



**The Gatehouse**  
**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Transforming Trauma into**  
**Triumph Conference**  
Humber College Lake Shore Campus, Building L “Lake Shore  
Commons”, Room L1017  
Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017

*Thank you to The Gatehouse Program Participants, Members, Volunteers,  
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**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Transforming Trauma into Triumph Conference**  
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**Theme Statement:** 7<sup>th</sup> Annual International Transforming Trauma Into Triumph Conference

*Silent Spring-Collective Voice*

*Silent Spring* is an environmental science book by Rachel Carson. The book was published on 27 September 1962 and it documented the detrimental effects on the environment of the indiscriminate use of pesticides. Carson accused the chemical industry of spreading disinformation and public officials of accepting industry claims unquestioningly.

*Silent Spring* was met with fierce opposition by chemical companies, but it spurred a reversal in national pesticide policy, led to a nationwide ban on DDT for agricultural uses, and inspired an environmental movement that led to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Agency.

Rachel Carson died one year after the book was published. *Silent Spring* went on to become one of the most profound environmental books of all time.

Someone once wrote that: “Rachel Carson's trenchant writing gave us data, marching orders, the heart to do what is right; but, like all great writing, it also gave us the spiritual and psychological space to contemplate our own thoughts about the world around us, about our own place in that world, about our own hopes and fears.”

Today, 55 years later, we have climate change impacting every facet of our life. The key word here being “life.” Our world, our place, and our way of being in it, is at the heart of this conference.

What is it that has people on this planet treating children, youth, adults as something other than sacred? What is it that has people commodifying the lives of children, abusing them in ways that sparks not only outrage but also and perhaps even more insidious-silence?

Given the world wide-epidemic of child abuse it cannot be a surprise to any of us that, like our children, our planet, the very place that gives life, sustenance, and purpose to each and everyone one of us is the victim of exploitation and abuse.

For here we are today in June 2017-, a world awash in abuse and neglect: indigenous peoples being systematically “disappeared”, walls of segregation being boasted about, denial of climate change promulgated by corporations and political leaders, organizations whose mantra it is-‘to protect and serve’ now being described as toxic and abusive with their powers. What do we do with all of this?

Rachel Carson wrote about the silence of the song bird due to corporation’s unfettered deployment of pesticides, under their declaration that the pesticides being dispersed were being so dispersed for the common good.

Would it not be exhilarating to engage in ways that celebrate the goodness that is found in abundance in the common everyday expression of the sacredness of everyday life.

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(continued)

Would it not be exhilarating to engage in ways that celebrate and create and give rise to the voice and not the silence of spring, to the voice of a child laughing, the voice of an elder sharing mythologies that ignite a spirit that can never be denied.

Twenty years ago I was in a meeting and a discussion point focused on what phrase would best describe the work of The Gatehouse-someone responded by saying: “A safe place where everyone has a voice.”

So maybe today, in this conference, through our collective spirit, in this time of spring, silence will give way to song and voice-a collective voice- that heals and transforms.

*Arthur Lockhart, Founder The Gatehouse, June, 2, 2017*

## **The Gatehouse**

### **7<sup>th</sup> Annual Transforming Trauma into Triumph Conference**

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Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017

9:00 AM-4:00 PM

8:30AM - 9:30AM	Registration & Refreshments
9:30 AM -9:45AM	Introduction & Opening - Arthur Lockhart, Founder & Maria Barcelos, Executive Director
9:45 AM -9:55 AM	Inspector Pauline Gray - Unit Commander, Sex Crimes
9:55 AM – 10:00 AM	Q & A
10:00AM-10:10AM	David Butt, Criminal Lawyer
10:10AM-10:15AM	Q & A
10:15 AM -10:40 AM	Environmental Justice & Trauma – Avi Lewis, Sally Ludwig & Arthur Lockhart, The Gatehouse Founder
10:40 AM -10:50 AM	Q & A
10:50 AM -11:05 AM	Break
11:05 AM- 11:25 AM	Forgiveness Project – Panel – Tara Muldoon & Cola Bennett
11:25 AM -11:35 AM	Q & A
11:35 AM – 11:45 AM	Leonard Benoit – 2 Spirited People of the 1st Nations
11:45 AM – 11:50 AM	Q & A
11:50 AM – 12:05 PM	James Buffin, Veritus Pictures
12:05 PM - 12:15 PM	Q & A
12:15 PM -1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00 PM -1:30 PM	Gatehouse Speakers – Stewart Thompson, Ahmeda Mansaray-Richardson, Carolyn & Jay Smith
1:30 PM - 1:50 PM	Rob Hawkings, Psychotherapist & Helen Giuliani, Addictions & Intervention
1:50 PM - 2:00 PM	Break
2:00 PM - 2:10 PM	Arthur Lockhart setting context for open space
2:10 PM – 3:10 PM	Open space group work starts – L1017, L3001, L3004, and L3010
3:10 PM - 3:45 PM	Group Summaries & Closing discussion

## The Gatehouse 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Transforming Trauma into Triumph Conference Guest Speakers



### **Inspector Pauline Gray, Toronto Police Service**

Inspector Pauline Gray has been a member of the Toronto Police Service since 1988. Inspector Gray's policing career has been predominantly spent within the field of criminal investigation including the Gambling Squad, The Major Drug Squad - Heroin Section and Domestic Violence Response. Inspector Gray recently left the Toronto Homicide Squad having spent 12 years as both a Lead Investigator and Major Case Manager, and after spending a year as a Divisional inspector is currently assigned as the Unit Commander at the Sex Crimes Unit. Inspector Gray is a regular speaker at the Toronto Police College and the Canadian Police College focusing on such topics as death and homicide investigation, memo book writing, surviving cross examination and fair and impartial policing. She is also a guest lecturer at CICS, the University of Toronto, the University of Ontario and Humber College.

Inspector Gray continues to manage major cases as a Canadian certified Team Commander. Inspector Gray was the recipient of the 2010 Mike Matthews Award and the 2014 Ontario Women in Law Enforcement, Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

### **David Butt, Lawyer**



David Butt is a trial and appellate lawyer and former prosecutor. He represents all major stakeholders in the criminal justice system – victims of crime, accused persons, and police officers. His practice spans the fields of criminal law, professional regulation, administrative law, privacy and human rights.

David is a Queen's Law grad, finishing at the top of his class all three years. He won the Viscount Bennett Scholarship, awarded to just one student each year in a nationwide competition, and earned a graduate law degree from Harvard University. While at Harvard he also served as a Teaching Fellow in the Department of Philosophy and the Department of Government. David clerked at both the Court of Appeal for Ontario and the Supreme Court of Canada, the first Canadian ever to hold two such clerkships. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1989.

David has been lead counsel in more than two dozen cases at the Supreme Court of Canada, hundreds of cases in other appellate courts, and countless trials. He has both prosecuted and defended extensively. More than 70 of David's cases have been published by the independent law reports. He has been counsel to three major judicial inquiries addressing criminal justice reforms, and municipal governance.

Outside his law practice, David is committed to helping victims of child abuse. He has served on the board of ECPAT, the world's largest NGO fighting commercial sexual exploitation of children, and has spoken and consulted on that topic in every region of the world.

David teaches and speaks to many different audiences from Victoria to St. John's, on a variety of law related topics. He is also a much sought after expert for media commentary on criminal justice issues, appearing frequently on television and radio across Canada. David's writing on justice issues appears in the Globe and Mail, and he conducts writing workshops across the country for a variety of professionals.



**Sally Ludwig**

Hello, I'm Sally Ludwig. I work in Guelph, in the watershed of the Grand River and traditional territory of the Atawandaron and Anishinabe People, as a relational therapist, community organizer and group facilitator. I'm a trainer for the Transition Movement, therapy instructor, and facilitator of the Work that Reconnects, with particular interests in effective collaboration, ecological and social justice, and the inner dimensions of personal and community resilience and empowerment. I love music, singing, art making and sound improvising. I find connecting deeply with Nature to be a lifelong source of personal meaning and resilience.



**Avi Lewis, Strategic Director and Co-Founder of The Leap**

Avi Lewis is the Strategic Director and Co-Founder of The Leap, an organization launched in 2017 to upend our collective response to the crises of climate, inequality and racism. He also directed the feature documentaries This Changes Everything (2015) and The Take (2004). In his roles as television journalist and host, local news reporter, music journalist, debate show host, public speaker and activist, he has created space to bring more radical voices and ideas to the mainstream for over 25 years.



**Cola Bennett**

Cola is a proud mother and inspirational artist from Toronto who developed a love for writing, poetry and the arts while completing her BFA in classical piano from York University. Her talent for creative writing was discovered through the Literature for Life program who published poems by Cola as part of their 2011 women's anthology entitled, "Holla". Cola is a graduate of the theater group AMY project (Artist Mentoring Youth) where her contributions include spoken word as well as acting in the spring creation of Check-out (2011) and Derailed, featured in Summer Works 2012. In 2013 Cola had a staged reading of her play entitled, Play(ed) as part of the Tarragon Theater YPU (Young play-wrights Unit) program. Since the passing of her son Kayshaun in August 2014 she has joined The Forgiveness Project team which creates tools and safe spaces for mental health and conversations. Since joining the team she has performed at the

F-You Triggers Photo exhibit (2015), has contributed to the Manhood audio book and continues to speak at various events throughout the city of Toronto. Through her work on mother hood and grief she was invited to speak at the 2015 Feminist Art Conference. Cola continues to stay inspired while working towards the completion of her first auto-biography and LP entitled C.O.L.A.'s story. She is consistently looking for opportunities to blend her love of classical Piano and spoken word to inspire healing and restoration for others.



**Tara Muldoon**

Tara Muldoon is a businesswoman who knows her worth. Taking a steadfast approach to expanding her brand, she realized at an early age that there is no better time to act on her dreams than right now. Tara is the founder of the F-You project, an organization which has completed 25 workshops and hosted over 2,200 attendees in the last two years. To date, topics discussed have included STDs, abortion, gun violence, retaliation, bullying, abuse, heartbreak and betrayal. Her biggest inspiration? The knowledge and experience which she has received by working in the entertainment industry. Her trials and triumphs keep her focused and motivated to empower others and lend a hand along the way.



**Leonard Benoit, 2-Spirited People of the 1st nations**

Leonard grew up in a family of 8 brothers and 3 sisters in a small out port community of Newfoundland. He is Qalipu Mi’Kmag.

His first career was in the business sector, however he rapidly switched to service provider. He has a valid Ontario Nursing license and has been practicing for the last 17 years. He has worked in acute care, community care and corrections. Leonard has also done volunteer nursing in the Dominican Republic. During his nursing career he has won many awards and as such been nominated for the Nightingale Nursing Award of Excellence. He volunteers as a nurse at The Toronto People with Aids Foundation: he runs a blood pressure clinic on food bank day.

He recently completed a Community Services Worker program in which he has married to his nursing. This allows him to hold the position of Client Care Coordinator at 2-Spirited People of the 1st nations, in which he provides a variety of supports to Indigenous community members that are Hiv+

Leonard is a peer facilitator at The Gatehouse, which offers support groups for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse. He is also a facilitator with The Ontario Aids Network. Leonard is a trained facilitator with The Toronto Writer’s Collective, a group that helps marginalized communities find their voice and write their story.

He enjoys spending his spare time with his family and adult son... if you see him wandering somewhere..... He is probably lost because he has no sense of direction.



**James Buffin, Veritus Pictures**

In my experience, recovery from child sex abuse is an inner/outer journey of re-relating to self and the world. My journey began in 2011 and was triggered by the arrest of my son’s teacher on child pornography charges. The greatest thing I have learned since, is that the stress and anxiety I had lived with for over 30 years was a predictable symptom...of a crime committed against my most vulnerable child self. I still have challenges, but now I have this information, I am emancipated. Voice and storytelling are at the heart of

humanity. And that's why I use my skills as a filmmaking instructor to empower marginalized, oppressed and racialized people in using technology to tell their own stories. To keep things real, I'm also sharing my own story in a documentary film, *Picking Trauma's Pocket*. To date I have filmed empowered survivors in Canada, the US, Guyana, Bolivia Taiwan and Ghana. My goal is to highlight the scale and impact of child sex abuse; the prevalence of it in local communities everywhere on the planet. The final two stops on this journey will take me to Australia and the UK this year.



**Rob Hawkings, MA, MES, MBA, Counsellor & Psychotherapist**

Rob Hawkings is a Toronto-based counsellor, psychotherapist and consultant in private practice. His specialties are addictions and adult resolution of childhood trauma, with sub-specialties in sexual addiction and male survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Rob has designed, led, and supervised agency-sponsored group treatment programs for adult male sexual abuse survivors; and been a clinical consultant for projects related to treatment of male sexual abuse survivors. While with Bellwood Health Services (one of Canada's leading addiction treatment hospitals) between 2000 and 2005, Rob helped develop Canada's first residential treatment programs for sexual addiction and for military veterans with concurrent substance dependency and combat-related PTSD. From 2009 to 2016, he was a volunteer member of the Therapist/Facilitator Team for MaleSurvivor's Weekends of Recovery. For over 20 years, Rob has studied Psychodrama and Sociometry; and he incorporates these safe and powerful modalities into both his training workshops and his therapeutic work with groups and individuals.



**Helen Giuliani**

Helen Giuliani has more than 18 years' experience assisting chemically dependent people seeking recovery. She has been employed in the addictions and mental health sector since 2003, providing service to the Jean Tweed Centre for Women, Lakeshore Area Multi Project Services (LAMP), St. Vincent de Paul Society, and Intervention Toronto. After many years of observing the devastating impact that addiction and mental health issues have on both the addict and the families connected to them, Helen was inspired to help change lives as a professional in the field. She obtained a Human Services Counsellor Diploma as well as certification as a Life Skills Coach, and continues to pursue ongoing addiction and mental health professional development in order to provide better service and resources to the afflicted. Practicing from the basis that all addicts have the capacity to recover, Helen provides hope, compassion, and real answers to clients, whether during one on one counseling, family work, or the interventions she performs as a part of the InterventionTO team. Her one wish for every addict and every family affected by addiction, is to know that no matter what the circumstances, recovery *is* possible – and a new, infinitely better life is waiting for those who are willing to ask for help and do the work.



**Jay & Carolyn Smith**

**Jay Smith**-I'm a husband, father, facilitator at the Gatehouse and survivor of childhood sexual abuse. I'm a structural designer who relies on strong foundations to hold up the buildings I design. My own foundation was damaged by being sexually abused as a child. This has been put back together through the support of my incredible wife, the Gatehouse and the people who give their time and



dedication to helping survivors. I'm honoured to be a member of a place that rebuilds hope and holds people up while they find it. **Carolyn Smith**, came to the Gatehouse along with her sweetheart, Jay. Together they support the Partners' programs, and Carolyn is a co-leader of the drop-in monthly Partner's only programs. Carolyn and Jay have been enjoying the adventure of marriage since 1992, and give thanks for two terrific young adult kids. Carolyn is also a trained childbirth doula, and in her regular life, she ministers with a congregation of the United Church of Canada in Mississauga.



**Stewart Thompson**, Gatehouse Facilitator, ASIST T4T, Personal Transformation Web Radio Show Host, Public Speaker, Survivor. Greetings, my name is Stewart Thompson, I am a survivor of childhood sexual abuse. I came the Gatehouse in 2011 as a participant. After completing the programs at The Gatehouse, I decided that I wanted to give back and started facilitating support groups to help other survivors find their voice through the group process. In May of 2014 I started a web based broadcast called *Personal Transformation* giving peer support

and raising awareness about the impact of childhood sexual abuse. In addition, I have been part of various public speaking engagements will continue advocating for survivors of childhood sexual abuse and helping those who have not yet found their voice. Join me every Thursday at 7pm EST at [www.blogtalkradio.com/personaltransformation](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/personaltransformation)



#### **Ahmeda Mansaray-Richardson**

Ahmeda Mansaray-Richardson is a hope-filled activist and an expert architect and facilitator of transformational processes in communities seeking to overcome the injustices of poverty. A fervent advocate of the sanctity of every person's desire to live in peace with self and neighbor, and, a paladin for safe spaces to nurture marginalized and stolen voices, she finds her purpose in serving initiatives that usher in peace and empower wholeness of living.

Something of a renaissance woman, Ahmeda is an accomplished academic, a volunteer Advanced Medical First Response team member, a Divinity student, a pilot in training, and a proud wife and mother of four sons. Ahmeda funnels her various skills and experiences into her service as founder and leader of **The VOICES (Voices Of Inspired Children Engaging Society) Global Collective**, a rights-based youth empowerment organization. The VOICES Global Collective is an organization striving for a world where collaborative synergetic relationships exist between young people and adults to create thriving communities. VOICES facilitates transformational conversations, pioneers community-based research and hosts hands-on development workshops that lead to active social change. To date, the organization has housed initiatives that has changed the lives of over 500 participants on three continents.

With a BSc. from McGill University, a Master's in Public Health from Lakehead University, and a postgraduate certificate in Community Development from The Coady Institute, Ahmeda is consumed by

a vision of a world where ALL people are valued participants in peace-making and igniters of community transformational processes. She is humbled to note the impact of her work in many spaces and communities. Some of her favorite professional highlights are her guest lectures at Humber College, her service as advisor for the UN World Youth Report and her nomination as servant-in-chief in the urban poor community of Nima in Ghana.

Ahmeda believes the challenges and triumphs of her personal life to be the catalyst for her professional goals. Raised in West Africa at a time of political unrest, her own experience of trauma and healing and the journey in-between, is the chief cornerstone in her social innovation pursuits. In her present reality as mother of four sons, she is pushed to explore what it truly means to value the inclusion of all voices, protecting the sanctity of peace and strengthening resilience. She credits her deep connection to the Divine, her supportive community, her marriage and her much valued failures for the lessons and successes in her professional journey.

Ahmeda Mansaray-Richardson is also co-founder and analyst for the African-based think tank, The Songai Institute, a Director for the advocacy organization, C4C, a Board member for Fight4Freedom, an anti-trafficking agency, and facilitator at The Toronto-based organization The Gatehouse. An avid reader, amateur poet, and lover of the many ways a sky shows up in each day, Ahmeda references her favorite quote from her favorite book as her personal and professional compass, “**And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love**”.

#### **Open Space Process Speaker:**



#### **Snjezana Pruginic**

Snjezana Pruginic is a wellness professional, educator and social change worker with over 17 years of experience working with diverse individuals and communities across Canada, Europe and South America in building personal and collective wellbeing and change.

A firm believer that health, peace and wellbeing is a holistic experience of the self and the community, Snjezana focuses on delivering workshops which encourage a collective experience of self-care and creation of health. As a Shiatsu Therapist and Educator, Snjezana anchors her practice in the exploration of body embodied trauma care and is currently finishing her studies in Community Justice to be able to further integrate trauma based healing work into restorative justice

Self – reflection notes

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**Feedback:**

What brought me to this conference?

What insights surfaced during the day at the conference?

Any other comments about your experience?



This event was funded by the Victims Fund, a grants and contributions program administered by the Department of Justice Canada. Funds are available to provinces, territories and non-governmental organizations for programs and services that give victims and survivors of crime a more effective voice in the criminal justice system. For more information about the Victims Fund, please visit: <http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/cj-jp/victims-victimes/> For more information on Victims and Survivors of Crime Week, visit: [www.victimswweek.gc.ca](http://www.victimswweek.gc.ca).