



Commence 2015

SHINING FORTH

February 11 & 12, 2015

Sheraton Parkway Toronto North
600 Highway 7 East, Richmond Hill, ON L4B 1B2

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Are you passionate about the prospect of people who have an intellectual disability discovering their own unique and exciting place in the world? Commence 2015 is for you. Whether you are an Educator, Service Worker, friend or family of a Student with an intellectual disability, we have an exciting mix of professional perspectives and lived experiences to draw inspiration from. Commence 2015 will focus on the social roles, employment, mentors, and communities that will help a student to shine forth into the future. We will also examine the importance of committing to discovering and encouraging what is deeply meaningful to each person. You can't afford to miss this!

February 11th

8:30 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 9:15 am: Welcoming Remarks

9:15 am – 10:30 am:

➔ Waddie Welcome and the Beloved Community

Tom Kohler



Tom is an author of the award winning book "Waddie Welcome and the Beloved Community". This session is the story of a remarkable man and the people who surrounded him to make their whole community stronger. It is a life lesson in community building from people who became masterful by doing it. Through Tom's humorous and insightful re-telling of Waddie Welcomes life, you will meet many people from many walks of life in Savannah Georgia and see what can happen when people come together to bring the idea of a beloved community to life. The story has been adapted as a stage play at the historic Emery Theatre in Cincinnati Ohio as well as been read by book clubs all over the world.

10:30 am – 10:45 am: Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm:

➔ Crafting a Valued Social Role

Marc Tumeinski



The types of social roles we inhabit have a powerful impact on our lives. Marc Tumeinski is a profound, insightful teacher who has studied and presented with Dr. Wolfensberger and is the Editor in Chief of the SRV Journal. He has lectured on a number of social issues throughout the US, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. In this interactive session, Marc will deepen our understanding of how to craft valued social roles and address issues of image and competency enhancement. Marc will bring a number of stories and examples to illustrate these themes.

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm: Lunch

1:15 pm – 2:45 pm:

➔ Building a Context for Relationship: Roles, Relationships and Places of Belonging

Janet Klees



"We cannot create relationship, but we can recognize, encourage and design opportunities in which the miracle of relationship is more likely to occur." Janet is a renowned Toronto-based community-builder and author of three books: *We Come Bearing Gifts*; *Our Presence has Roots*; and *the Deohaeko Decades*. Janet will combine her principled framework with a practical, straight forward approach for those who wish to support individuals in advancing a person's interests and potential into roles, relationships and places of belonging.

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm: Break

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm:

➔ The Difference one Person can Make

Jo Massarelli



This session will provide positive examples, insight and inspiration about the difference one person can make. It touches upon the personal characteristics required to offer excellent service, explores what can be done to sustain a service commitment in the long run and examines the limitations of professionalized service. Jo Massarelli is the Director of the SRV Implementation Project, a human service training and consultation effort aimed at addressing the social devaluation of impaired and other vulnerable people in contemporary society. She divides her time at the project between teaching Social Role Valorization-based workshops and working with families, human service staff and people with impairments to bring about positive change, one person at a time. She has taught at workshops and lectured at conferences across Canada, the United States, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

February 12th

8:30 am – 9:00 am: Continental Breakfast

9:00 am – 9:15 am: Opening Comments

9:15 am – 10:45 am:

➔ Customized Employment

Bob Niemiec



Customized Employment is one of the most exciting developments in employment services across North America. Bob Niemiec will outline how Customized Employment goes beyond traditional approaches and emphasizes opportunities for employment that are highly tailored to the individual and are also clearly valuable to the employer. Bob is a Senior Consultant with Griffin-Hammis Associates, LLC and serves as the Director of the Minnesota Employment Training and Technical Assistance Center. Bob has provided training and consultation services in 43 states and 2 Canadian provinces, and has previously led the transformation of a traditional day program into a high quality community employment service.

10:45 am – 11:00 am: Break

11:00 am – 12:30 pm:

➔ Customized Employment: Discovery

Bob Niemiec

During this session Bob Niemiec will present in more detail the methods of customized job development. In particular he will outline the importance of the discovery phase of Customized Employment. He will address informational interviews and the “Colombo” approach to job development and on processes such as resource development and business within business opportunities. He will highlight these methods and processes with inspiring personal profiles and examples.

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm: Lunch

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm:

➔ Passport Mentoring: Engaging Mentors

Who doesn't enjoy talking and learning with others who share the same passion? Passport Mentoring offers students and mentors opportunities to learn and connect over things they both have a passion for. We might assume that the exchange between Mentor and student primarily benefits the students, but its not uncommon that mentors express how meaningful that process is for them also. This session will examine what it is that 'shines forth' in meaning to both students and mentors.

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm: Break

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm:

➔ A Good Question, Well Asked

Tom Kohler

Are you a budding community developer? Do you find it a challenge to help youth find their place in the community? Here's your chance to pick the brain of one of the masters. In this interactive session Tom Kohler will engage audience members and share several questions that can be used to invite people into one another's lives. The presentation springs from work that Tom has been doing in Citizen Advocacy for the past 35 years. There will be some stories, some questions and a time for discussion and conversation.

Registration includes:

Two-day workshop with continental breakfast and lunch both days and all handouts and materials. Accommodations are not included but available at an affordable group rate.

Conference Registration fee: \$229 plus hst (a limited number of subsidies available)

How to register:

Visit www.communitylivingontario.ca
Or contact
Joel MacIntyre 1-800-278-8025 ext. 236

Accommodations:

Booking Your Hotel Room

A block of rooms is available at the Sheraton Parkway and Best Western Parkway Toronto North Hotels. Please help us fill our group block by booking your hotel room as soon as possible. In addition to the affordable room rate, guests of the Sheraton Parkway and Best Western Parkway will also receive complimentary indoor and outdoor parking, complimentary internet in all guest rooms and complimentary use of the Fitness Centre facilities including two indoor pools, one of which is a saltwater pool.

Both hotels are conveniently located in the same building as our conference facilities.

Location:

Sheraton Parkway and Best Western Parkway
600 Highway 7 East, Richmond Hill,
ON L4B 1B2, Canada

Call 1-800-668-0101 to book your reservation-quantities of our special group rates are limited and based on availability
\$129.00 Sheraton Traditional
\$139.00 Sheraton Corporate Jacuzzi Suite
\$ 89.00 Best Western Traditional

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT JOEL MACINTYRE

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