

# #change hacks

## DEVELOP YOUR PERSONAL LEARNING NETWORK (PLN)

### WHY



#### STAYING ABREAST OF YOUR INDUSTRY TRENDS

As information is evolving so quickly, we are learning differently. We will learn fast, we'll make mistakes, we'll learn as we go, from each other and by connecting, to keep our knowledge and skills relevant.

If you're not already a lifelong learner, now is the time to jump on board. Lifelong learning is a necessary practice, not only to stay abreast of what's happening, but also to achieve mastery in your chosen field.

Social media and access to online learning networks has made it easier to stay ahead of the curve in your field. Organisations are spending less on formal training budgets, particularly as permanent employees are being replaced by contractors. This places a greater importance on directing your own learning through developing a **Personal Learning Network**, to navigate disruptive times and to continue to grow.

Developing a PLN signals an intention to learn, with an understanding that much of this learning occurs organically.

### WHAT



#### WHAT IS A PERSONAL LEARNING NETWORK?

A **Personal Learning Network** is your informal (outside of a classroom and books) learning network, where you learn from various sources and through numerous channels.

By connecting with a range of people, you will tap into different perspectives, fresh insights, and like any curious journey, you will discover the unexpected.

You probably already have a form of a PLN, however it's worth working on it, to expand your reach.

#### HOW TO GET STARTED

The idea of learning through a vast network, in smaller chunks and through various sources, aligns nicely with how we are hardwired to connect and learn.

This type of learning has been hailed as the way to learn in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

##### Step 1

Brainstorm/list as many channels as you can that offer learning, keeping in mind networking and online resources.

##### Step 2

Draw a PLN template in concentric circles (see next page)

- **Inner Circle** – is your immediate network
- **Middle Circle** – is your workplace and/or professional network outside your immediate team
- **Outer Circle** – everything else, e.g. social media, hangouts, TED Talks, open online courses, webinars, podcasts, blogs

##### Step 3

Review it regularly and watch it grow!  
You will soon notice that less of your learning is taking place in a formal classroom environment and more is happening through social connection and self-directed activity.

### HOW



### WHEN

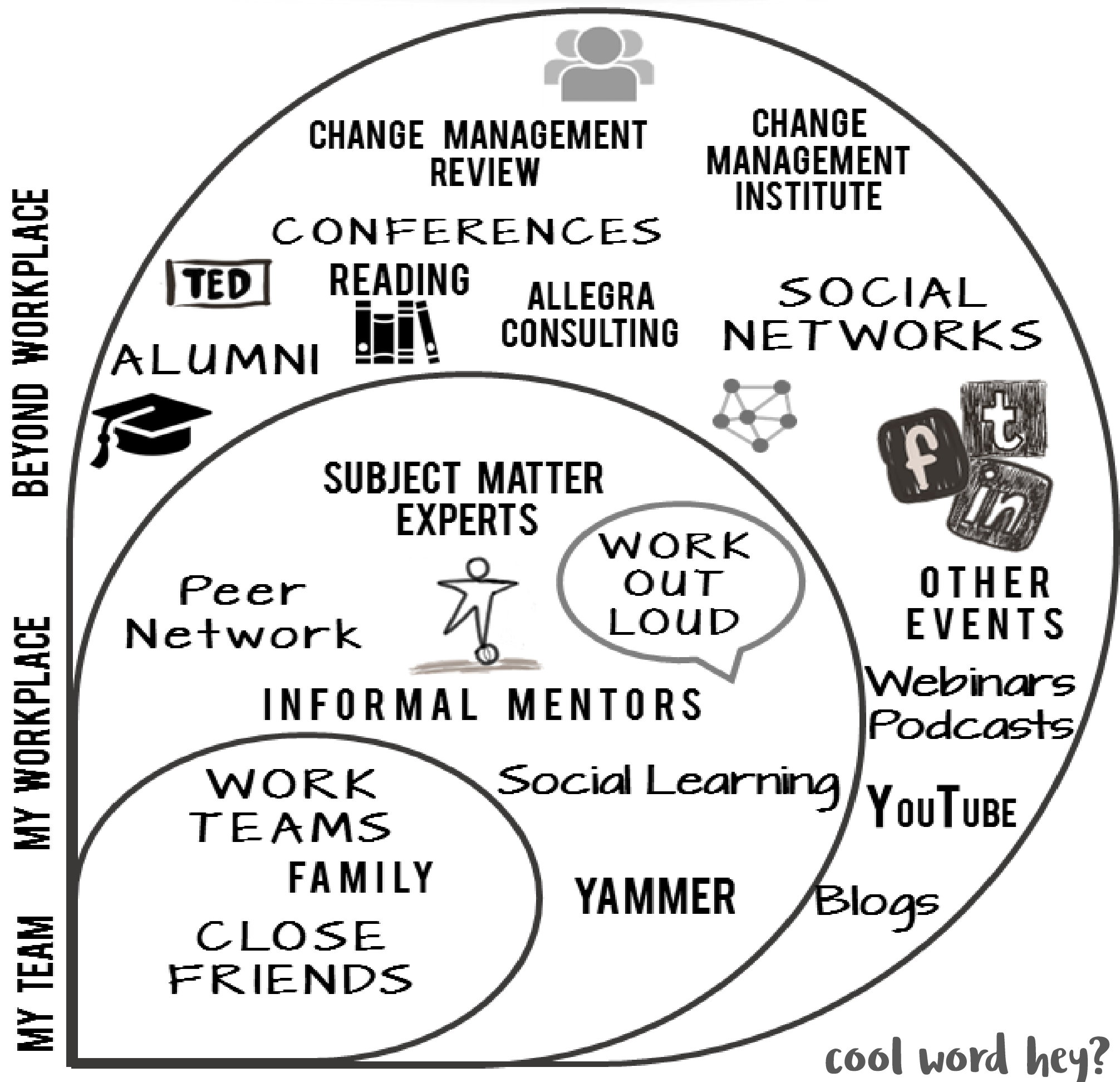


#### THE TIME IS NOW!

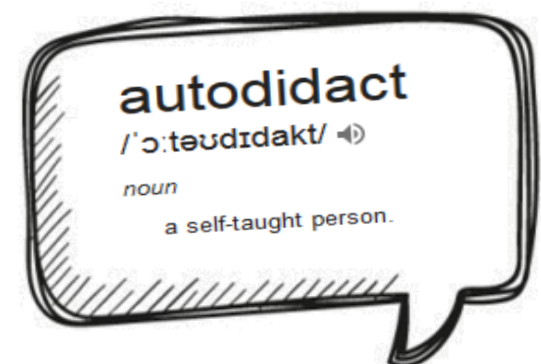
Information is evolving so quickly.

Future proof yourself and become an **autodidact** now!

# PERSONAL LEARNING NETWORK



cool word hey?



Source: Ross, L. (2017), *Hacking for agile change: With an agile mindset, behaviours & practices*, Green Hill Publishing, Adelaide, page 188