Norman Doidge will speak at the Toronto Conference

Norman Doidge

New Neuroplastic approaches to Brain Injury

Norman Doidge, M.D., is a psychiatrist, psychoanalyst, researcher, author, essayist and poet. He is on faculty at the University of Toronto’s Department of Psychiatry, and Research Faculty at Columbia University’s Center for Psychoanalytic Training and Research, in New York. He is the author of two New York Times Bestsellers.


It was out of these kinds of portraits—and Doidge’s conviction that neuroplasticity represents the single most important new idea in our understanding of the human brain in hundreds of years, with immense consequences for our understanding of human nature, human and therapeutic possibilities, and human culture—that The Brain That Changes Itself emerged.

His talk will be fascinating!
Sneak Peek

SOME OF THE OUTSTANDING SPEAKERS!

SEPTEMBER 27, 28, 29, 2016 - CHESTNUT CONFERENCE CENTRE, TORONTO, ONTARIO

HOT OFF THE PRESS! Great news for the Toronto Brain Injury Conference - Christine Elliott has agreed to speak!

CHRISTINE ELLIOTT

Ontario Patient Ombudsman Designate

Christine Elliott is a graduate of Western University Law School and was called to the Ontario Bar in 1980. She practised law as a partner with Flaherty Dow Elliott & McCarthy until 2006, when she was elected as the MPP for Whitby-Ajax in a by-election. She was subsequently re-elected as the MPP for Whitby-Oshawa in 2007, 2011 and 2014. During her years at Queen's Park Christine brought forward two private member’s bills, which resulted in Select Committees on Mental Health and Addictions and on Developmental Services. In December, 2015, Christine was appointed by the provincial government as the first Patient Ombudsman for the Province of Ontario.

Christine has been an advocate for vulnerable people for many years and has served as a volunteer with many community organizations, including the Grandview Children’s Centre and Durham Mental Health Services, which named one of their homes in her honour. She has also served on the board of directors of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and the Toronto Symphony Orchestra. Christine is the co-founder and a director of the Abilities Centre, a sports, recreation and arts facility for people of all abilities located in Whitby.

Christine lives in Whitby, Ontario with her three sons, John, Galen and Quinn.
We are absolutely delighted to announce that these well known people in their field have agreed to speak at this year's Toronto conference.

**Michael H. Thaut**

Michael H. Thaut received his PhD in music with a cognate minor in movement science in 1983 and his masters in music 1980, both from Michigan State University. He also studied at the Mozarteum Music University in Salzburg, Austria. He holds a German Diploma degree in psychology/education. At Colorado State University (CSU) he was Professor Music since 1986-2015 and Director of the School of the Arts 2001-2010. He received a joint appointment as Professor of Neuroscience in 1998. He was Director of the Center for Biomedical Research in Music since 1994. Since 2016 he is Professor of Music with cross appointments in Neuroscience and Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Toronto where he directs the Music and Health Research Collaboratory (MaHRC) and the Masters/PhD programs in Music and Health Sciences. He has been a Visiting Professor in medical and music schools around the world (Germany, Italy, USA, Japan), and 2010-2012 was chancellor of the SRH University System in Germany.

**Dr. Adrian Owen**

Professor Adrian M. Owen is currently the Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Cognitive Neuroscience and Imaging at the University of Western Ontario, Canada. His work combines structural and functional neuroimaging with neuropsychological studies of braininjured patients. His most recent work, reported in the journals Science (2006), The New England Journal of Medicine (2010), and The Lancet (2011) has shown that functional neuroimaging can reveal conscious awareness in some patients who appear to be entirely vegetative, and can even allow some of these individuals to communicate their thoughts and wishes to the outside world. These findings have attracted widespread media attention on TV, radio, in print and online and have been the subject of several TV and radio documentaries. Adrian Owen has played multiple editorial roles including 8 years as Deputy Editor of The European Journal of Neuroscience. Since 1990, Prof. Owen has published over 290 articles and chapters in scientific journals and books.
Kara Stanley and Simon Paradis

*Fallen: A Musical Journey of Trauma And Recovery*

In 2008, professional musician Simon Paradis fell, severing his spinal cord, fracturing skull bones and suffering global trauma to the brain from an arterial bleed. A craniectomy was performed and he was put in an induced coma, the outcome of his injuries uncertain. With his guitar, Simon will musically accompany Kara as she narrates their story, outlining in this interactive and embodied presentation the critical role music played in Simon’s awakening.

*Come and hear Kara Stanley and Simon Paradis tell their gripping story about love, strength and the power of music.*

Jonathan Goodman

*“Fear or Awe - Life after a TBI”*

The aggressive, hard driving executive – at the time the CEO of hugely successful drug distributor Paladin Labs Inc. – had just sealed one of Paladin’s biggest acquisitions ever. Taking a celebratory bicycle ride with fellow employees in the hills north of Montreal, he fell off his bike and hit his head. Despite wearing a helmet, the result was a serious brain injury.

Two-and-a-half years after the accident, Mr. Goodman is back with entrepreneurial enthusiasm for his latest venture. Since returning to work he sold his company for a eight figure sum and started a new drug distribution business called Knight Therapeutics. At first glance you’d never know he’s been through a near life-ending trauma.

*Come and hear his inspiring story.*
**Bonnie Swaine, PhD**

Dr. Bonnie Swaine is a full professor in the physiotherapy program at the School of Rehabilitation, Faculty of Medicine, Université de Montréal. She is also the Scientific Co-Director & Researcher of CRIR, the Center for interdisciplinary rehabilitation research of greater Montréal. Her research interests include the epidemiological study of people who have suffered a traumatic brain injury (TBI) and their risk of a second TBI or future suicide, the measurement of physical and psychosocial consequences of TBI as well as the evaluation of rehabilitation services offered by TBI programs, including the perception of the quality of such services. She is one of the Principle investigators of the INESSS-ONF clinical guideline development and adaptation project.

**Mark Bayley, MD, FRCP**

Dr. Bayley is Medical Director of the Brain & Spinal Cord Rehab Program at Toronto Rehab and a specialist in physical medicine and rehabilitation. He holds the Saunderson Family Chair in Acquired Brain Injury Research. His research interests are in the following areas: rehabilitation of acquired brain injury, stroke, multiple sclerosis, neurological pharmacology and functional outcome measurement after rehabilitation. He is also an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Toronto. Dr. Bayley has published and lectured extensively in his areas of research.

Dr. Bayley is identifying, measuring and standardizing the most effective approaches to neurological rehabilitation. “We need to be sure which components of rehabilitation are the most effective,” he says. As Medical Director of Toronto Rehab’s Brain & Spinal Cord Program, Dr. Bayley treats people with stroke and other brain injuries and does research in the field of brain recovery. Dr. Bayley and his colleagues are one of the first groups to study how to implement best practices in this area.
Make sure you save the dates and register to be at this important conference. It is the place to hear about cutting edge research, meet survivors and hear their remarkable stories, and speak with families, caregivers and health professionals about the future of living with ABI. Click here to register now!
Women and Brain Injury -
Half Day Symposium

Brain Injury Canada will hold its first ever Gender Symposium with internationally recognized speakers, service providers and researchers examining the latest research relevant to advancing practice particularly among vulnerable populations.

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is associated with permanent cognitive, physical, psychological, and social dysfunction and carries major personal and economic repercussions, yet historically, lack of knowledge has led to widespread misdiagnosis and inadequate treatment. It is estimated that 30% of reported cases of TBI occur among women, but little research exists exploring their healthcare experiences and psychosocial outcomes, despite evidence identifying significant sex and gender differences in outcomes. This lack of gendered information seriously inhibits diagnosis and appropriate intervention across the care continuum, affects the development and provision of appropriate healthcare services, and leaves women vulnerable to poor psychosocial outcomes and ongoing challenges such as increased rates of mental illness, disability, substance use, unemployment, and poverty.

The purpose of this half day symposium is to raise awareness around the need for gendered TBI research, increase understanding of specific challenges and areas of concern for brain injured women and girls, and provide current research results in a variety of focus areas relevant to healthcare professionals, researchers, service users and persons with lived experience. A panel of speakers, including representatives from the healthcare and knowledge communities along with women living with brain injury, will address biological, psychological, and social concerns across a range of contexts, providing valuable insight into the health needs and lived experiences of brain injured women and girls, enabling a wide range of care practitioners to effectively respond to this disadvantaged population. Our goal is to contribute to brain injury research and healthcare by providing invaluable gender-sensitive knowledge and key information for setting research and healthcare agendas.

To book your place you must register for the conference on the 29th Sept - click here for details
Women and Brain Injury
Inaugural Gender Symposium

1PM - 5PM SEPTEMBER 29, 2016
CHESTNUT CONFERENCE CENTRE,
TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

SPEAKER LIST & GENERAL TOPICS

Moderator: Dr. Angela Colantonio, CIHR
Research Chair in Gender Work and Health, Director,
Rehabilitation Sciences Institute, University of Toronto

Katherine Snedaker, LCSW, Executive Director,
Pink Concussions: The Invisible Population Within the Invisible Injury

Reema Shafi, BSc.OT, M.A. Psych. University of Toronto:
Sex differences in the brain and neuroimaging

Dr. Jocelyn Harris, Assistant Professor,
McMaster University: Mental health challenges among women with TBI

Dr. Emily Nalder, Assistant Professor,
University of Toronto: Community Integration for brain injured women

Dr. Tatyana Mollayeva, University of Toronto:
Traumatic brain injury due to assault at the Ontario workplace

Vanessa Amodio, M.Sc. OT,
Heather Bruch, M.Sc.OT. University of Toronto:
Using the narratives of Ontarians with a work-related traumatic brain injury to inform injury prevention: A mixed methods approach.

Nneka MacGregor, LL.B, Executive Director,
WomenatthecentrE: Strangulation and brain injury in women

Dayna Jones, M.A., Tracey Joseph, B.Sc. University of Toronto:
Battered and brain injured: University of Toronto. Reviewing the impact of brain injury on women survivors of intimate partner violence.

Halina (Lin) Haag, MSW, RSW, Wilfrid Laurier University:
TBI in women survivors of domestic violence