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Full Scope Think Tank to be Best By-product at Canada's Largest Autism Symposium



Toronto, ON, October 17th, 2018 – Geneva Centre for Autism International Symposium 2018 is bringing the latest clinical breakthroughs in areas including mental health, education, and employment, to a global community in Toronto, setting the stage for new developments on site. Over 1,000 educators, individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), families, physicians, and other service providers will team together in a diverse and broad scope learning environment October 24-26 at the Metro Toronto Convention Centre. This highly participatory, biennial event creates a rare opportunity for a full perspective think tank. Dr. Yona Lunksy, Director of the Azrieli Centre for Adult Neurodevelopmental Disabilities and Mental Health at CAMH, will share her expertise as a presenter and is eager to learn as an attendee. **“There’s something empowering and supportive about feeling like you’re part of a movement. A group of people coming to this for different reasons, at different stages, and with different learning needs or questions at that moment.** Everyone is committing and learning together and that is a big deal.”

For Natasia, who is 30 years old and will be volunteering at the event, it is as important to hear from other young adults with ASD as it is the renowned experts on the [agenda](#). **“I have Asperger’s syndrome (now known as ASD) and I really like hearing from people like [Michael McCreary](#) and [Daniel Share-Strom](#) because they share their own stories, the challenges they’ve faced, and the strategies they’ve learned over the years to cope and work through them.”**

Dr. Lunksy values the opportunities that can arise when this large community comes together. “There’s as much learning that can go on in the experience of interacting with others, asking questions, sharing ideas, and visiting the exhibits, as there is in the sessions themselves.”

Leading. Empowering. Inspiring.

See the full [agenda](#) and [speaker bios](#) at symposium.autism.net

Highlights of Geneva Centre for Autism International Symposium 2018:

- Comprehensive, three day [agenda](#) cover issues of immediate and emerging need to the autism community today, including mental health, behavioural development, food refusal, sex education and employment.
- Special Tech Showcase, presented by the Ontario Science Centre, lets attendees get their hands on the latest tools to advance communication and social opportunities for people with ASD.
- [Art Exhibit](#) featuring acrylic and watercolour paintings, photography, collage, pottery and music for viewing and for sale.
- [Research poster reception](#) offers attendees the chance to speak directly with the presenters and leap ahead in the field of autism.

Please send requests for media passes, speaker and participant interviews to nbent@autism.net.

Reviews of the Geneva Centre for Autism International Symposium:

“The Geneva Centre for Autism International Symposium always has a great many internationally known speakers who present some of the latest research findings.” Dr. Temple Grandin, renowned Professor of Animal Science & Best Selling Author

“Geneva Centre for Autism has one of the finest autism symposia in the world. I always look forward to attending the conference to keep up on the latest information in autism and network with the world’s leading researchers and practitioners.” Brenda Smith Myles, Ph. D, author of High Functioning Autism and Difficult Moments

“I had the privilege of being a part of the closing address at the 2014 Symposium along with Dr. Temple Grandin, Senator Jim Munson and the Honourable Mike Lake, MP. It was the largest audience I had ever played to up to that time and I never felt more at home in my entire life.” Michael McCreary, Comedian

Geneva Centre for Autism is an international leader in the development and delivery of clinical intervention services and training. As a full service agency, Geneva Centre for Autism offers personalized, strength based programming for over 3,000 individuals and families in Toronto. It’s Training Institute and International Autism Symposium build professional capacity worldwide to empower all individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to reach their full potential.