

# Learning From Open Dialogue for Psychosis

An Introductory Workshop With

Will Hall MA DipIPW and Krista Mackinnon DipSSW



Thursday, June 12, 2014

9:30am-4pm

Quaker House 60 Lowther Ave Toronto Canada

\$75 - pay by cheque to Family Outreach and Response Program  
2333 Dundas Street West ste. 501, Toronto, M6R 3A6

For more information, contact [Gillian\\_gray@fmhr.org](mailto:Gillian_gray@fmhr.org)

Dr. Jaakko Seikkula and colleagues at Keropudas Hospital in Finland developed “Open Dialogue” a family network approach to first episode psychosis. Open Dialogue emerged from the work of Tom Andersen, the Milan family therapy school, and Alanen’s Need Adapted Treatment. Based in Western Lapland, Open Dialogue establishes a dialogue with the social network within twenty-four hours. Low use of medications, team approach, working with families and relationships, dialogic listening, openness among professionals, non-diagnostic language, and expectation of recovery all combine to achieve the best outcomes in the world. In a five-year follow-up, 83% of patients returned to their jobs or school and were not on government disability, and 77% did not have psychotic symptoms.

This basic introduction does not represent the depth of Finnish Open Dialogue, but serves to spark interest and asks, *What vital lessons and practical tools can all of us learn from these successful practices?*

*Will Hall MA, DipIPW is a therapist, trainer, and schizophrenia diagnosis survivor. His writing has appeared in the **Journal of Best Practices in Mental Health**, Oxford University Press’s **Community Mental Health Care: An Interdisciplinary Approach**, and **Psychology Tomorrow** magazine. He completed a two year certificate in Open Dialogue with Dr. Jaakko Seikkula, Dr. Mary Olson, and faculty at the Institute for Dialogic Practice.*  
[www.willhall.net](http://www.willhall.net)  
[www.madnesradio.net](http://www.madnesradio.net)



*Krista MacKinnon, DipSSW is mental health recovery consultant in the capacities of peer support, education, community organizing, and family support. She worked for several years on the psychosis team at Toronto’s Family Outreach And Response Program, and today is the CEO of an online education and support community for families experiencing mental health related distress. [www.practicerecovery.com](http://www.practicerecovery.com)*

