

Connections

Volume 2, Issue 3

Fall Update

By Randy Grieser, CEO

My last two weeks of August were spent on a relaxing vacation in Greece with my family. This was my last break before what will be a very full and busy fall of training, speaking and other projects. The September to December work period, in many ways feels both the fullest, and the fastest period of the year.

Public Workshops

I am reminded that it was only 3 years ago that every single fall public workshop we scheduled, actually ran. That's a far cry from our winter-spring of 2017. As we look ahead to the fall, I'm not convinced every single public workshop will fill up with enough numbers to run, but we did tweak the way we set our schedule to be more in line with what we did 3 years ago, so I'm hopeful it will be better than the spring.

Resources at Workshops

This fall we will make our *ACHIEVE Publishing* books and other resource material available for sale at some of our public workshops for the first time. We have 10 trainers who are testing the systems out this fall, and we anticipate expanding to other trainers in the new year following the release of our *Counselling Insights* book.

Free Resources & Social Media

If you are not yet connected to *CTRI*, *ACHIEVE* and *The Ordinary Leader* (Randy's personal site), please consider subscribing. Sharing our free resources is one of the best ways in which we can spread the word about our services. We appreciate your help in doing this.

Subscribe by following these links:

Randy:

(The Ordinary Leader):

theordinaryleader.com

[FaceBook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

CTRI:

[FaceBook](#)

[Google+](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Blog](#)

[Twitter](#)

ACHIEVE:

[FaceBook](#)

[Google+](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Blog](#)

[Twitter](#)

Our Mission and Vision

At our Winnipeg office, we increasingly use the language of "our mission and vision" to describe how and why we do things. And as we (Randy, Eric, Nathan) train, we will often refer to various aspects of our mission and vision. We want to encourage you all to review and be familiar with these statements. If you have questions about them please let us know.

[ACHIEVE Mission, Vision and Beliefs](#)

[CTRI Mission, Vision and Beliefs](#)

Wishing you all a great fall, both in your work with us and the other aspects of your life!

Meet Our Staff & Trainers

Connections—September 2017

Every issue we'll introduce you to some of the creative and enthusiastic people that work with us.

We've asked them to answer a few questions to help you get to know them better.

This issue we present:



Tammy Berry

Calgary, AB

Has trained with us for 1 year

In addition to training with ACHIEVE, Tammy is busy with her kids, aged 4 and 6. She is also a personal coach for groups and individuals.

What is your favourite workshop to facilitate?

Assertive Communication! I love helping people learn how to say "NO" to things that don't fit with their values and life.

What is one of your hobbies? What do you do for fun?

I used to be a physical education teacher, so I love being active while hanging out with friends and family. My favorite activity this summer was wake surfing.

What is your favourite book?

Positive Intelligence by Shirzad Chamaine, and *Gifts of Imperfection/Daring Greatly* by Brene Brown.

Given the choice of anyone in the world, whom would you want as a dinner guest and why?

Tony Robbins. I love his energy and approach to self improvement.

What does your dream vacation look like?

Being on a yacht in the Mediterranean with all my friends and family. On the boat, there would be ample fitness instructors, bartenders, massage therapists, chefs, entertainers and activity directors.

Tricia Klassen

Winnipeg, MB

Has trained with us for almost 2 years

In addition to training with CTRI, Tricia works as a therapist with individuals, families, and couples at a clinical practice. She also spends as much time as she can at home with her family.



What is your favourite workshop to facilitate?

I love delivering the child and family oriented workshops as I have worked so extensively in these areas and feel the most passion for this work.

What is one of your hobbies? What do you do for fun?

Creative projects like home design, decor and fabric art. I recently designed new bathrooms for our home and I am hoping to get started on making another pair of mukluks this fall.

If you could only have coffee or chocolate or alcohol, which would it be and why?

I absolutely love all three, but I get migraines from coffee and alcohol, so chocolate it is!

If you could wake up tomorrow having gained one quality or ability, what would it be?

I would choose to need little sleep. I have so much passion and energy for life, but I have a difficult time functioning when I am tired and when the weather is grey.



George Anderson

Winnipeg, MB

Has trained with us for 7 years

In addition to training with us, George enjoys being retired from government service and working with a not for profit charitable organization that supports community members with disabilities through an E-Waste recycling program.

What is your favourite workshop to facilitate?

DPVS. I'm always amazed at the variety of challenging people and situations folks deal with in their workplaces and I love how participants are always looking for new tools to help them manage these encounters.

What is one of your hobbies? What do you do for fun?

I am an outdoorsman so its camping, hiking, fishing, and hunting for me. Manitoba is ideal for these activities and I try to take advantage of all the opportunities here.

What is something you still hope to accomplish?

I'm committed to emergency preparedness and I'm working towards launching a YouTube channel and website dedicated to assisting individuals and families as they prepare themselves for potential disasters.

What is your favourite book?

Thank You for Being Late, An Optimist's Guide to Thriving in the Age of Accelerations, by Thomas Freidman. It provides a great explanation of the challenges we face in the world today, how we got here, and opportunities for the future.



Tyler Voth

Client Services Representative

Started working with us in August!

Tyler was just recently hired to assist in our Client Services Department. He is the first point of contact for many of our clients requesting information about our services. His kind and helpful demeanor is valued by everyone who works with him.

What is your favourite part of working at CTRI & ACHIEVE?

At this point, my favorite part of working here is the work atmosphere, and the diligent training I've been receiving. I'm looking forward to learning more about CTRI/ACHIEVE, so I can fill my position to the best of my ability.

What is one of your hobbies? What do you do for fun?

Cycling. A friend of mine works at Natural Cycle, and he recently helped me build a single-speed mountain bike. It's been a pretty fun ride to take out on the trails around Winnipeg.

Given the choice of anyone in the world, whom would you want as a dinner guest and why?

I really wouldn't know what to ask a major historical figure other than, "Could you pass the salt?", so I think just a good storyteller would be fun. I'll go with David Sedaris. He cracks me up.

What is your favourite book?

My favorite book at the moment would have to be Jean Paul-Sartre's *The Wall*. Either that or Flannery O'Connor's *Wise Blood* it!

Tech Talk with Eric Stutzman

I've recently noticed some conversation among trainers about speaker systems for training. Several trainers have made the move to using wireless bluetooth speakers during training, including me. There are a number of great systems out there. I bought a *Bose Soundlink Mini Bluetooth Wireless Speaker* and love it. It's about the size of a travel mug and it has an internal re-chargeable battery that last for up to 10 hours of continuous playback. It has great sound and no cords needed, which really cleans up my presenter's table at the front of the room. This is what mine looks like:



And as a bonus, it doubles as a great home stereo speaker!



In Memory – Trainer, Dale Swirsky

In July, Dale passed away suddenly. He trained with us periodically since 2008. Dale taught our workshops geared towards youth. He was an amazing facilitator of these workshops and our clients will miss his energetic and engaging style. The last time he facilitated for us was for a larger youth conference. His workshops were so popular that the other facilitators shut down their sessions and they all showed up at Dale's.

Dale's preferred mode of travel to and from on-site locations was always driving. Over the years, Dale drove all the way from Winnipeg to northern Quebec and Northern Alberta.

On a personal note, Dale and I were friends who met playing basketball. It was a common passion we shared. His daughter played for Team Manitoba this summer at the Summer Games where they won Bronze. The Winnipeg Sun featured a really nice story about him and his daughter. You can find that [here](#).

I will remember Dale as a kind-hearted person who was passionate about life. He always made the best of any situation. He will be missed.

You can find his obituary [here](#).

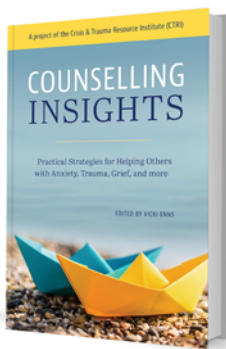
Written by Randy Grieser

Regional Trainer Gatherings

Each year, we strive to send one of the directors (Nathan, Vicki, Randy or Eric) to each region of the country. In the past we have often met with you one-on-one or in small groups. This year, when we travel, we will intentionally try to bring together as many of the trainers from your region together for a lunch or an evening meal. We see this as an important way to connect, to discuss how we are delivering service in your region, and to focus on other topics related to our mutual work.

When we come, we will try to give as much notice as possible, and we ask that you make it a priority in your calendar to attend. Thanks in advance, and we look forward to connecting.

ACHIEVE Publishing Update



Our second book, *Counselling Insights*, is currently in the design phase and will be available for pre-order later this October. The formal release date is January, 2018. We are very proud of this book – it's going to be a great resource! Our Clinical Director, Vicki Enns, was both the Editor and one of the authors of the book. Chapter contributions were made by 9 of our trainers.

Eric Stutzman, Wendy Loewen, Michael Labun and Randy Grieser are currently working on our next book. Each *ACHIEVE* and *The Ordinary Leader* blog post features samples of writing that will be found in the book. Release date for this book is January 2019. The book will rely on a survey about what makes organizations great places to work. You can take the survey [here](#).

Staff Transitions

- **Amy Ferris** who has been working in our marketing department moved to Vancouver Island in September. She will still be assisting us part-time from there.
- **Ana Speranza** who has been working in logistics and has spearheaded our new *ACHIEVE Publishing* division moved to Toronto where she will be attending York University.
- **Chantel Runtz** is back with us after a 4 month bike tour across Europe – we are excited to have her back!
- **Karla Froese** has moved into the logistics role previously held by Ana Speranza.
- **Micah Zerbe** continues with hotel logistics but has moved out of his client services role and will spend more time leading and supporting various projects, including our new data management system.
- **Heidi Grieser** is now leading up *ACHIEVE Publishing*.
- We welcome a new member to our Client Services Team. **Tyler Voth** is featured in our staff and trainer section above.

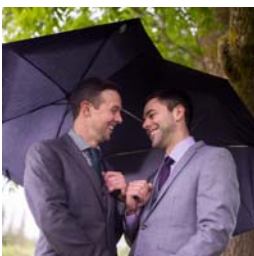
Who to call when...

With all the staff transitions that have happened over the summer, we thought this would be a good time to remind you of who you should contact when you have questions. Below is a quick guide that we would encourage all trainers to have with them when they are training. It's your cheat sheet for quick help and answers when you need them most.

Please feel free to print this page and tuck it in with your training materials.

When you have questions related to:	Please contact:
CTRI Public Workshops	Delayne Hogan: 204-452-9199, delayne@ctrinstitute.com
ACHIEVE Public Workshops	Kloe Penner: 204-452-0180, kloe@achievecentre.com
Public Workshop Hotels/Venues	Micah Zerbe: 204-789-2459, logistics@ctrinstitute.com
CTRI On-site Workshops	Lori Tiessen-Banman: 204-789-2458, lori@ctrinstitute.com
ACHIEVE On-site Workshops	Chantel Runtz: 204-789-2457, chantel@achievecentre.com
Training Materials and Manual Shipping	Karla Froese: 204-452-0089, karla@ctrinstitute.com
Invoices	Joyce Vincent: 204-789-2451, joyce@ctrinstitute.com
Training Content – CTRI	Nathan Gerbrandt: 204-452-0179, nathan@ctrinstitute.com
Training Content—ACHIEVE	Eric Stutzman: 204-783-2069, eric@achievecentre.com
Disgruntled Participants/Clients	Nathan for CTRI; Eric for Achieve
Trainer website information	Chantel Runtz: 204-789-2457, chantel@achievecentre.com
Flight & car rental issues*	Rose Szczepanik at Bonventure Travel: 204-488-6653, rose@bonaventuretravel.ca <i>*also be in touch with Eric or Nathan</i>
CTRI & ACHIEVE General Contact Information: • Toll free: 877-353-3205 • Fax: 204-475-2920 • Mailing Address: 62 Sherbrook St., Winnipeg MB R3C 2B3	

Wedding Bells!



Congratulations are in order as two of our staff had weddings this summer.

Colin (marketing dept.) and Dylan were married on June, 24 (pictured at left).

Micah (logistics dept.) and Willow were married on August, 5 (pictured at right).



Thanks for reading! Expect the next newsletter in December. Watch out for falling leaves!