

Rebuilding Lives After Tragedy

2010 MADD Canada National Victims' Weekend & Candlelight Vigil of Hope & Remembrance

April 23-25, 2010

Bank of Montreal Institute for Learning, Scarborough, Ontario

We would like to invite you to a weekend especially designed for victims of impaired driving. Past attendees report that attending a MADD Canada Victims' Weekend has been very rewarding. The feeling of support and fellowship and the availability of caring professionals and supportive peers has helped them along the long journey in search of inner peace after a traumatic, life-altering experience.

Also join us at the National Candlelight Vigil of Hope and Remembrance on Saturday evening. It is an opportunity for all victims to pay tribute to their loved ones or to acknowledge injuries caused by impaired drivers.

Keynote Speaker:

Kelly Walker, Author, Speaker, Therapist & Musician

Kelly's keynote will explore the dynamics of grief, the feelings that normally accompany loss through death and the mystery of inner re-adjustment that is part of the process. We will explore how the body-system functions during this time and how the body-system can be used in the healing process. We will explore as well the social dynamics of loneliness, re-integration and new relationships.

Sessions and workshops will include:

Dr. Stephen Fleming, a registered Psychologist and professor in the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Health, at York University in Toronto, will lead a workshop in "Parenting After the Loss of a Child", based on a new book coming out in the Spring. Stephen has been one of MADD Canada's most popular speakers.

Carolyn Swinson, Past Chair, National Board of Directors, and her husband, ***Richard***, will lead a workshop entitled "Through the Eyes of a Victim: What to Expect After the Loss of a Loved One". She shares how her family changed following the loss of their son, Rob, in an alcohol-related crash. Nothing could have prepared them for the thoughts, feelings and behaviour changes that occurred over the next few years. Expect frank discussion on a couple's relationship, family dynamics and individual coping skills.

Chris Stillar, returns with his popular "Reaching Out: A Spiritual Communications Seminar" reminding us that loved ones are still a vital part of our day-to-day lives. "Losing a loved one is traumatizing and life altering, the best you can hope for is a 'NEW NORMAL' and peace that comes from knowing what your truth is."

Paul MacKenzie will be conducting workshops on grief as well as aboriginal healing. Paul's workshops provide opportunities for you to explore your own loss experiences in a safe, non-judgmental atmosphere and to develop a personal plan for working through your grief issues. Paul is a private consultant in crisis management and counselling including suicide intervention/awareness and bereavement.

Professor Robert Solomon, MADD Canada's Director of Legal Affairs, a leading expert in impaired driving laws in Canada, and co-author of "Rating the Provinces and Territories", "Alcohol, Trauma and Impaired Driving" and other MADD Canada publications, shares his expertise on Canada's criminal and civil courts.

Especially for youth (Ages 15 - 25):

Cara Grosset returns to facilitate this comprehensive youth component throughout the weekend. Youth are provided with the opportunity to share their experiences in a safe environment with other youth whose lives have also been impacted by impaired driving. Youth will gain support, knowledge and understanding from each other and through the interactive workshops available to them throughout the weekend. Cara Grosset, MSW, RSW, is a Social Worker in Private Practice.

Here's what our delegates had to say about their experience at the National Victims' Weekend:

"We found solace in the fact that there are others that are going through this all the time that we can relate to and draw strength from to carry on."

"I now have the tools to help me cope with some of the issues I've been dealing with after the crash."

"Seeing all the beautiful candles burning at the Vigil and hearing the tributes read made us realize our loved one is not forgotten."

*"I am so glad I was given the privilege of attending. I arrived with a sense of hopelessness and defeat and I'm returning home with a renewed sense of hope for a new tomorrow.
Thank you MADD Canada."*

For more information contact:
1-800-665-MADD
www.madd.ca



Our Mission: To stop impaired driving and to support victims of this violent crime.