



Elder Abuse Ontario

Stop Abuse - Restore Respect

Maltraitance des personnes âgées Ontario

Arrêtez les mauvais traitements - Restaurez le respect

GTA REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Older Adults with Brain Injury: Emerging Trends & Proven Strategies to Reduce Risk of Abuse

Tuesday, November 20th 2018

9:00 am - 4:00 pm (Registration: 9:00- 9:30 am)

Bernard Betel Centre, 1003 Steeles Avenue West, Toronto

(Note: This is kosher facility so no food and beverages except water should be brought in)

Brain injury is considered one of the most serious injuries among older adults. One's brain might be injured, for example, from motor vehicle accidents or falls, or from stroke. Growing older with a brain injury can increase the risk of adverse health conditions including dementia which can often increase an older adult's vulnerability and risk of abuse. **Learn from experts in the field** who will highlight best practices in health and support services to support older adults and families using case studies, and a panel discussion. Delegates will also be informed of the diverse community services and resources within the GTA to support older people with brain injury and those living at risk of abuse.

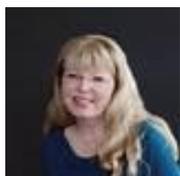
SPEAKERS



Keynote Speaker: Ruth Wilcock, Executive Director, Ontario Brain Injury Association (OBIA) will speak on **Understanding Brain Injury**



Ruth has worked in the community services field for 30 years. She has been in her current role as Executive Director of OBIA since September 2010 and has been with the organization since 2004. Ruth has an intense passion for serving those in our society who are hurting, in need of support and especially those whose lives have been affected by brain injury. Prior joining OBIA, Ruth served for 13 years as the Executive Director of a long term residential program for women struggling with life controlling problems including drug and alcohol addiction, emotional difficulties and those who encountered problems with the criminal justice system. Ruth holds a master's level diploma in psychodynamic psychotherapy and is Registered Psychotherapist (Qualifying) with the College of Registered Psychotherapists Ontario (CRPO) and is an active member of the Canadian Association of Psychodynamic Therapists (CAPT).



Case Study Presenter: Mary-Ellen Thompson, Ph.D., Speech Language Pathologist & OBIA Board Member, will present a **case study** featuring a long-term client of hers who suffered brain injury at the pinnacle of his career and who experienced loss of marriage, friends, lifestyle, abuse of Power of Attorney - all compounded by the effects of ageing.

Mary-Ellen is a registered Speech-Language Pathologist who has worked collaboratively with multidisciplinary teams in community-based rehabilitation for brain injury survivors for the past 20 years.

She presented nationally and internationally while maintaining an active clinical practice in Belleville, Ontario and conducted applied research. She is Past President of the Brain Injury Association of Quite District and is currently Co-Chair of the Ontario Advisory Council of OBIA and a Board member of OBIA.

Panel Speakers will discuss

Things they don't teach you in textbooks:
First-hand accounts of how to help older adults with brain injury who are vulnerable to abuse.



Cindy Brcko, MSW, RSW, is a social worker and therapist who specializes in aging, chronic disease and brain health with over 20 years of clinical experience, including at Baycrest Health Sciences since 2000. Cindy works with individuals, couples and families in both the public sector and in her private counselling practice around life transitions, illness, caregiver stress, grief, loss, anxiety, depression and navigating the health and social system. Cindy completed a research fellowship awarded by the Katz Centre for Gerontological Social Work, has published in scholarly journals, recently instructed a course at University of Toronto's Institute for Life Course and Aging and is committed to providing field instruction to MSW candidates. She has been invited to numerous speaking engagements and has been interviewed by local and national media for her work with seniors and families. Cindy's collaborative approach to counselling combines several therapeutic modalities including Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Narrative Therapy and Mindfulness Based interventions.



Elyse Shumway is a Speech-Language Pathologist in private practice, with a focus on assisting individuals with cognitive-communication disorders to address personal, community and vocational participation goals. She works with the Aphasia Institute as an education consultant, and also consults to Communication Disabilities Access Canada. Elyse has an Adjunct Lecturer appointment at the University of Toronto in the Department of Rehabilitation Science.



Tammy Rankin, OMC, BA, RSSW is Advisor-Senior Safety at Regional Municipality of Durham's Long Term Care & Services for Seniors Division. She is a graduate of McMaster University Gerontology and Sociology programs and has been working with seniors for 30 years with the focus on Long Term Care. She is actively involved with the Durham Elder Abuse Network and works in a partnership with Durham Regional Police as part of the Senior Support Unit. Tammy is an impassioned advocate for elders in our community enjoys the opportunity to help give voice to our at risk and abused elders. For this dedication she was awarded the Victims Services Awards of Distinction, Ministry of Attorney General 2012. Tammy has been a guest lecturer at Osgoode Hall, Ontario Police College, University of Toronto Forensic Medicine conference in addition to a variety of university and colleges across the province. She frequently presents at conferences all across Canada and has been invited to speak both in San Diego California and Istanbul Turkey. She also frequently consults on elder abuse and neglect matters and is dedicated to protecting the vulnerable.

Additionally, we will hear the International **Bernard Betel Choir** sing! and we will exchange information in an open-forum/"**open mic**" format on what **resources and community services exist in the GTA region** to help cognitively vulnerable older adults.



COMMUNITY
RESOURCES
in the GTA

Older Adults with Brain Injury: Emerging Trends & Proven Strategies to Reduce Risk of Abuse

NEW REGISTRATION FEE: \$75.00

(Includes conference materials, networking breaks, breakfast and lunch)

[REGISTER HERE](#)

For more information, please contact:

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Planned in Collaboration with:

Ontario Brain Injury Association (OBIA)
North York Elder Abuse Network (NYEAN)
Scarborough Elder Abuse Network (SEAN)
Prevention of Elder Abuse Coalition of Etobicoke and York (PEACE)

and with the support of Exhibitors:



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