

A flock of approximately 15 birds is captured in flight, arranged in a loose V-formation against a dramatic sky. The sky is filled with large, billowing clouds that are illuminated from below, creating a gradient of colors from deep blue at the top to vibrant orange and red at the bottom. The birds are silhouetted against the lighter, warmer tones of the sunset. The overall mood is serene and evocative, suggesting a sense of direction and movement.

Propriety as Public Policy

A way forward for Rural Canada



We should always try to apply to our personal lives
and our economy the same rules that govern
evolution:

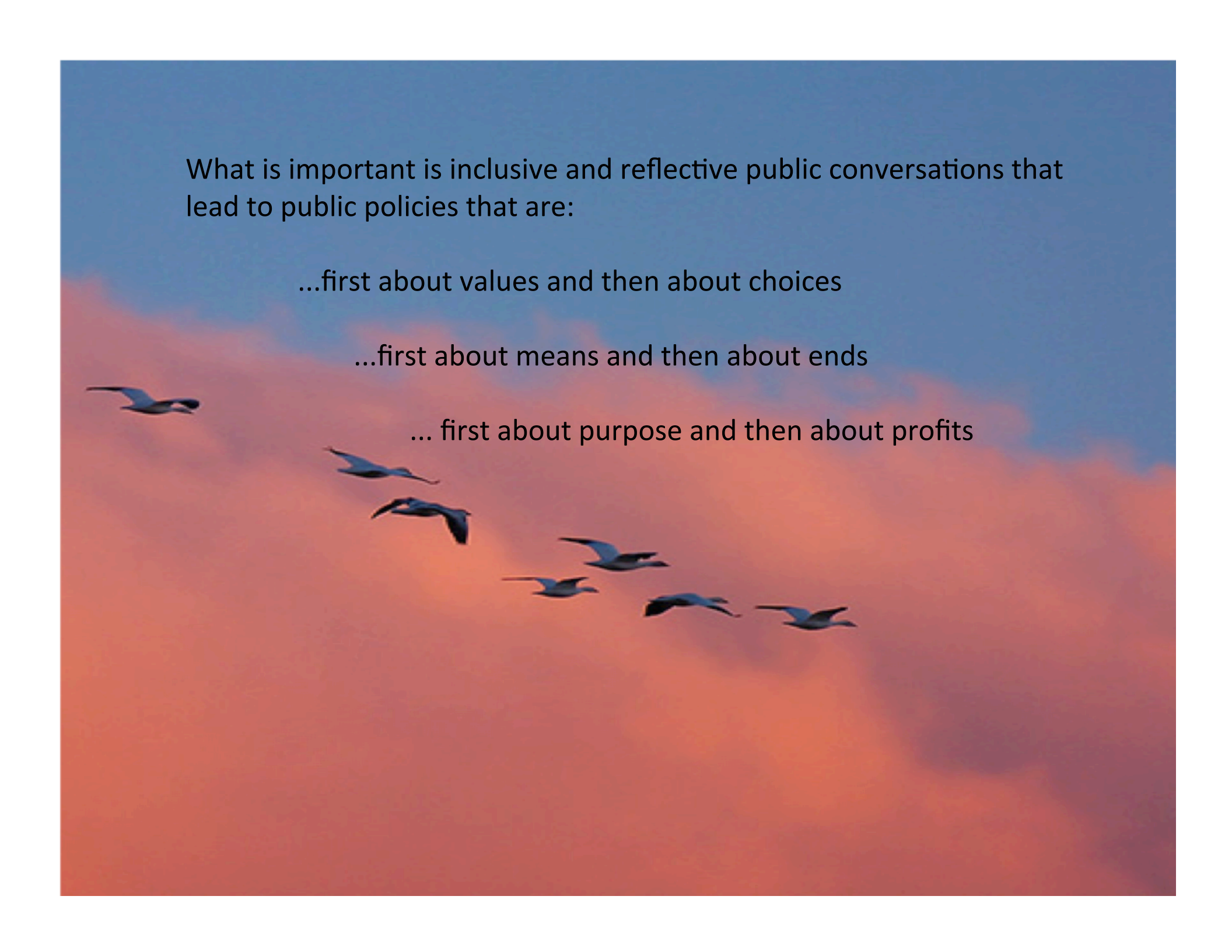
Beauty

Simplicity

Fairness







What is important is inclusive and reflective public conversations that lead to public policies that are:

...first about values and then about choices

...first about means and then about ends

... first about purpose and then about profits



The questions of propriety, calling as they must for local answers,
call necessarily for *small* answers.



Any intelligent fool can make things bigger, more complex, and more violent. It takes a touch of genius – and a lot of courage – to move in the opposite direction. E.F. Schumacher

-courage in business-

-courage in municipal government-

-courage in business-



-courage in municipal government-

Municipal government must draft and implement economic development strategies, strategic plans, municipal planning strategies, and land use by-laws that encourage and enable local community self-sufficiency in -

energy production and distribution

food production and distribution

education

finance

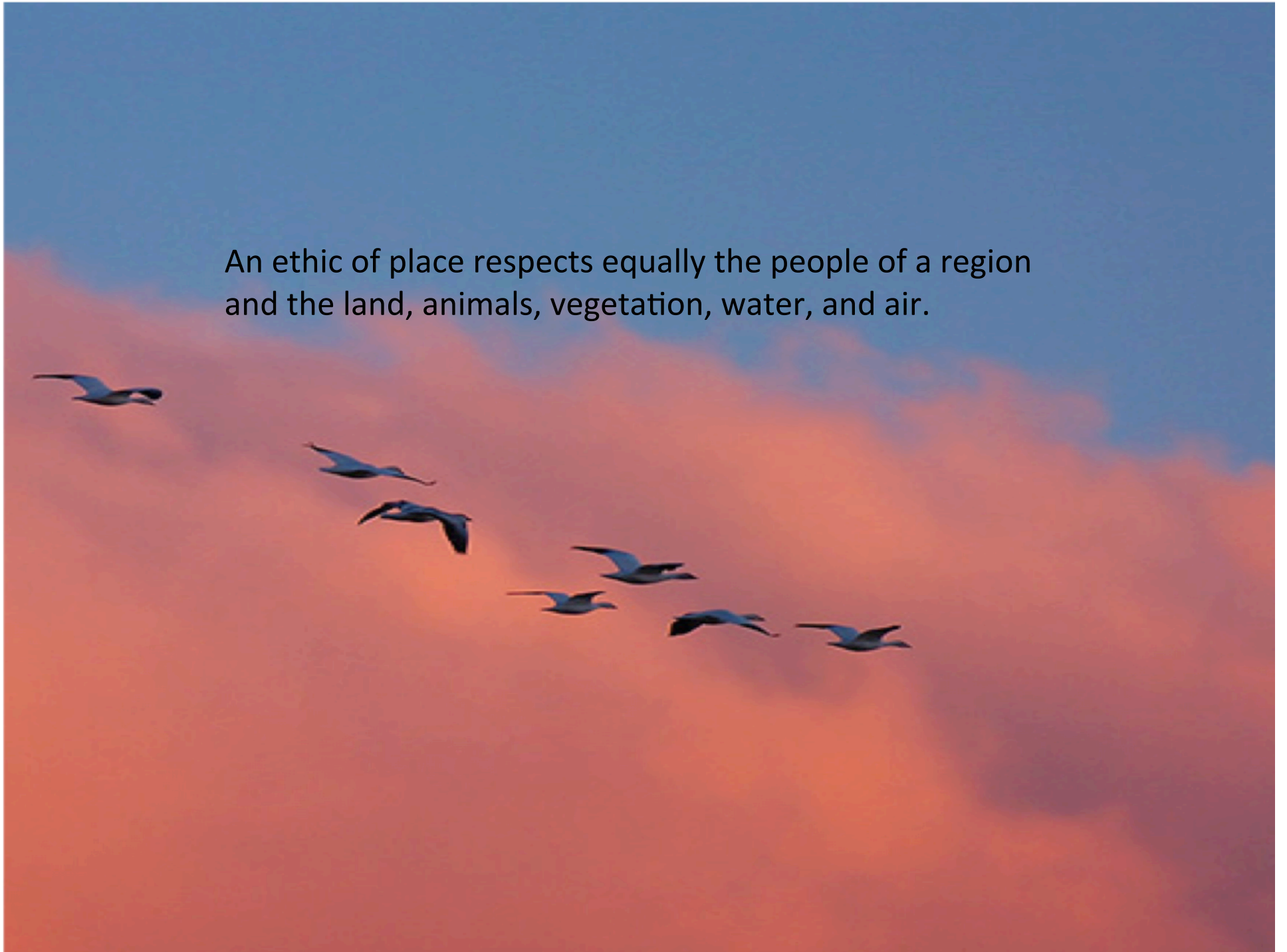


A photograph of a flock of birds, likely swans or geese, flying in a loose V-formation against a dramatic sky. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a vibrant orange and red at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The birds are silhouetted against the bright lower portion of the sky.

And more importantly, municipalities must adopt a *code of conduct* that governs how citizens, politicians and businesses behave.

An Ethic of Place

An ethic of place respects equally the people of a region and the land, animals, vegetation, water, and air.



It recognizes that people revere their physical surroundings and they need and deserve a stable, productive economy that is accessible to those with modest incomes.



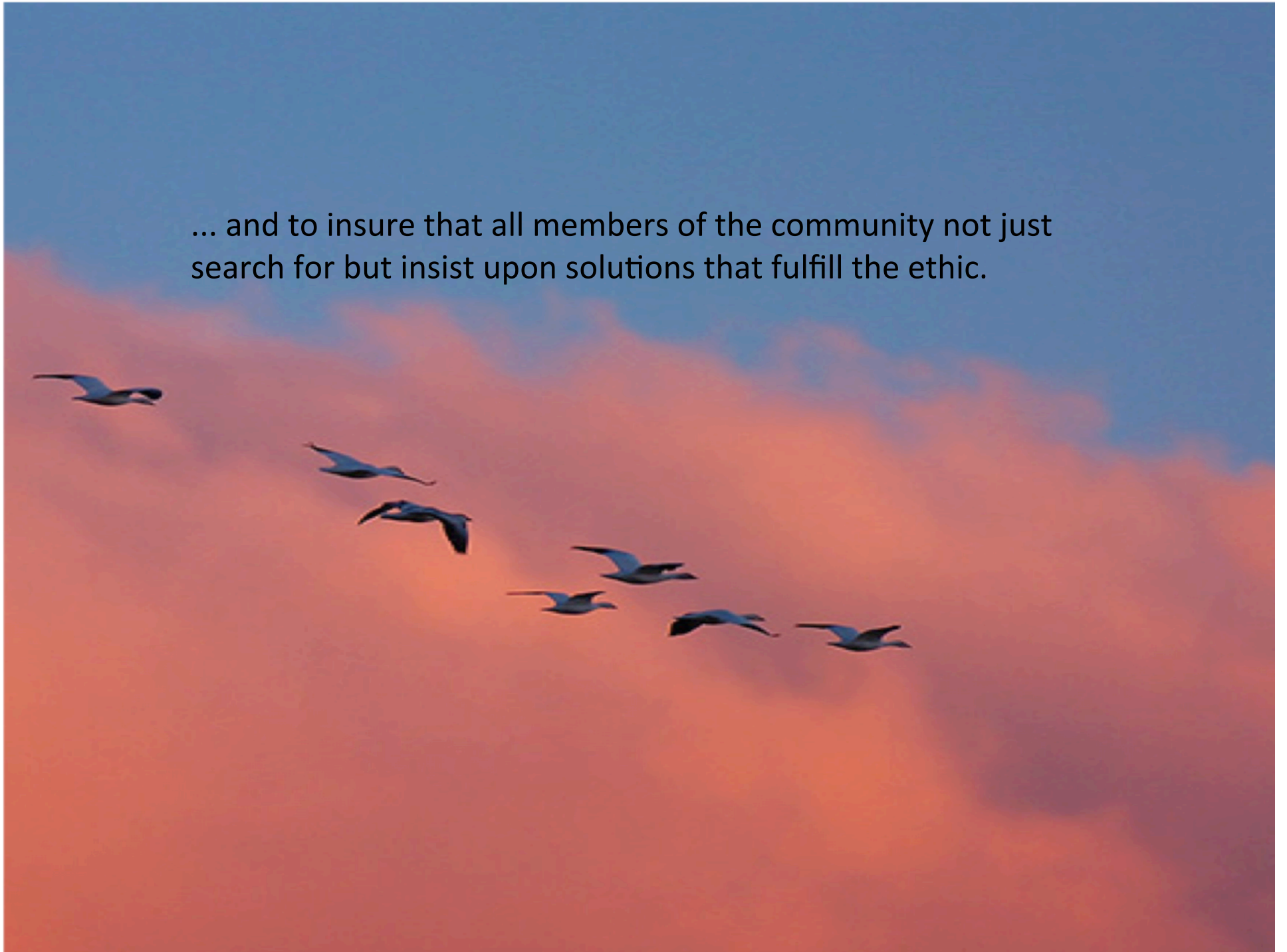
An ethic of place ought to be a shared community value and ought to manifest itself in a determination to treat the environment and its people as equals,

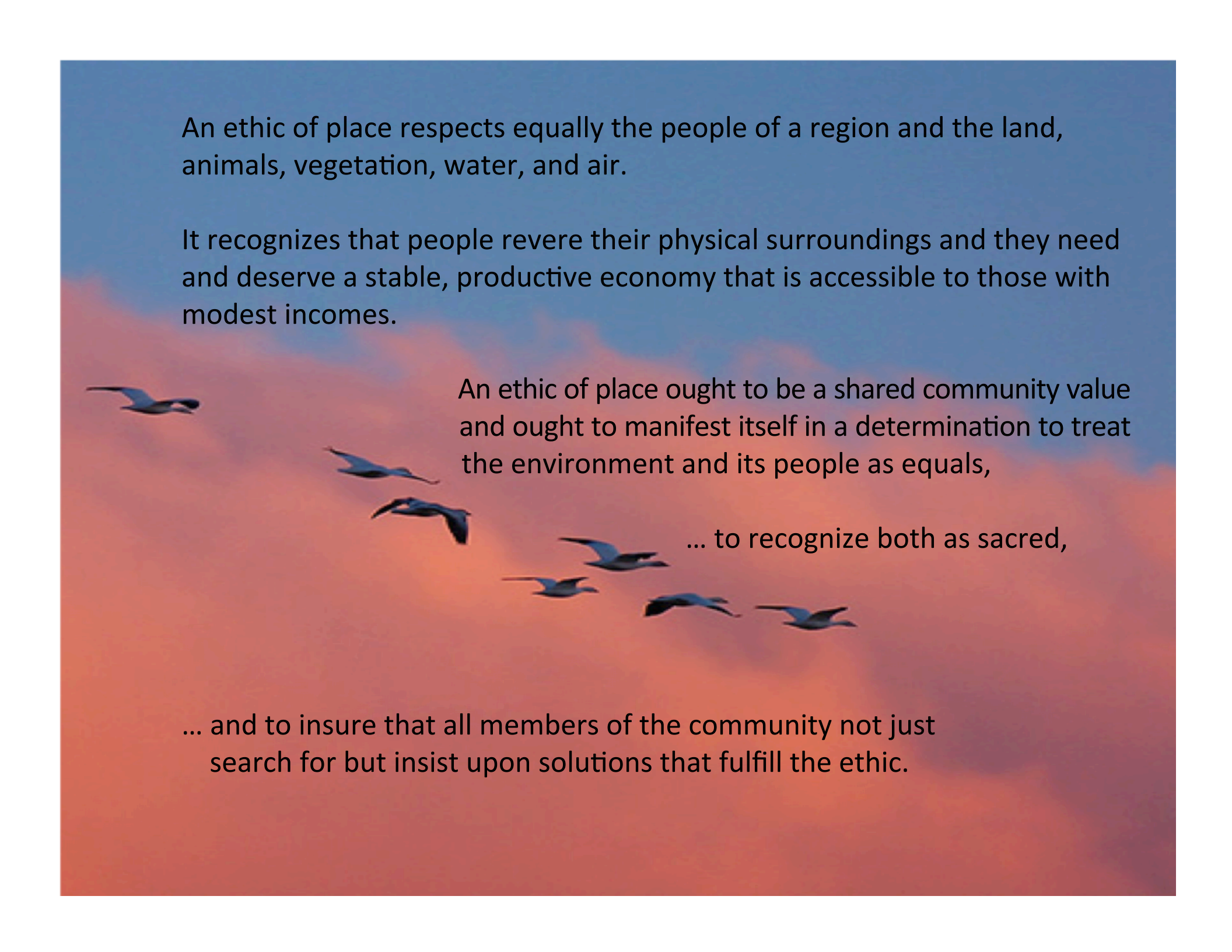


... to recognize both as sacred



... and to insure that all members of the community not just search for but insist upon solutions that fulfill the ethic.



A flock of birds is flying across a sky that transitions from a deep blue at the top to a warm orange and red at the bottom, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The birds are silhouetted against the bright lower portion of the sky.

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It recognizes that people revere their physical surroundings and they need and deserve a stable, productive economy that is accessible to those with modest incomes.

An ethic of place ought to be a shared community value and ought to manifest itself in a determination to treat the environment and its people as equals,

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... and to insure that all members of the community not just search for but insist upon solutions that fulfill the ethic.

