

Use your El Skills to hold a **Fierce Conversation to Resolve Conflict**

- Set the stage for a positive and productive meeting by releasing stress. Slow your breathing and inhale a count of 5, hold for a count of 5, slowly release your breath for the count of 10. Repeat. You can do this!
- Request a meeting, name the issue in non-emotional terms and create positive conditions by ensuring you look and feel relaxed and hopeful. This relaxed attitude and positive intent will help set a tone of positive expectations for the coming conversation.
- Once at the meeting, name the issue to be discussed again. Explain why it is important using "I" statements. Express your willingness to resolve the situation or understand the other person.
- If necessary, explain what could happen if the situation in not unresolved or addressed.
- **5** Express your contribution to the problem and willingness to resolve the issue.
- Ask for a response and listen actively. Do not interrupt, except to ask for further clarification.
- Work together to create the best way forward. Create a future check-in date or time to ensure that changes are made if needed.

Susan Scott, Fierce Conversations.

