directly incarnating awareness and increasing the likelihood of new and unpredictable manifestations of connectedness and light. What we're here for."

"To me community means warm sharing of a common interest and compatible values. It means developing mutually shared care and trust for each other. I have your back and you have mine. It means having activities that we can share in, and we can share responsibilities for co-creating and maintaining activities and structures that would enable the community to thrive. There is a lot of engagement, and everyone (teachers, mentors, and participants) contributes in time/energy and possibly also financially to ensure that the community thrives."

"Without community, awakening fades into the background"

The responses highlight the importance of support, shared values and ideals, shared experiences and explorations on the spiritual journey, fostering each other's growth and development, as well as sharing in our lives in a tangible way. Also important are connection and authenticity within a safe container, friendship and love, and diversity of thought and tolerance of differences. Respondents value the sense of belonging and growth that come from being part of a community that aligns with their values and aspirations.

# Question 8: What kind of community atmosphere are you looking for?

Responses were broken into the following categories:

- 1. Welcoming, friendly, accepting, open (19)
- 2. Shared holding, loving, caring, kindness, empathy (14)
- 3. Mutual embrace and respect for differences/uniqueness, nonjudgmental, inclusion, valuing all (11)
- 4. Authentic, vulnerable, deep sharing/communication (9)
- 5. Shared lives, desires, support (8)
- 6. Safe container, nurturing vet boundaried (8)
- 7. Stimulating growth, development, potential (7)

- 8. Curious, exploratory, inspiring, creativity (7)
- 9. Fun, playful, enlivening (6)
- 10. Relaxed, easeful, informal, nondemanding, like "home" (5)
- 11. Connected, close-knit, being together (5)
- 12. Shared contribution/engagement (4)
- 13. Mutual trust (3)
- 14. Challenged when needed (2)
- 15. Responsive (1)

#### Sample full responses:

"A deep sense of heart-interconnectedness, sharing kindness and love with one another, collective cooperation and teamwork, respecting and honoring each others human and divine beauty, and recognizing the deep souls that we each are. We revel in satisfaction and fulfillment through synergistic working together in contributing to a happier and healed world and celebrating life together."

"Authentic, vulnerable, wise, courageous, considerate, passionate participation from each and all."

"A friendly, welcoming, fun, silly, serious, respectful, challenging Growth Medium."

"Share living, contribution, friendly, trusting, a community where people share common experience while still being able to express their individuality."

The responses to question 8 highlight the desire for a community that offers shared holding, loving, caring, kindness, and empathy. There's a desire for a community that is accepting, open, nonjudgmental, that fosters respect of differences and uniqueness and values diversity. There's also a desire for a community that supports spiritual growth, encourages authentic expression, and fosters deep connections. Participants value an environment that is engaging, nurturing, and safe, where individuals can explore and celebrate together while feeling seen, heard, and valued.

#### **Question 9: Additional Comments**

The comments reflect a range of experiences and perspectives within the Trillium community. While the majority express appreciation and love for the community and its teachings, others raise concerns or share their dissatisfaction with certain aspects of Trillium Awakening. Some respondents mention having limited or no involvement in Trillium activities, indicating that their current engagement is minimal.

Most comments were positive, such as these:

"We can all learn from each other no matter that we may be in different stages of the awakening process."

"I appreciate the diversity of teachers and the freedom for them to express viewpoints/disciplines aligned but not necessarily solely based on Trillium dogma. I also appreciate the current evolution to

include more emphasis (if not primacy) of the heart, the soul and love in addition to (somewhat dry/flat) discussions on consciousness."

"Let's nurture collective synergy. We have profound soul-full-ness and so many riches and in the entire Trillium community that are waiting to be harvested and shared with the world. Then more people in the world will want to join and participate with our happy extended family, which will be making a difference in the world and helping humanity evolve in love."

"While in person events will likely grow in the post-pandemic period, I think the online events should also continue to be cultivated, partly as a means of emphasizing TA as an international movement."

However, there were a few that were challenging us to improve.

"I don't believe Trillium is a community at all. I think for the Teachers and Mentors it may be a community. Its clear to me that Trillium is created by the Teachers and for the Teachers and Mentors, not for Participants. "Participants" are more like units of exchange for the Teacher's income. Most events, even the "free" ones, require being enrolled with a Teacher. It's like going to a church and being forced to pay the Minister for counseling in order to participate with the church community."

"At this time, Trillium Awakening feels like separate groups. the teachers are separated from the students and mentors. The mentors from the students/participants. There is a rigidity to the range of teaching and there is no formal practices to deepen individual development. Nothing seems to happen after the Whole Being Realization."

# Possible Next Steps

# Top Next Steps

- 1. Support co-creation and community by expanding the TA Community Building Working Group
- 2. As teachers, consider a wider range of TA events including
  - a. More in-person local events
  - b. More variety of online offerings
  - c. Offerings that lead to a deeper experience
- 3. As teachers and local community leaders, build more local communities
- 4. As community members, promote local TA communities and service to the broader communities
- 5. As web and emails teams, address logistical suggestions

# <u>Detailed Next Steps</u> (presented in priority order, more or less)

- 1. Community Building Working Group
  - a. Expand the Community Building Working Group
    - i. Propose goals to help TA community (1)
  - b. Eventually poll the community (possibly via future community calls) to get a finer details, for example:
    - i. asking how many are interested in: practice groups (e.g. Circling), closed groups, study groups (e.g. Gene Keys), book clubs, healing groups, sharing of Awakening Journeys, Sunday gathering in the form of sharing, devotion and song, more meditations and gazing sessions
    - ii. finding best event times for most people
    - iii. who's interested in organizing local community
    - iv. who's interested in serving the TA community in specialized working groups
    - v. who's interested in serving the broader community (outside of TA) in specialized working groups

#### 2. For all teachers

Regarding events, etc

- a. More in-person events/gatherings (sittings, workshops, retreats, mutuality circles) (15)
- b. More workshops that engage a topic from a TA view (5)
- c. Longer (week or more) in-person retreats (4)
- d. More post-WBR activities for those not interested in mentor/teacher track (3)
- e. Offer Navigating Your WBR more often (some people couldn't go to Deepening in Your WBR because they missed the last NWBR, or had their WBR after the last one was offered). (2)
- f. More online courses (live and evergreen), 2 to 8-week courses featuring various teachers (2)
- g. A larger assortment of teachers doing online sittings (1)

- h. More breakout rooms with dyads and triads, especially for online retreats (1)
- i. Different ways to be with teachers other than sittings (1)
- j. Embodiment Summit and Mutuality Summit (1)
- k. Retreats for mentors, maybe once a year (1)
- 1. More courses/offerings for those who haven't had their WBR (1)
- m. More recordings of the teachers' presentations at their sittings, workshops, retreats. Any and all talks! (1)
- n. Teachers regularly post essays and videos, and feature them in the newsletter (1)

#### Regarding teachings/culture/structure

- o. Deeper experience of awakening and more advanced teachings (5)
  - i. About stages of consciousness/development (1)
  - ii. Integration of scientific research bringing powerful insights into higher consciousness, evolution, embodiment, the nature of reality, etc (1)
- p. Going beyond down work; blend and balance with waking work (5)
  - i. Explicit acknowledgements and opportunities to practice integrating the dark sides and shadows (blind spots) of spiritual human development and mutuality relating, as much as we emphasize the light sides and benefits (bliss, ecstatic states, love). (1)
  - ii. Expressing "vulnerability" can keep people stuck (1)
  - iii. A community where advanced conversations are more the ordinary. (I feel many Trillium folks are stuck in overusing 'greenlighting' or the 'Down'.) (1)
  - iv. Tired of the heaviness of the 'down' (1)
- q. Bringing more healthy masculine (2)
  - i. Going beyond handholding; bring in appropriate challenging & discernment (1)
- r. Appreciate the diversity of teachers and the freedom for them to express their own teachings aligned but not based in TA dharma (2)
- s. Bring subgroups together as one community (2)
- t. Open structure connecting us as community members; less hierarchical levels (1)
- u. Settings where teachers can facilitate but not take the lead (subtly dominate), where they hold the space, empower participants and draw out their wisdom and gifts. (1)
- v. An atmosphere of mutual trust, care and LOVE, especially among teachers, instead of distrust, fear, and competition. (1)
- w. Teachers with integrity (1)
- x. Expand the range of teaching (1)
- y. More opportunities to integrate (through conversation, courses, presentations) current events and world challenges into the spiritual arena. (1)

#### 3. For whole community

- a. Local community (5)
- b. Service into the broader communities (4)
  - i. Explore how we can have positive impact on our communities and the world (1)
  - ii. Do collective awakening/healing projects together (holding space for shifts in world issues like Thomas Hubl does and VortexHealing<sup>TM</sup> community does). (1)

- iii. More meetings and gatherings between the teachers, mentors, and community members, where we all get together and can collaboratively share our love, gifts, skills, and inspirations, to help make the world a happier, healthier, kinder, and joyful place for all of humanity. (1)
- c. Less emphasis on WBR (2)
  - i. Not emphasize who's had their WBR because it can land as bragging and a kind of spiritual materialism (1)
- d. More playfulness and creativity (2)
- e. More new people coming in/growth & recognition of TA (2)
- f. Love and respect between everyone in TA (1)
- g. Greater community participation (1)
- h. Authentic friendship (1)
- i. Community members encouraged to reach out to each other (1)
- j. WhatsApp or Signal for local communities (1)
- k. All people and teachers are willing to engage in two-way communications (versus only one-way lecturing, teaching/preaching) and are willing to listen to each other, be supportive without taking responsibility for others shadows, and everyone is willing to receive feedback from anyone is the community. Feedback doesn't have to internalized, perceived as "true" or accurate, but should be allowed for everyone's infinite learning to continue. (1)
- l. An atmosphere of engagement, where everyone takes responsibility for the offerings and the health (including the finances needed to keep things going) of the community. Follow co-housing community models: everyone "owns" the property (in this case the offerings), and contributes financially (e.g., community dues) and time/work. (1)

#### 4. For web team

- a. Clarify requirements for events (which are open to newcomers without experience or those who haven't been active for a while) (2)
- b. Use platforms such as Podia, Mighty Networks, or Stitch.net for
  - i. Online forum and blog where anyone can contribute (1)
  - ii. A directory of practitioners who wish to connect with one another and a forum/zoom meeting room so groups of practitioners who can meet together in various ways (1)
  - iii. Listing of services offered by community members (1)

#### 5. For email team

- a. Day of the week to be listed with each event on the weekly events email (1)
- b. Return newsletter to a teaching-related focus, with artistic features as complements (1)

# **Appendix: AI-Generated Analysis**

We also used artificial intelligence (ChatGTP-4) analysis of the data. We were impressed with this tool and how well it seems to have performed and complements the manual analysis. We are offering it here for your information.

## **Question 4: AI-Generated Themes/Trends**

- 1. Personal/Spiritual Growth
- 2. Community Connection and Support
- 3. Awakening and Self-Realization
- 4. Inclusion, Acceptance, and Authenticity
- 5. Teachers and Mentors

## **Question 7: AI-Generated Themes/Trends**

- 1. <u>Shared Values and Connection</u>: Participants view community as an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals who share similar values, beliefs, and goals. They appreciate the sense of connection, warmth, and understanding that comes from being part of a community.
- 2. <u>Support and Growth</u>: Community is seen as a supportive environment where individuals can receive support and encouragement on their spiritual journey. It provides a space for shared experiences, mutual growth, and learning from one another.
- 3. <u>Authenticity and Acceptance</u>: Participants value communities that foster authenticity and provide a non-judgmental space where they can be themselves. They appreciate being seen, heard, and accepted without judgment or criticism.
- 4. <u>Relationship and Friendship</u>: Community represents a place for building relationships and friendships based on trust, kindness, and mutual care. It involves sharing intimate experiences, offering support during difficult times, and celebrating joys together.
- 5. <u>Co-creation and Collaboration</u>: Communities are seen as places where individuals come together to co-create and contribute. There is an emphasis on shared responsibility, engagement, and active participation in the growth and well-being of the community.

# **Question 8:** AI-Generated Themes/Trends

1. Welcoming and Accepting: Participants emphasize the importance of a community that is welcoming, accepting, and valuing of all individuals as they are in the present moment. They value an environment where they feel safe and embraced, free from judgment and rejection.

- 2. <u>Authenticity and Vulnerability</u>: Community members seek an atmosphere where authenticity and vulnerability are encouraged. They appreciate opportunities to share deeply, be seen and heard, and engage in transparent and authentic communication.
- 3. <u>Growth and Exploration</u>: Many individuals highlight the desire for a community that stimulates growth, encourages personal development, and offers opportunities to deepen their practice. They appreciate an environment that challenges them, expands their edges, and points them towards further growth.
- 4. <u>Supportive Relationships</u>: Participants value relationships within the community characterized by love, kindness, and support. They seek connections that are nurturing, caring, and respectful of each individual's ideology and uniqueness.
- 5. <u>Engaging and Fun</u>: Community members express a desire for an engaging and fun atmosphere, where there is room for playfulness, creativity, and celebration. They appreciate a community that is stimulating, enlivening, and allows for laughter and enjoyment.
- 6. <u>Shared Context and Mutuality</u>: Many individuals emphasize the importance of a shared context within the community, where members can grow together, learn from each other, and participate in mutual support. They value the practice of mutuality, holding each other, and being engaged in each other's lives.

#### **Question 9: AI-Generated Themes/Trends**

- 1. <u>Limited Involvement</u>: Some individuals mention having limited or no involvement in Trillium activities, indicating that their current engagement is minimal.
- 2. <u>Appreciation for the Survey</u>: Several participants express gratitude for the survey, appreciating the opportunity to provide feedback and share their thoughts.
- 3. <u>Varied Paths and Inner Guidance</u>: Many individuals highlight that their spiritual path and studies are guided by their inner prompts and intuition, rather than being solely focused on Trillium Awakening. They emphasize the importance of following their own unique journey and exploring various teachings and practices.
- 4. <u>Desire for Local Community</u>: Some participants express a desire for a local Trillium community, indicating a longing for in-person connection and engagement with others who share their spiritual path.
- 5. <u>Mixed Experiences and Feedback</u>: The comments reflect a range of experiences and perspectives within the Trillium community. While some express appreciation and love for the community and its teachings, others raise concerns or share their dissatisfaction with certain aspects of Trillium Awakening.

#### **AI-Generated Trends**

# Questions 4 & 6 Combined

This further analysis was carried out, looking at the combined responses to Questions 4 and 6, in an effort to view the responses about <u>participation</u> more globally. It is an attempt to view the thoughts expressed from a different perspective and thus stimulate thoughts about the future of TA.

- 1. <u>Emphasis on awakening and embodiment</u>: Many participants mention their pursuit of awakening, whole-being realization, and embodiment. They value the teachings and practices that help them awaken to their true nature and integrate that realization into their daily lives.
- 2. <u>Desire for personal development and growth:</u> Many comments express the desire to deepen their spiritual journey and experience personal growth through Trillium Awakening (TA). Participants seek techniques, practices, and teachings that can help them awaken, integrate, and evolve.
- 3. <u>Community and connection</u>: A significant trend is the appreciation for the sense of community and connection within TA. Participants value the opportunity to meet like-minded individuals, form friendships, and feel supported by a spiritual community.
- 4. <u>Recognition of teachers and mentors</u>: The comments frequently mention the admiration and appreciation for the teachers and mentors within the Trillium community. Participants highlight the wisdom, guidance, and support they receive from these individuals.
- 5. <u>Mutuality and support</u>: The concept of mutuality, where individuals support and mirror each other's awakening process, is highlighted in the comments. Participants find value in the shared experiences, dialogues, and support they receive from the Trillium community.
- 6. <u>Spiritual practice and exploration</u>: Several comments mention Trillium Awakening as an integral part of their spiritual practice. Participants appreciate the inclusive and non-dogmatic approach, as well as the focus on oneness, consciousness, and understanding.
- 7. <u>Past involvement and nostalgia</u>: Some comments reflect on past involvement with Trillium Awakening or its predecessor, Waking Down, expressing fond memories and the desire to reconnect or explore the community once again.
- 8. <u>Desire for more offerings and diversity</u>: There is a consistent desire for additional offerings, workshops, events, and opportunities for deeper exploration and growth within Trillium Awakening. Participants express interest in various topics, courses, and retreats that can expand their understanding and practice.
- 9. <u>Need for in-person gatherings</u>: While virtual offerings have been appreciated, there is also a longing for in-person gatherings, workshops, and retreats. Participants value the depth of connection and transformative potential of face-to-face interactions.

10. <u>Individual preferences and suggestions</u>: Some participants mention specific preferences such as time zone considerations, course availability, event formats, access to teachings, and integration of scientific research. They provide suggestions for improvement and express their personal needs and interests.

#### Questions 7, 8, and 9 Combined

This further analysis was carried out, looking at the combined responses to Questions 7, 8, and 9, in an effort to view the input on <u>community</u> more globally. It is an attempt to view the thoughts expressed from a different perspective and thus stimulate thoughts about the future of TA.

- 1. <u>Sense of Belonging and Connection</u>: Many comments highlight the importance of community as a place where individuals feel welcomed and accepted. People seek connections with like-minded individuals and value the opportunity to share experiences, thoughts, and emotions.
- 2. <u>Support and Growth</u>: Community is seen as a space where individuals can support each other on their spiritual journey and personal growth. It provides a supportive environment for exploring and deepening one's understanding of oneself and the world.
- 3. <u>Shared Values and Goals</u>: A common trend is the emphasis on shared values, ideals, and goals within a community. People appreciate being part of a group that aligns with their beliefs and provides a sense of shared purpose.
- 4. <u>Authenticity and Non-judgment</u>: Many comments express the importance of authenticity and non-judgment within a community. People value being able to express themselves openly, without fear of criticism or judgment, and appreciate an atmosphere that encourages genuine and honest communication.
- 5. <u>Safe Environment</u>: Community is often described as a safe space where individuals can be themselves and feel comfortable. It is a place where people can let their guard down and form deep connections with others.
- 6. <u>Growth-Oriented and Evolving</u>: Several comments mention the desire for a community that fosters personal and collective growth. People value communities that encourage self-reflection, inner exploration, and ongoing evolution. They appreciate communities that provide opportunities for learning and expansion.
- 7. <u>In-person and Online Engagement</u>: While some express a desire for more in-person interactions, others acknowledge the benefits of online communities and virtual events, especially in reaching a broader audience and fostering international connections.
- 8. <u>Challenges and Concerns</u>: A few comments raise concerns about certain aspects of the community, such as the behavior of specific teachers or the need for better mechanisms to address issues and conflicts. Some express the desire for a more diverse and inclusive community.