



Gentle Path
COUNSELLING SERVICES
Pathways to Hope

ANNOUNCEMENT: PATHWAYS TO HOPE

Gentle Path Counselling Services is pleased to announce its Annual Fall Fundraiser Event “**Pathways to Hope**” with guest speaker, **Frank O’Dea!** Frank is the Co-founder of Second Cup Coffee and best-selling author of “*When All You Have is Hope*” and “*The Next Right Thing: Surviving Life’s Crisis*”. Frank’s story holds a powerful message of **Hope, Vision & Action**. Frank’s story is one of survival to success as he re-invented himself from life on the streets to successful businessman and entrepreneur. Frank’s life embodies the struggles our City is striving to address—homelessness, poverty, abuse and addiction. We are confident this event will inspire, motivate and provide actionable items for attendees wanting to make a difference, in their lives and communities.

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 15, 2016.

In order to bring this impactful life-changing story to Saint John, we are currently looking for support from the community. Affordable sponsorship packages for businesses and organizations of all sizes are available—we know you will be pleased with the value and understand the importance of sharing the Hope, Vision & Action model within our communities, businesses and non-profits.

FRANK O’DEA BIO

Frank’s early years were difficult; while in his early teens he struggled for survival while living in 50-cent flop houses in Toronto. His life began to turn around at age 23 when he began to fight for a better life, a fight he has continued for those who are homeless, impoverished and destitute.

Within a few years, Frank became a co-founder of The Second Cup, which is now the largest chain of coffees and teas in the country. He later went on to be a co-founder of PROSHRED Security, a program that pioneered onsite document destruction, which is now a franchised organization with operations in Canada, Europe and the United States.

Ever cognizant of his own struggles, Frank became a volunteer serving on several boards of directors of charitable organizations. In 1985, he co-founded Street Kids International, an organization that helps homeless children in third world countries with education and self-reliance programs. His other charitable works includes founding Chair of War Child (Canada), an organization that provides assistance to children who are suffering or have been abused in war affected countries; co-founder of Canadian Landmine Foundation, an organization that raises funds for the dismantling of minefields around the world. With the participation of people in 29 countries, Frank’s most successful fundraising program, “Night of a Thousand Dinners,” has raised millions in support of the Canadian Landmine Foundation.

Frank is currently Chair of the Royal Roads University Foundation, serves on the board of directors for several private corporations and not-for-profits; he is the recipient of the Ontario Volunteer Award, Lifetime Board Member Renascent Treatment Foundation, Paul Harris Awards, Doctor of Laws Royal Roads University, Doctor of Laws Carlton University and Officer of the Order of Canada.

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