ANCHORS AWEIGH!

Collaboration is a wonderful thing, until it's not.
When things don't go smoothly it can be discouraging. Instead of abandoning ship in rough waters, consider dropping an anchor. But not every anchor will work for every situation. Instead of a prescriptive fix, use this worksheet to ask yourself key questions and see which one of these anchors will give you that reprieve from the storm and reorient you to chart a new course forward. I've provided a key question for each, now it's time to do the work.

Use these prompts to help you test this anchor

Journal here

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION
Coffee is for Collaborators
ANCHOR: **Always be Helping**

Has the start of this collaboration objectified anyone involved?

Have work assignments been the result of volunteers being allowed to define their own role and contribution?

Have we asked enough questions about the issue we're trying to resolve?

Have those involved made a genuine connection with each other?

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION
ANCHOR: **Itchy Backs**

Who else has a similar or adjacent problem to the challenge we are trying to solve that we have not included?

Is there a way of widening the scope to look at the challenge from some distance?

How can I ask better questions in my network to reveal opportunities for collaboration?

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION
ANCHOR: **Digital First**

Have I looked through my network for an overlooked connection who could significantly contribute to this collaboration?

How can our group cast a wider net to bring more resources and different skillsets to this team?

Have we inadvertently limited the scope of the collaboration based solely on geographic proximity?

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION

ANCHOR: **Vice-Versa**

Have I inadvertently restricted the members of this collaboration in some way?

Is the way we're meeting/reporting/discussing things in our collaboration creating a barrier to having the right people involved?

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION

ANCHOR: **Uber or Lyft?**

Has our collaboration already fallen into predictable meetings/reporting/discussion frameworks chosen by default?

Have I limited my access to people who could be helping me based on my own preferences for where I network?

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION

ANCHOR: **Rule of 15**

Has our connections or conversation defaulted to a focus on the collaboration goals to a detrimental extent?

What am I currently doing to show people I am interesting?

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When asked, am I being clear about my needs, wants and goals?

COLLABORATION IS THE NEW COMPETITION

ANCHOR: **Be the Zebra**

What am I doing to stand out from the crowd and attract like-minded people?

Does the make-up of this collaboration group look like every other group or association I've ever been involved with?

Am I being clear that I'm open to a new way of doing things and a new way of thinking?

Share your "A-ha!" moment with us all on social. Use hashtag #collaborationisthenewcompetition.