



YOUTH
SERVICES
JEUNESSE

“Celebrate, honour, build”

Building Bridges to a Promising Future: Youth to Adulthood

A youth and community forum
hosted by the Youth Services Bureau
of Ottawa in partnership with the
University of Ottawa
Youth participation and conference materials
made possible thanks to
support from the Ministry of Children
and Youth Services

University of Ottawa, Fauteux Hall,
57 Louis Pasteur St., Ottawa, Ontario
May 27, 2010



YSB's 50th Anniversary Forum

"Celebrate, honour, build"

During 2010, the Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa is celebrating its 50th year of community service to the young people and their families in this city. As part of its anniversary program of events, YSB is hosting a youth and community forum designed to engage the community on the topic of transition-aged youth. Their challenges have become the focus of attention for youth, service providers, and policy makers. It is the aim of this conference to bring everyone together to learn, to network, to think creatively, and to discuss how to address these challenges. YSB welcomes you on May 27 to this youth and community forum. To learn more about YSB's 50th Anniversary, go to www.ysb-bsj.on.ca.

Keynote Speaker

JUSTIN P. J. TRUDEAU, MP



Elected on October 14 2008 as Member of Parliament for Papineau, Justin Trudeau is passionate about engaging young Canadians in politics. Capturing the attention of students from elementary school through to university, he champions causes that are dear to his heart, such as the environment and youth empowerment. During the summer of 2006, he chaired the youth task force of the Liberal Party Renewal Commission, generating ideas about how to engage more youth politically.

He also works with environmental groups dedicated to the protection of our Canadian heritage, has chaired Katimavik, Canada's National Youth Service program, and as educator has worked to promote bilingualism in Canada. He is also involved with the Canadian Avalanche Foundation, promoting intelligent risk-taking and safety awareness while encouraging people to discover our magnificent wilderness.

Featured Presenters

LIA GRIMANIS, PHILANTHROPIST AND COMMUNITY ADVOCATE



She's a successful businesswoman, she rides a pink BMW motorcycle, swims with sharks, plays the harp, occasionally flies a helicopter, and she runs her own non-profit organization.

She was also once homeless.

Lia is the founder of Up With Women, an organization dedicated to helping homeless women and children to rebuild their lives. Professionally, Lia works as a top technology sales executive, managing relationships with some of Canada's largest financial institutions. On a civic level, she has served on the

Toronto Mayor's Communications Advisory team, with a special focus on the Mayor's "Opportunity for All" platform. She has been awarded a Global Unsung Heroine award by the International Alliance for Women, and named Volunteer of the Year by Flare Magazine. She was also nominated for Canada's Top 40 Under 40.

She is a co-founder of Social Venture Partners Toronto, an organization that blends the power of business with the passion of philanthropy to assist grass-roots organizations that are focused on poverty reduction.

Her mission: To break the stereotypes of homelessness, and prove that **success belongs to everybody**.

MATTE BABEL, VJ WITH STYLE AND SUBSTANCE



Matte Babel is a VJ with style and substance. After five successful years at MuchMusic, where he established himself as an educated, informative TV host, he now hosts CP24's morning show CP24 Breakfast and is a correspondent for eTalk.

Matte's broad appeal is rooted in his family and upbringing. He was born to parents of Caribbean and European descent and grew up in a number of different surroundings, including the impoverished areas on the outskirts of Toronto where he witnessed tragedies associated with gun violence and drug use first-hand.

For many young Canadians, Matte Babel is a role model they can relate to. He embodies the ethics of hard work, perseverance and self-esteem and exemplifies how young people can make positive contributions to the world they live in.

Workshop Resource Speakers

ALAN LESCHIED, PH.D., C. PSYCH.

Alan is a psychologist and professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Western Ontario. He began working in children's mental health in 1977 at the London Family Court Clinic. He joined the faculty at Western in 1998, where he currently chairs the graduate program of Counselling Psychology.

Alan's research interests are in areas related to children's legislation and how policies promote the welfare of children and families. He has produced numerous publications in areas related to young offender assessment, treatment and rehabilitation. Of note have been the edited books, *The Young Offenders Act: A Revolution in Canadian Juvenile Justice* (1991); *Offender Rehabilitation in Practice: Implementing and Evaluating Effective Programs* (2001), and *Research and Treatment for Aggression with Adolescent Girls* (2002). He has received numerous awards for outstanding service to children in Ontario.

JOHN MAYO, M.A., L.M.H.C.

John has been the Deputy Executive Director of Success 4 Kids & Families in Florida since April of 2000. S4KF is a not-for-profit agency following system-of-care principles that provides community-based services to families of children with emotional problems.

He has held a variety of positions including Counselling Supervisor at the Adolescent Day Treatment Program at the University of South Florida; Family Builders Therapist, Children's Clinical Case Manager, Case Review Committee Chairperson, Human Rights Advocacy Committee Member, Clinical Consultant to the Department of Child and Family Studies at the Florida Mental Health Institute; Board of Directors of the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health; Chair, Policy and Prevention Committees of the Juvenile Justice Board, 13th Judicial Circuit in Tampa. John operates a private practice, working with children and families.

WENDY BABCOCK, ACTIVIST AND PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCATE

Raised in an Etobicoke family she says was abusive, Babcock left home as a preteen and entered the Children's Aid system. At 15, she says she began trading sex for the money she needed to pretend to be a "normal kid." She dropped out of school at 16 and became street-involved.

She quit trading sex for money in 2003 when her friend was murdered by a client. She founded the Bad Date Coalition, a group that produces a monthly pamphlet with information about abusive clients and runs an abuse hotline. She found a job as a harm reduction worker with Street Health where she earned a reputation as a tireless advocate and counsellor for sex workers.



With an OSAP loan that she is still repaying, Babcock earned a sterling academic average at George Brown College. She received a Public Health Champion Award from the City of Toronto and earned entrance to Osgoode Law School, one of ten students in her class of 290 accepted without the years of university usually required.

With her degree, Babcock wants to work on behalf of the marginalized and ignored, to amend a justice system she sees as just only for the comfortable majority. Through her personal and work experiences, she says, she has come to understand problems many do not know exist. "Some people see the most obvious barriers that laws can impose on people," she says. "I can see the other barriers." She wants to fix Children's Aid. She wants to change the adoption rules that prevent her from contacting the now 11-year-old son she was forced to surrender when she was homeless in 2003. She wants to protect sex workers, build affordable housing and create economic opportunity for both poor children and their parents – because, "of course, you can't eradicate child poverty until you eradicate adult poverty."

JIM DUVALL, M. ED., R.S.W.

Jim Duvall is the Director of Brief Therapy Training Centres-International™ (a division of The Hincks-Dellcrest Institute), and Director of Training at The Hincks-Dellcrest Institute in Toronto, Canada. He is the previous Clinical Director of a children's mental health centre. Jim also serves as the Senior Editor of the Journal of Systemic Therapies. He has been involved in the study of collaborative, client-centred therapies for over twenty years through clinical practice, research and training activities.

Jim has published numerous articles. His most recent publication is a chapter co-authored by Laura Beres, released in a book with Sage Publication entitled Narrative Therapy: Making Meaning, Making Lives. The chapter is entitled Movement of Identities: A Conversational Map for Working With Sexual Abuse and Trauma. Their book, Innovations in Narrative Therapy: Connecting Practice, Training and Research, published by W.W. Norton and Company is scheduled for release in 2010.

Jim teaches, consults and provides clinical supervision with various organizations in Canada, the United States and abroad. He is noted for his interactive and approachable style.

Building Bridges to a Promising Future: Youth to Adulthood

(focusing on the needs and challenges for transitional-aged youth)

FORUM AGENDA

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Coffee
8:30 a.m.	Opening entertainment
8:45 a.m.	Opening of the plenary session
8:55 – 9:25 a.m.	Keynote Speaker: Justin Trudeau “Youth Engagement, Youth Empowerment”
9:25 – 10:00 a.m.	Youth Panel: “Building Bridges and Lowering Barriers”
10:00 – 10:15 a.m.	Break
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Community Workshops

A- Mental Health Services: The Merits of Wraparound – Giving voice and choice to participants. Guest presenter: John Mayo (Success for Kids and Families)

C- Employment Services: The Apprenticeship System: Building opportunities for marginalized youth. Panel presentation and interactive workshop.

D- Youth Engagement: Using the “power with” model to engage transitional-aged youth and to support their voice within the agency and beyond.

E- Youth Justice Services: Striving For Excellence in the Youth Justice System. Guest presenter: Dr. Alan Leschied.

F- Community Services: Building success for homeless youth transitioning to independence. Guest panelist: Wendy Babcock.

12 p.m. Lunch

FORUM AGENDA (continued)

12:45 p.m. Entertainment and recall to plenary

1:00 p.m. Presenting Speaker: Lia Grimanis
"Homelessness is not a dead end; success belongs to everybody".

1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Community workshops

B- Mental Health: A Walk-in Clinic: An innovative approach to providing mental health services. Guest presenter: Jim Duvall.

C- Employment Services: The Apprenticeship System: Building opportunities for marginalized youth. Panel presentation and interactive workshop.

D- Youth Engagement: Using the "power with" model to engage transitional-aged youth and to support their voice in the agency and beyond.

E- Youth Justice Services: Striving For Excellence in the Youth Justice System. Guest presenter: Dr. Alan Leschied.

F- Community Services: Building success for homeless youth transitioning to independence. Guest panelist: Wendy Babcock.

3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 – 3:45 p.m. Presenting Speaker: Matte Babel
"Cultural capital and how it impacts our youth "

3:45 – 4:15 p.m. Plenary: Creating a report card from workshops and youth panel

4:15 p.m. Wrap-up

Workshop A (morning session only):
The Merits of Wraparound – Giving voice and choice to participants
Hosted by Youth Services Bureau, Mental Health Services

Wraparound is a family driven, strength-based, solution-focused, planning and problem solving process! It is individualized, which means that every youth and family gets a unique plan that is tailored for them, their beliefs and their values. Its main purpose is to help youth and the adults around them have the kind of lives they want to have, or at least come close. In other words Wraparound offers practical compassion to people who need and want to improve their lives.

Join our guest speaker John Mayo (Success for Kids and Families in Florida) as he narrates first-hand the impact of Wraparound in other communities. He will join with our local facilitators to explore with workshop participants how Wraparound differs from traditional services, how it is successful, and how it can offer possibilities to help youth transition into adulthood and bridge the gap to adult services.

Workshop B (afternoon session only):
**A Walk-in Clinic: An innovative approach to providing
mental health services**
Hosted by the Youth Services Bureau, Mental Health Services

- *Only 20% of youth struggling with mental health issues access the services they need. Stigma to mental health issues and counselling services, knowledge of the services available, waiting lists and admission procedures create significant barriers for our youth.*
- *Our dilemma: how best to respond in a timely manner without compromising quality of services.*

Join our guest speaker Jim Duvall (Director of Brief Therapy Training Centres-International™ a division of The Hincks- Dellcrest Institute and Director of Training at The Hincks-Dellcrest Institute in Toronto) to hear about how much can be accomplished in a single session, and how a change of perspective on providing services could significantly improve access to services for young people.

This interactive workshop will explore this unique counselling approach, being implemented with success elsewhere. Participants will be encouraged to think outside the box on how this approach will make counselling services readily available when youth feel they need it the most. They will be encouraged to share their views on how the proposed service would meet a youth's needs.

Workshop C: The Apprenticeship System: Building opportunities for marginalized youth

Hosted by Youth Services Bureau, Employment Services

Consider the following “real life” scenario.

It is 7:45 a.m. and a mother contacts the Youth Services Bureau’s employment unit. She explains that her 15 year old son is on the verge of dropping out of school. He is a good boy, a good person, but school is simply not working for him. He has always been good at working with his hands and in particular has a knack for working on small engines. While she does not fully support his decision to drop out of school, she wishes to equip him with the right knowledge and tools to assist him if he is to leave the school system. She inquires about what services we can offer her son to help him in making informed decisions as he moves his plan forward.

Currently in Ontario there are over 150 apprenticeable trades with over 90% requiring a minimum of a Grade 12 education. Even for Trades that do require less than a Grade 12 education, many unions and companies will only hire individuals with a minimum of a Grade 12 education. In 2005, provincial statistics indicated that close to 30% of students will leave high school without having received a diploma.

For youth in transition, many of whom have “dropped out” of school, considering such a career is simply no longer an option. An interactive panel discussion involving key informants will educate participants on the current apprenticeship system, identify gaps, and explore with community stakeholders how to create opportunities for these marginalized youth.

Workshop D: Youth Engagement: A model of ‘power with’ versus ‘power over’

Hosted by the Youth Services Bureau, Youth Engagement Advisories

A lively interactive session created and led by YSB youth looking at the issues of Youth Engagement particularly as it relates to transitional youth. As part of YSB’s philosophy on youth engagement we will demonstrate a powerful way to engage youth, keep them involved and support their voices through developing partnerships with adults at every level of the organization and beyond. This workshop will center on youth engagement where a model of ‘power with’ has realized amazing impacts on both youth and adults alike.



Workshop E:
Striving for Excellence in the Youth Justice System
Hosted by Youth Services Bureau, Youth Justice Services

The voices of youth provide the framework for this workshop. Under the leadership of presenter Dr. Alan Leschied, participants will explore effective programming as it applies to the youth justice system. A panel will look at the impact of recent changes in the system, identify common gaps in service, and assist workshop participants in seeking creative approaches that support youth and help enable their successful transition to adulthood.

Workshop F:
Transitional Youth, Homelessness and Resiliency
Hosted by Youth Services Bureau, Community Services

A panel of experts will share their knowledge and research of youth and homelessness. They will begin to identify resiliency factors in youth that may help to make the transition to independence and to adult services successful. Guest panelist Wendy Babcock and others will be able to initiate interactive group discussion that will seek innovative approaches to youth homelessness, diversity issues, successful transition supports, and building resiliency. Learnings from the YSB Youth Housing Continuum will contribute to the discussion.

Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa

May 27 Forum

Building Bridges to a Promising Future: Youth to Adulthood

Registration

Name : _____

Agency: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Are you a youth participant? Yes ___ No ___

Workshop Selection: circle one

Morning Workshops: A C D E F (one alternate choice ___)

Afternoon Workshops: B C D E F (one alternate choice ___)

Plenary sessions will have simultaneous interpretation.

Conference materials will be available in both official languages.

Workshops will be delivered in English; however, French facilitation will be available for the question period sessions of the workshops.

Do you require interpretation services for plenary presentations? Yes ___ No ___

TO REGISTER AND SELECT WORKSHOPS

On-line: www.ysb-bsj.on.ca. By email: headoffice@ysb.on.ca

By fax: 613-729-1918: Attention: Mary Wehrle

Cost: \$80.00 per adult – Requested to be paid in advance

YOUTH PARTICIPANTS: No registration fee.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

Payment may be made by cheque or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).

Cheques are payable to Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa. Mail to 2675 Queensview Drive, Ottawa, Ont. K2B 8K2, Attention: Mary Wehrle. Receipts available .

I wish to pay by : Cheque _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____

Card Number: _____ Expiry Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____

Total Fee Enclosed: _____

The Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa would like to thank our sponsors for supporting our work with youth in the community.

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