The General Circle Format

1. Creating the foundation for dialogue
   - Welcome
   - Opening ceremony
   - Introduction / check-in (round)
   - Guidelines consensus (keepers or round)
   - Storytelling round
   - Acknowledgement of those present
   - Clarifying the purpose of the Circle

2. Expressing needs and interests
   - Communicating feelings
   - Identifying needs, interests, or shared vision
   - Summary

3. Exploring options
   - Circle addresses:
     - Interests / issues (rounds)
     - Options (rounds)
     - Possible consensus for action plans (keepers)

4. Building consensus or a sense of unity
   - Circle identifies:
     - Points of agreement or common ground (rounds)
     - Next steps (keepers)

5. Closing
   - Summary: agreement / next steps (keepers)
   - Check-out (round)
   - Closing ceremony

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