

Thursday-May 12th

9 AM TO
12 PM

HOLDING ONTO HOPE

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

presented by



**Human
Services &
Justice
Coordinating
Committee**

Everyone is welcome • 9 am - 12 pm • free

Register in advance for this conference
[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtc-
utpj8oG9Vmd9HUVxZ1Kk_tOc-mTIjO](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUtc-utpj8oG9Vmd9HUVxZ1Kk_tOc-mTIjO)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing
information about joining the conference

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Conference Schedule

9:00 AM
WELCOME

9:05 AM-10:00 AM
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OPENING SPEAKER- GWEN LINDSAY

10:00 AM-10:15 AM
BREAK

10:15 AM-11:45 AM
KEYNOTE SPEAKER - DR GEBIEN

11:45 AM-NOON
QUESTIONS & CLOSING REMARKS

keynote speaker

Dr. Gebien



Doctor Gebien is in long-term recovery from opioid use disorder and lucky to be alive. His remarkable story has been the subject of national media attention. He is an ER physician and a former federal inmate. As consequence of abusing his prescription-writing privileges while in active addiction in 2014 and then being arrested for it in Barrie, ON, he was ultimately incarcerated in 2017.

It all started innocently years earlier with pain killers prescribed by his doctor to treat back pain. It ended after his arrest but not before graduating to fentanyl and surviving an unintentional, near-fatal overdose.

His tumultuous journey involved a harrowing early drug detox along with the psychological chaos of early recovery and post-acute withdrawal syndrome.

Despite losing his freedom — residing six months at three different drug rehabs, one month in jail and eight months in prison — as well as his young family, career and more, Dr. Gebien pressed on by frequently sharing at 12-step meetings. It was here where he found his voice and renewed confidence, learning that although others could criticize his opinions, his emotions and feelings were off-limits. Sharing emotions in a safe environment had unexpected rewards. The deeper he dug in, exploring personality flaws and the painful past for example, the greater the benefit was on his well-being.

Gwen & Don Lindsay



Gwen Lindsay is Senator of Georgian Bay Metis Council, and Senator of the Project Advisory Group for the Metis Nation of Ontario, Child, Youth, and Family Services.

Gwen has been married to Don for 58 years. They were Specialized Treatment Foster Parents for 40 years, as well as Pastors for approximately 30 years. Don taught Anger Management and subjects related to addictions through the church, Barrie Jail, and Macmillan House, a C.R.C. He also participated in TOUGH TALK, a program from Guelph Correctional, a process which he used in counselling and group work.