PROGRAM OF THE ICSA 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JULY 2-5, 2025 IN MONTREAL

PROGRAMMATION DU CONGRÈS ANNUEL 2025 DE L'ICSA

DU 2 AU 5 JUILLET 2025 À MONTRÉAL

ICSA INTERNATIONAL CULTIC STUDIES ASSOCIATION · info SECTE CULT · TOURISME / MONTRÉAL · Plaidoyer Victimes · UNIVERSITÉ DE MONCTON CAMPUS DE MONCTON · cirres Université de Montréal · CHAIRE EN GESTION DE LA DIVERSITÉ CULTURELLE ET RELIGIEUSE RCD Université de Montréal · C.É.I.N.R

WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS

ATELIERS DU MERCREDI

ROOM SALLE	9:30 – 11:00		13:00 – 14:30		14:45 – 16:15		16:30 – 18:00
3	Clinical Roundtable for Licensed Mental Health Professionals ***Catherine Moestue*** *Exclusive to mental health professionals	LUNCH	A Workshop for Families: Building Bridge ***Patrick Ryan, Joseph Kelly, Rosanne Henry, Doni Whitsett***	BREAK	A Workshop for Families: Building Bridge (continue) ***Patrick Ryan, Joseph Kelly, Rosanne Henry, Doni Whitsett***	BREAK	Groupe de discussion pour les anciens membres des groupes à haut niveau de contrôle ***Céline Castillo, Alain Nadeau*** *Uniquement pour anciens membres
4	Workshop For Former Cult Members Who Were Parents In The Cult ***Doni Whitsett*** *Exclusive to parent former-members	DINER	Support/Discussion Group for SGM/MGM: Child Raising Issues ***Lorna Goldberg, Magdalene Leon*** *Exclusive to former members, born or raised in	PAUSE	Music As An Effective Tool In Recovery Work With Former Members: An Experiential Workshop ***Debbie Carroll***	PAUSE	General discussion for former members ***Esther Friedman, Carrie Buddington, Megan Shepherd*** *Exclusive to former members
5	Writing for wellness ***Zoe Lambert***				Roundtable for Researchers ***Carmen Almendros, Marie-Andrée Pelland, Omar Saldana***		

THURSDAY, JULY 3 – JEUDI 3 JUILLET

9:30 – 10:30: Welcome Ceremony / Cérémonie d'ouverture (Auditorium SH-2800)

ROOM SALLE	10:45 – 11:25	11:30 – 12:10		14:15 – 14:55	15:00 – 15:40		16:00 – 16:40	16:45 – 17:25
1	Un agenda satanique: comment les théories du complot renforcent l'écosystème de droite radicale au Canada ***Mathieu Colin***	Accompagner la population québécoise face aux théories du complot : portrait des besoins ***Nativité Castello***		Rael, les médias et la stratégie de la « subversion permanente »; ***François Xavier Bauduin***	Les dérives sectaires dans les mouvements catholiques : l'exemple des Hérauts de l'Évangile ***Christian Petitclerc***		Les groupes sectaires sont-ils des communautés patriarcales ? Une réflexion critique ***Andréa Lagorse***	17:00-19:00 La question sectaire : menace pour qui et pourquoi ? **Panel 45e anniversaire**
2	Purity Culture: Unraveling Its Influence on Identity and Relationships ***Liz Sallows, Dresden Andrea***		LUNCH		How the Media Gets It Wrong: Human Trafficking and Cults ***Robin Boyle-Laisure***	BREAK	A Survivor-Therapist-Parent's Guide to Adult Recovery From Mother-Induced Biblical Control, Manipulation, & Silencing ***Dylesia Barner***	Tokyo District Court Orders the Dissolution of the Unification Church ***Takashi Yamaguchi, Kyoko Nagano***
3	The perception of sectarian phenomena within the society and the role of the media in France, what consequences in the context of legal proceedings? ***Maleine Pictoin-Gueye, Ophélie Rodrigues***	Using Art to Build Self Connection ***Natalee Bigger Stockdale***		It's Our Turn to Speak – How an Apostates' Podcast Is Changing Lives – and the PBCC Are Listening ***Cheryl Bawtinheimer, Ben Woodbury, Richard Marsh***			Shadow of Hope Podcast: An exploration of a Catholic Covenant Community in 1980s Suburban New Jersey ***Karen Ann Coburn***	Cult Media Messaging: Sharing Your Story While Taking Care of Yourself ***Dhyana Levey***
4	Influencers, Ideologies, and Isolation: The Digital Rise of Exploitative Wellness Movements ***Kim Peirano***	Defining Cults Through Features of Coercive Control ***Renée Spencer***	DINER	Research and Practice-Based Recommendations for Mental Health Interventions for Cult Survivors and Their Families ***Linda Dubrow-Marshall, Kate Amber, Jennifer French Tomasic, Ashley McLean***		PAUSE	Oh My God, I've Been Kidnapped! – A Deprogramming Perspective ***Ginger Zyskowski***	Counseling, Help and Expertise Platform for Victims and Relatives of Coercive Groups and Cults ***Florentina Kunseler, Milou Covers, Arjan van Dijk***
5	Acclimating to Life on the "Outside:" Catharsis Through Our Individual Storie ***Debby Schriver, Lorna Goldberg, Alexis Broderick, Shaina Broderick***			The Medical Workforce – Can They Become Advocates and Allies for Cult-Impacted People? ***Caroline Ansley***	The Long-Term Impacts of Naming Practices in High-Control Groups: a Case for Adaptive Approaches in Support Services for Former Members ***Sam Downs***		Slovenian Tantric Rape Culture on the Rise: Clinical Case Study ***Zmago Švajncer Vrečko***	Gendered Burdens of Care: How Coercive Dynamics and Patriarchal Structures Shape Women's Well-Being ***Raquel Cuesta-Reigada***
6	Measuring Spiritual Abuse in Demonic Deliverance **Anna Kitko**	How Do Survivors Move Forward? Exploring Coping Profiles After Leaving Abusive Groups ***Emma Antelo, Andrea Escudero***		Comparative analysis of agency in different contexts of vulnerability ***Madeline Lamboley, Marie-Andrée Pelland, Marie-Pier Rivest, Annie Bernier***			Broadly Applicable: Cults and the Coercive Control Framework ***Sarah Feliciano***	A Psychiatrist's Perspective of Cults - Extremist Violence & Vulnerability in Mental Health and Neurodiversity ***Cyrus Abbasian***

FRIDAY, JULY 4 – VENDREDI 4 JUILLET

Morning program – Programme de la matinée

ROOM SALLE	09:30 – 10:10	10:15 – 10:55		11:20 – 12:00	12:05–12:45	
1		Les apports de la pluridisciplinarité pour une intervention efficace de l'avocat auprès des membres et anciens membres de groupes sectaires ***Maleine Pictoin-Gueye, Ophélie Rodrigues***		La recherche sur le phénomène sectaire au Québec – Quelques exemples ***Lorraine Derocher, Miriam Tougas, Andréa Lagorse, Elizabeth Boileau, Elisabeth Legendre***		
2	The Landmark Grenville Christian College Lawsuit: A Tale of Two Plaintiffs ***Beth Granger, Jacqueline Gagnon***	Types of Trauma Therapy and How to Choose a Therapist ***Megan Shepherd***	BREAK	A Collaborative Approach to Addressing a Loved One's Cult-Related Involvement ***Patrick Ryan, Joseph Kelly, Rosanne Henry, Doni Whitsett***		LUNCH
3	Mental Health Literacy: Helping Others and Ourselves ***Sunny Naughton***	Financial Trauma Impacts Survivors' Futures ***Heidi Clemons***		A Joint Healing Journey – Peer Based Recovery Models ***Andrea Silverstone***	Self-Care Practices as an Aspect of Religious Trauma Recovery ***Liz Sallows***	
4	The Digital Study of New Religiosity – Potentials and Potential Pitfalls ***Suzanne Newcombe***	From Circle to Screen – An Exploration of How Facilitators, Ex-Cult Members and Their Families Perceived Their Experiences of Online Support Groups for Cult Survivors ***Sue Winter, Rod Dubrow-Marshall***	PAUSE	Groups Can Harm But Groups Can Also Heal ***Claire Alison Hams, Zoe Lambert***	An Autoethnography of Experiencing Art Therapy as an Individual Born and Raised in a High Demand Religion ***Nicola Brophy***	DINER
5	Need of the Day: Helping Organizations Avoid Cultic Behaviors and Abuse ***Anuttama Dasa, J Paul Lennon***			Stages of Change During Intervention ***Joseph Szimhart***	Mind Control and Intervention – From Cognitive Dissonance to Cognitive Balance ***Ingo Michehl***	
6				Dissociation and Mindfulness: Mental Health Needs and Coping Strategies of Youth Raised in Cultic and High-Control Groups ***Luna Cappelletti***	Investigating the Psychological Health and Wellbeing of Former Members of Cultic Groups: Are There Differences Between Those Born in and/or Raised, and Those Who Join? ***Jill Aebi-Mytton***	

FRIDAY, JULY 4 – VENDREDI 4 JUILLET

Afternoon Program – Programme de l'après-midi

ROOM SALLE	14:45 – 15:25	15:30 – 16:10		16:30 – 17:10	17:15 – 17:55	18:15 – 19:00
1	Comprendre et traiter l'abus spirituel en psychothérapie ***Céline Castillo***	Points tournants dans les trajectoires de vie : comment les membres sortants de première et de multigénération construisent leur sortie et leur vie au-delà des groupes à haute intensité d'engagement ***Céleste Goguen***	B R E A K	Entretien épistémique – Convaincre cordialement sans débattre ***Antony Bertrand-Grenier***	Comprendre les dynamiques du consentement sexuel dans les groupes à haute intensité d'engagement ***Céleste Goguen, Marie-Andrée Pelland***	
2	Silent No More: Defamation Risks to Survivors and Their Supporters ***Carol Merchasin, Pamela Takefman***	Bringing Democracy to the "Troubled Teen Industry" ***Adam Arnold***		Her Voice When She Loves Me (or A Maternal Exorcism) A Solo Show ***Zoe Lambert***	Cultic Groups and Patriarchal Communities: A Critical Reflection ***Andréa Lagorse***	
3	Collective Narcissism – A Lens for the Analysis of Cultic Groups ***Andre Jackson***	What Fuels Extreme Progroup Behavior? The Devoted Actor Model in Group Contexts ***Omar Saldaña, Emma Antelo, Andrea Escudero, Álvaro Rodríguez-Carballeira***		Reflections on an Ex-Cultist Support Group as it Approaches its 50th Year ***Lorna Goldberg, William Goldberg***	Integrative Therapeutic and Systemic Approaches to Cult Recovery: Trauma-Informed Healing and Family/Community Support Models ***Sharon Doni***	
4	Respectful Conversations in an Increasingly Polarized World: What Have We Learned from Working with Current and Former Members of Cults and Victims and Survivors of Domestic Abuse? ***Rod Dubrow-Marshall, Linda Dubrow-Marshall, Kate Amber, Jennifer French Tomasic***		P A U S E	ICSA Open Discussion ***Debby Schriver, Jackie Johnson***		Remembering Alan Scheflin ***Lorna Goldberg, William Goldberg***
5	Gender and Coercion: Dynamics of Control, Care, and Structural Violence in Intimate and Group Contexts ***Raquel Cuesta-Reigada, Carmen Almendros Rodriguez, Francisco Gonzalez Espejito***			Human Rights Violations in Religious Cults: Examining Fundamental Mormonism and Legal Challenges in the U.S. ***Jane Ridley***	Policing Religion: Identifying Strategies to Prevent Violence Perpetrated by Cults ***Tess Hemmila***	
6	Intergenerational Transmission Of Cult Trauma: The Impact Of Cult-Created Dissociation And A Cult-Created Harsh Conscience On Child-Rearing ***Lorna Goldberg, Doni Whitsett, William Goldberg***			Somatic Psychotherapy for Cult Recovery: for Therapists and Survivors ***Nicola Ranson***	Humor, Awe and Recovery from Cults ***Yuval Laor***	

SATURDAY, JULY 5 – SAMEDI 5 JULLET

Closing Ceremony / Cérémonie de clôture (Auditorium SH-2800) : 16:15-17:45

ROOM SALLE	09:30 - 10:10	10:15 - 10:55		11:20 - 12:00	12:05 - 12:45		14:45 - 15:25	15:30 - 16:10
1			BREAK	Imaginer l'inimaginable : l'expérience du « migrant sectaire » dans les romans pour la jeunesse *Tant que ce sera l'été* (2023) et *After the fire* (2019) ***Eugénie-Raphaëlle Pelletier***	Sectes et mouvements sectaires dans l'Antiquité classique à la lumière de l'expérience contemporaine: similarités et différences ***Salvatore Costanza***	LUNCH	De la polarisation à la radicalisation : tensions et leviers d'action en milieu de travail ***Mounia Ait Kabboura***	Maltraitance en contexte sectaire : le cas Guillot ***Adriana Pacheco***
2	Catholic Leader/Guru Sex Offenders: Why Are They Detected so Late or Never? ***J. Paul Lennon***	Escaping the Cult! A Thrilling Memoir of a Radical Identity Change and Survival ***Cathrine Moestue***		Media that Sells or Media that Tells?: The Role that Media Can Play in De-Cultifying Self-help ***Jean Brown***	Cult Apologist, Anti-Cultist or Social Scientist? ***Eileen Barker***		The Psychology of Cult Involvement - the Basics ***Arthur Buchman***	Neuroscience and Cultism ***Ron Burks***
3	Cultures of Control: A Qualitative Study on Coercion in Church Systems ***Fabienne Harford, Rod Dubrow-Marshall***	Addressing Spiritual Violence: A Transformative Change to Non-Violent Spirituality ***Aini Linjakumpu***	PAUSE	Dianne Casoni Award Retrospective ***Marie-Andrée Pelland, Lorraine Derocher, Omar Saldaña***	Child Sexual Abuse in Closed Religious Communities: Findings from a Large-Scale Quantitative Study ***Jill Aebi-Mytton, Cheryl Hope***	DINER	Understanding The Dynamics Of Sexual Consent In High Demanding Group Settings ***Marie-Andrée Pelland, Céleste Goguen***	Male Victimisation in Coercively Controlling Cultic Environments, A Case Study ***Emily Lehsten***
4		Shadow of Hope Podcast: An exploration of a Catholic Covenant Community in 1980s Suburban New Jersey ***Karen Ann Coburn***		Religion in Public Classrooms ***Linda Demaine***	Listening to the Ignored: Mapping the Identity Construction of Ex-Members using 'Cult' Rhetoric ***Aled Thomas, Edward Graham-Hyde***			
5	Steps to staying married after the cult ***Vicky Burks***	The Disenfranchised Self: Remembering and Reclaiming the Spiritual (Self) in Religious Trauma and Spiritual Abuse Recovery ***Heidi Hewett***		Turning Points in Life Trajectories: How First and Multi-Generation Former Members Construct Their Exit and Lives Beyond High-Demand Groups ***Céleste Goguen***	Unraveling the Scars: Addressing the Complex Needs of Ex-Cult Members with Psychoanalytic and Trauma Informed Therapeutic Practice ***Anat Joseph***		Using Music and the Spoken Word to Compare and Contrast Three Cults and the Recovery Process for Survivors ***Esther Friedman, Carrie Buddington, Gerette Buglion***	