

Module 5

Preparation

Facilitators:

Devon Christie, MD

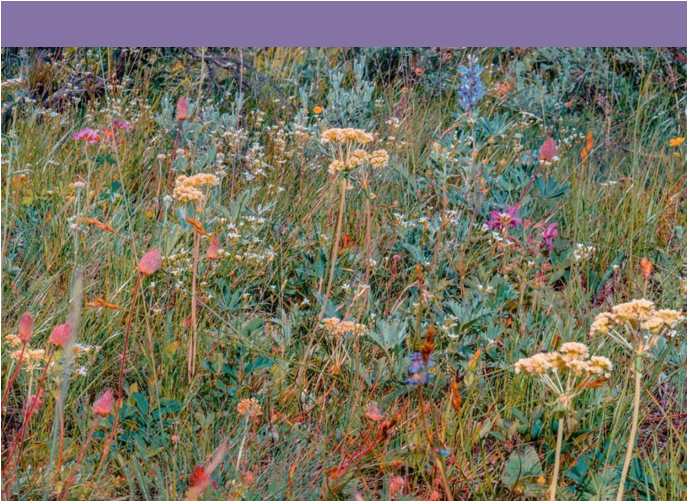
Thomas Mifflin, PA-C

FUNDAMENTALS OF PAT



Group Agreements

CENTRE



CONFIDENTIALITY



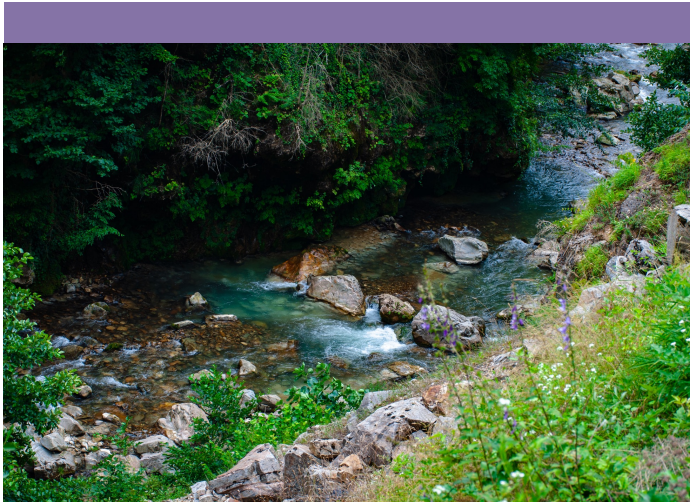
ENGAGEMENT



NON-JUDGMENTAL
LISTENING

Group Agreements

CENTRE



TIMELINESS

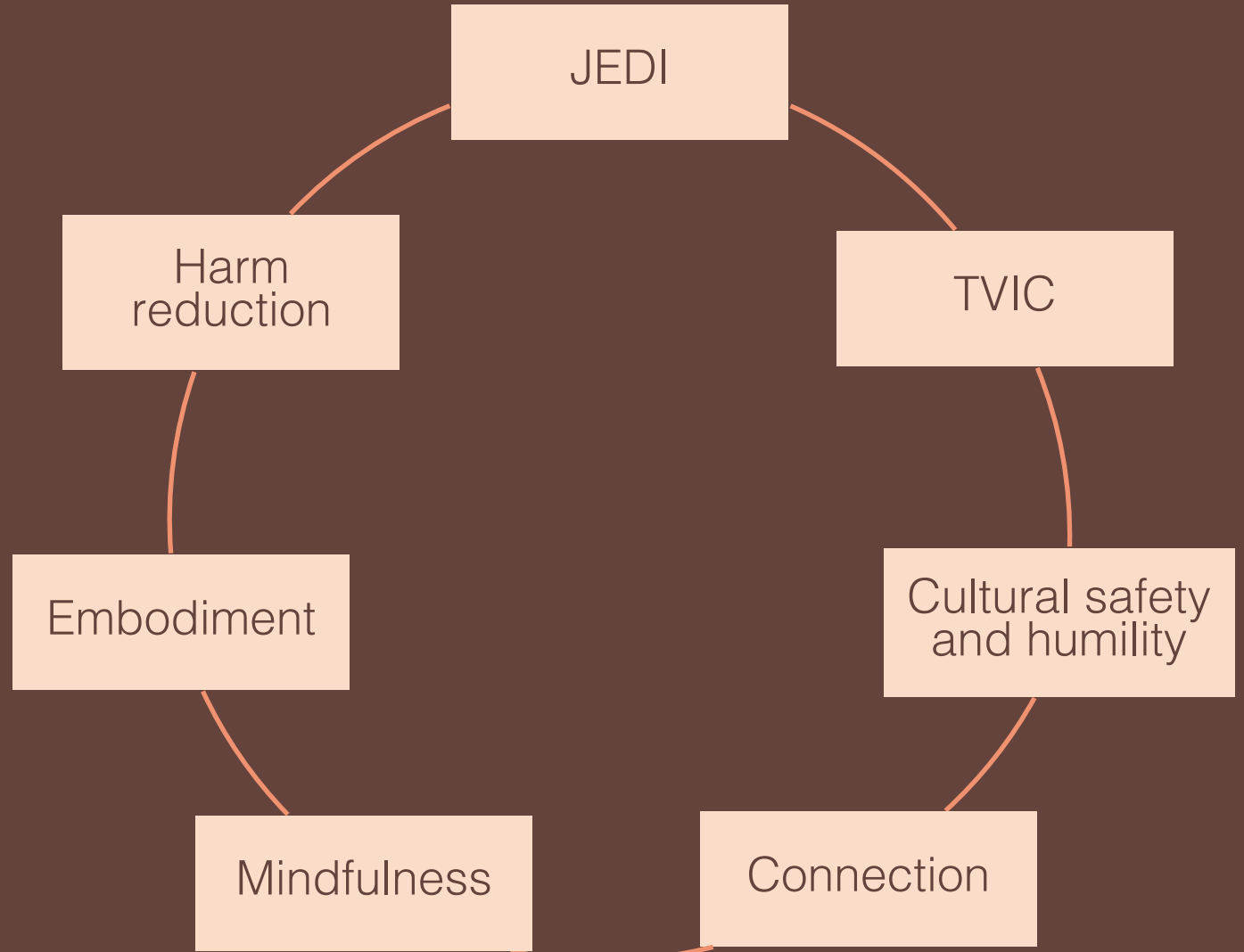


RIGHT TO PASS



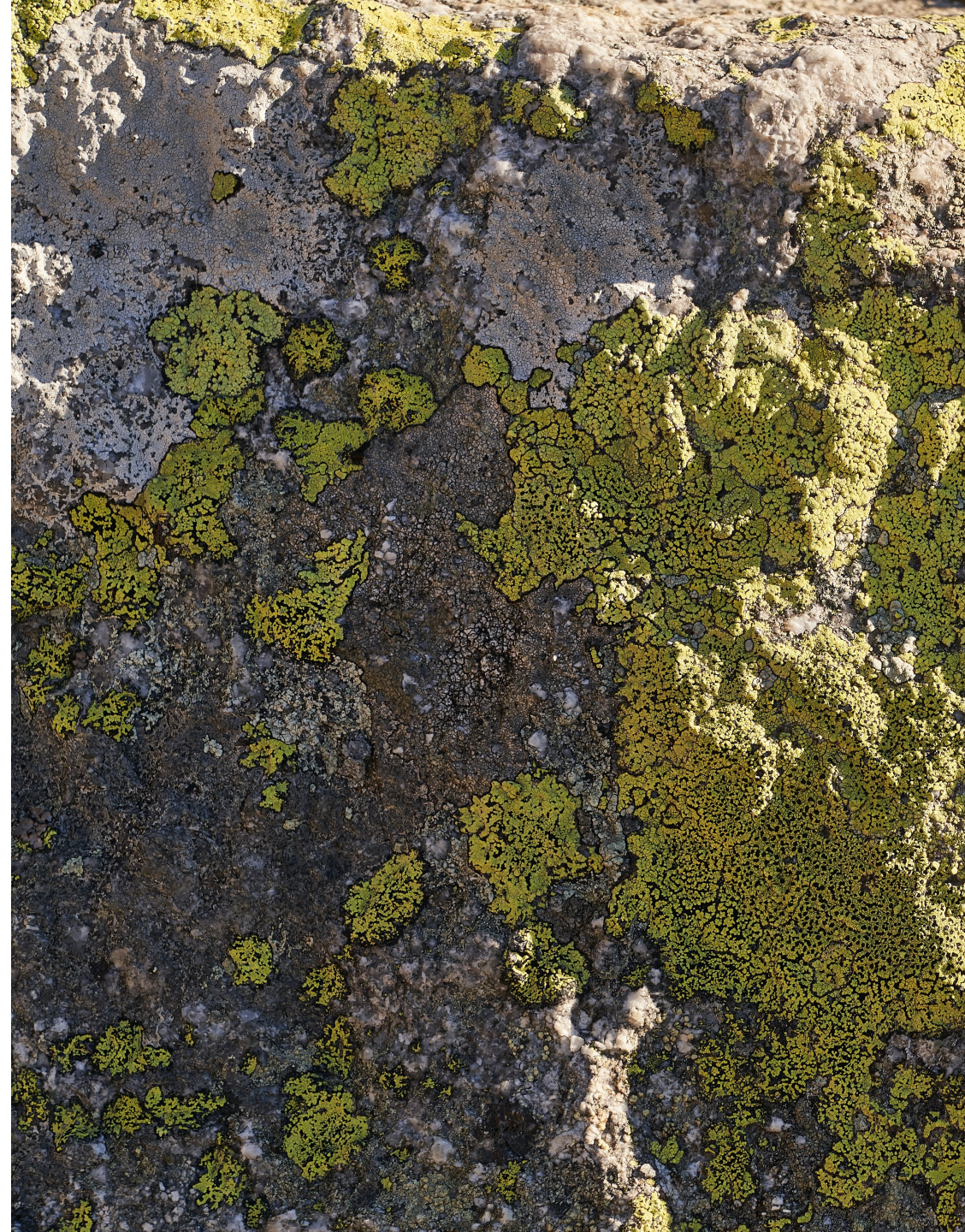
EQUITY

SEVEN GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Core Elements of Preparation

- Assessment
- Psychoeducation
- Harm Reduction
- Intention Setting
- Creating Ritual
- Resourcing
- Creating Agreements and the container
- Mapping and getting to know the client



Arrival Practice



SET & SETTING

Preparation is very important, since it is a powerful shaper of the context for psychedelic experiences. Psychedelics produce pivotal "transient states of hyperplasticity in which the organism is specially sensitive to environmental conditions, and outcomes critically depend on those contextual conditions...if therapeutic and supportive, then the outcomes may well be positive."

–Dr. Robert Carhart-Harris (Icahn School of Medicine, 2022, 19:00)

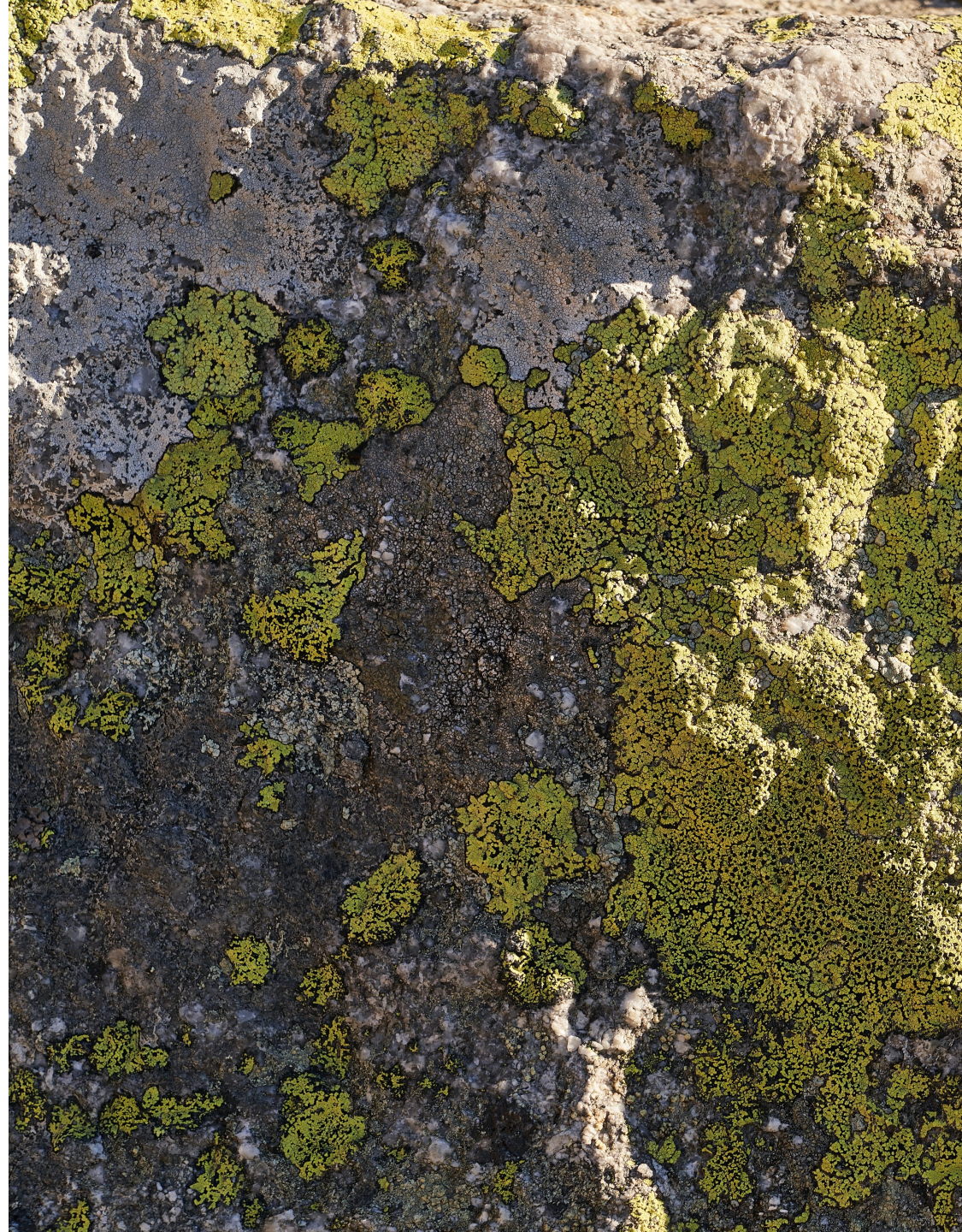


Intentions

VS

Goals

- Function
- Small group exercise (dyads)



Intention



AIMS

- Clarify and reflect on motivations for seeking psychedelic experience
- Encourage turning toward experiences versus avoidance
- Anchor for the psychedelic experience
- A lens to process the experience during integration

Intention

PRINCIPLES



- Simple, clear, and concise
- Therapist supports discovering and distilling main themes and patterns
- Encourage the client to imagine more possibilities for themselves and their lives
- Intentions can change and are an ongoing exploration
- Reflect values, areas of suffering, and desired changes
- Use the client's language
- Can look different in reality to what was imagined
- Serve as an integration tool
- Intentions are distinct from expectations
- Can be both an anchor but also held loosely to be open to the experience that arises

EXPECTATIONS

- Narrow and restrictive in nature
- Desired outcome versus actual outcome



Intention Setting

Show me, Help me, Teach me

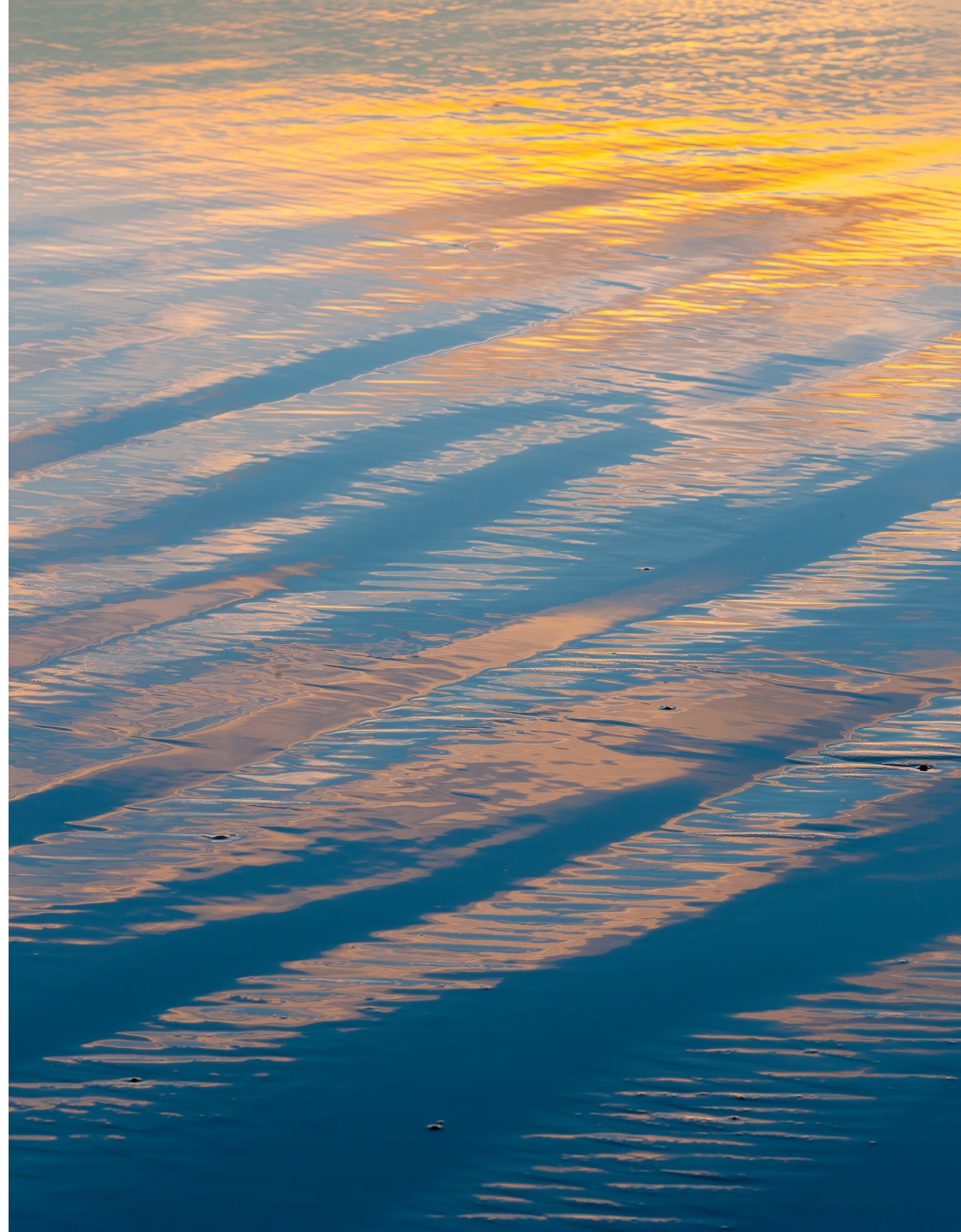


NUMINUS

Ritual

DEMO

DECONSTRUCTION



Therapeutic Rituals

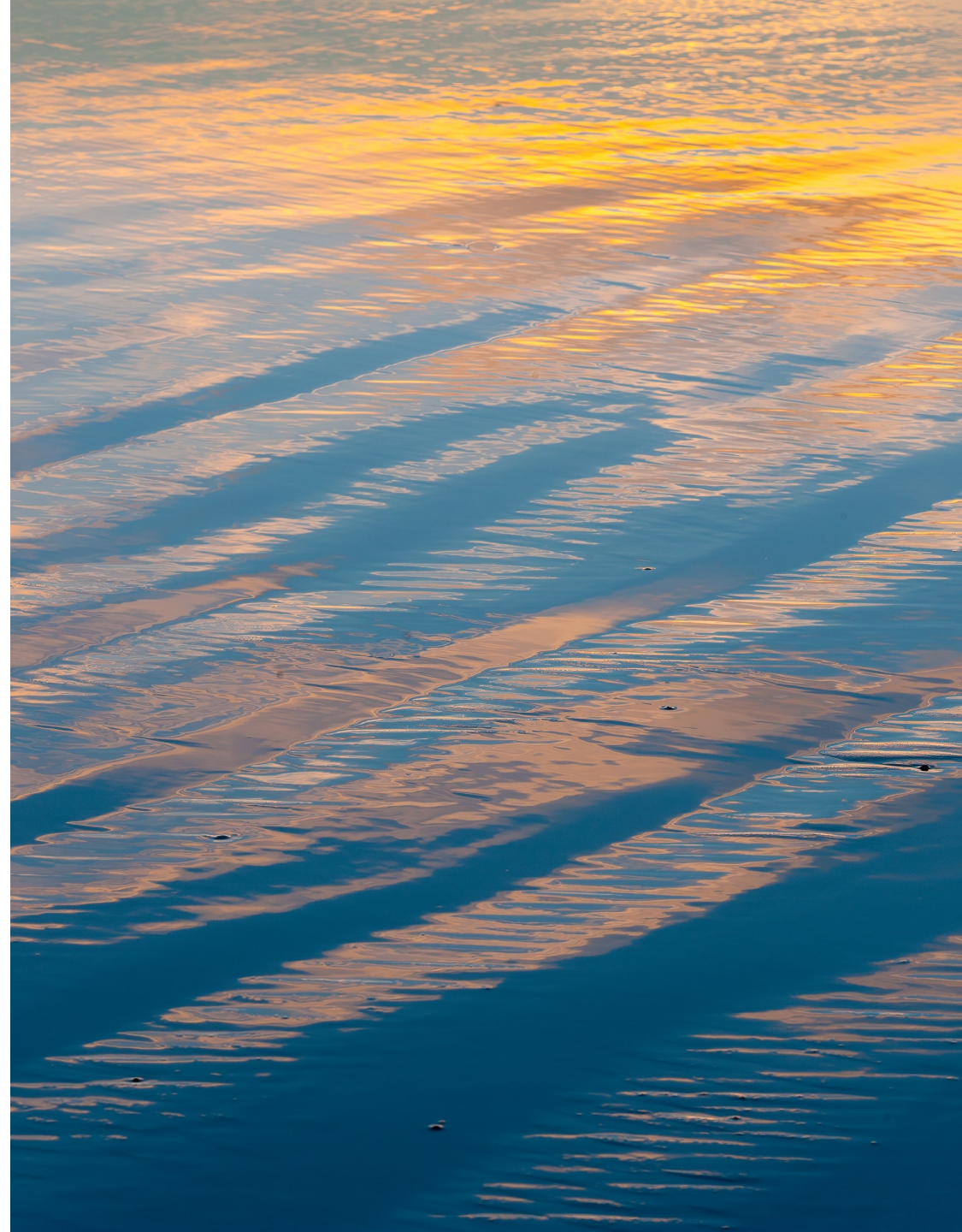
A FORMAL AND CUSTOMARILY REPEATED
ACT OR SERIES OF ACTS

Purpose:

- Provision of structure and form to enhance trust & safety / reduce stress
- Increasing therapeutic efficacy via 'common factors' theory

Cautions:

- CS&H - appropriation
- JEDI – a person's unique sociocultural context



Resourcing

- What resources have you learned so far in the course that could apply to PAT?
- What are their function? Thinking about someone in an expanded state and what that can bring up for them.
- Thinking about your nervous system as the therapist within this context of hypersensitivity, what resources do you have to stay regulated and support coregulation?



Resourcing

Types of Resources:

- Breathing exercises
- Rituals
- Intentions
- Objects
- Inner & External Resources
- The Therapist



Agreements & Containments

SAMPLE AGREEMENTS:

- Therapeutic Touch - intentions and boundaries
- Sexual content – valid therapeutic content vs. sexual energy exchange
- Clothes need to stay on
- Not leaving the space
- Violence and aggression



Module 5

- Design your own ritual for PAT sessions
- Take each other through your ritual at your next small group meeting
- Ensure you explain context and rationale for ritual
- Why might it be important for PAT?

Honouring and Witnessing

