## The three R's – Renewal, Rebirth, Relief?

by April Callis Birchmeier, CSP, CCMP™, PMP®

I love spring, the renewal and rebirth of the season (along with my birthday) makes this month my hands down favorite. But this year, more than ever, I just have a great sense of relief. Relief that we are making progress in the battle against the pandemic and emerging from the lockdown that has been both essential and incredibly difficult.

As we tentatively poke our heads out of the metaphorical ground, we can take a lesson from the crocus, daffodils and lilies around us and grow. Nature is the greatest teacher when it comes to knowing how to change. Spring is the season of transition and now is our time to step into the sunlight and grow as quickly as we can to become the next version of ourselves.

For some of us, this includes professional growth. What are you setting your sights on? Are you looking to earn your PMP? or another PMI designation? Maybe you're pursuing higher education a training program or expanding your skillset to include agile, Agile or change management. You may be looking to add coaching or mentoring to your personal or professional life.

Do it. Choose it and grow toward the new version of yourself. You've made it through the dark, cold, winter of the pandemic. Reach out to your PMI Chapter colleagues, reconnect and rejoice. Allow relief and renewal to guide you in stepping forward into new skills.

As we now know, there is no time but the present. I want to encourage you to take this month to recognize how you'd like to grow in both your professional and personal life and then to set your course and do it.

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