



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Annual Forum Highlights Sea Change in Psychedelic Psychotherapy

Victoria, British Columbia (9-28-2018) - The biennial **2018 Psychedelic Psychotherapy Forum: *The Unfolding Promise*** will set the stage for mental health professionals, scientists, doctors, activists and healers to share their knowledge and expertise in the rapidly evolving field of psychedelic therapy for mental health, wellness and spiritual growth.

Held over two full days from October 11 to October 12 at the **Westin Bear Mountain Golf Resort and Spa in Victoria, British Columbia**, including two days of elective, **professional and personal development workshops on October 13 and October 14 at The Victoria Conference Centre and James Bay Athletic Club, the forum will focus on the current status of psychedelic psychotherapy in Canada, opening up critical dialogue and perspectives from internationally renowned experts on legal challenges, advocacy and the future of psychedelic medicine.

This year's forum will feature keynote speaker, **Robin Carhart-Harris, PhD**, *Head of Psychedelic Research, Centre for Neuropsychopharmacology, Division of Brain Sciences, Faculty of Medicine at Imperial College London*. Esteemed presenters also include **Sheri and Tom Eckert**, founders of the *Oregon Psilocybin Society (OPS)* and *Chief Petitioners of the Psilocybin Service Initiative (PSI)*, **Anthony Bossis, PhD**, former Director of palliative care research, co-principal investigator, session guide, and co-author on the *2016 psilocybin NYU cancer-anxiety clinical trial and publication*, **Joe Tafur, MD**, author of the new book "*The Fellowship of the River: A Medical Doctor's Exploration into Traditional Amazonian Plant Medicine*," **Rachel Harris, PhD**, psychologist, psychedelic researcher, and *member and resident of the renowned Esalen Institute* in Big Sur, California and **Janis Phelps, PhD**, *Founder*

and Director of the Center for Psychedelic Therapies and Research at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco.

The promise of psychedelic substances and plant medicines for holistically treating and healing debilitating mental health challenges, including addiction and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, is receiving profound and unprecedented global media attention and public support, highlighting the need for advanced research and development, funding and support at a federal level.

Press Conference for 'Therapeutic Psilocybin for Canadians' Project
with Bruce Tobin, PhD, RCC

On **October 12th, 2018 from 12pm - 1pm**, media are invited to an exclusive press conference for the launch of the **'TPC (Therapeutic Psilocybin for Canadians) Project'** with founder, Bruce Tobin, PhD, RCC, art therapist, psychotherapist and member of MAPS (Multidisciplinary Association of Psychedelic Studies).

TPC will seek to make psilocybin, a psychedelic medicine, legally available to Canadians in need of compassionate treatment for severe psychological distress. A first of its kind in Canada, this project is supported by **Dr. William Richards**, of the Johns Hopkins Medical Center's Psilocybin Research Project team, **Dr. Anthony Bossis**, co-principal investigator, session guide, and co-author on the 2016 psilocybin NYU cancer-anxiety clinical trial and publication and **Dr. Charles Grob**, of the Harbor-UCLA Psilocybin Study team.

TIME // 12pm - 1pm PST **LOCATION** // Finlayson Room, Westin Bear Mountain Golf Resort & Spa

<<<Unless otherwise pre-arranged, media are invited to attend the forum on Day 2, October 12th from 10am-1pm, which includes the TPC press conference and two panel talks >>>

10am // Minding The Future: From Psychedelic Renaissance to Health Care Reform with Kenneth Tupper, PhD
10:45am // Activist Therapists: Taking Initiatives To Change Laws with Bruce Tobin, PhD, RCC, Bradley Foster, MA;
Tom Eckert, MS, LPC; Sheri Eckert, MA; [Moderator: Eleonora Molnar, MA]

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***For the 2018 Forum and post-forum weekend workshops, Integral Counselling BC, the Forum organizer, has been approved to provide up to 20 CME credits by the College of Family Physicians Canada (CFPC); up to 21.5 CE credits by the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), and up to 24 CEC hours by the Canadian Counselling and Psychotherapy Association (CCPA). Integral Counselling BC maintains responsibility for the Forum program.*

2018 Psychedelic Psychotherapy Forum

Major Sponsors // MAPS Canada, California Institute of Integral Studies

Supporting Sponsors // Float House Victoria, Banyen Books and Sound

Forum Location // Westin Bear Mountain Golf Resort & Spa

1999 Country Club Way

Victoria, BC

V9B 6R3

October 11 // 7am - 5:30pm // Private Dinner 7pm - 10pm

October 12 // 7:30am - 5:30pm

October 13 & 14 // **Post-Forum Weekend Workshops**

Location Victoria Conference Centre & James Bay Athletic Centre

<http://www.psychedelicspsychotherapy.ca>

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