

**Be the Light: Understanding Sex
Trafficking in Our Community**

HOPE RISING CONFERENCE

**Join us for a day of hope and awareness lead
by a courageous survivor of sex trafficking.**

DATE:

Friday, April 17th 2026

TIME:

8:30 Am-4:30 Pm

HOSTED BY:

Community of Hope NB

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Katarina MacLeod

Sheila Howlett

**SCAN QR
CODE FOR
TICKETS**



BOOK NOW

**\$150 Lunch & snacks included
communityofhopenb.ca**

Crowne Plaza
1005 Main St
Moncton, NB



Katarina bio:

In 2015, Katarina MacLeod became the Founder & Executive Director of Rising Angels Awareness & Restorative Care, a Canadian registered charity; she is also a survivor of sexual & physical abuse, drug addiction, forcible confinement, and 15 years of commercial sexual exploitation. Ms. MacLeod has been sharing her story and intimate knowledge of this issue in Canada since 2010. She educates to bring awareness, trains others in survivor care and has assisted various NGOs and police services both as a valuable resource and in providing front line assistance. She works with all types of girls and women who are at risk for trafficking or prostitution, or are attempting to leave their exploitative situation. Since the striking down of key prostitution laws in Canada, Katarina has been a strong voice in the media and to government against the legalization of prostitution, and continues to advocate for the protection of exploited women. Katarina has a diploma in Addictions and Community Service, a certificate in Sexual Violence, and a Level 1 certificate in Trauma Counselling for Front Line Workers. She is a mother to 4 children and living proof of a life restored. She believes strongly that there is beauty to be brought out of the ashes of her past life.

Sheila bio:

Sheila Howlett-Soltysiak gained significant mentoring experience during 15 plus years as a youth group leader. She subsequently formed a relationship with Katarina as mentor/life coach, Spiritual Mama, and tireless cheerleader. Sheila has walked daily with Katarina for almost 15 years, and has developed a profound understanding of how C-PTSD, dissociation, and deep scarring affect traumatized, exploited women. Her understanding and nurturing have helped Katarina and other survivors not only cope but thrive. Sheila is a founding member and board vice-chair of Rising Angels Awareness & Restorative Care. She also uses her decades of experience in administration and customer service to keep the wheels of Rising Angels turning behind the scenes. Sheila's voice and perspective are found in the training manual "Mending Broken Wings" which she and Katarina co-wrote.

Katarina's training and lived experience, along with her innate sense of the needs of exploited women, has enabled her to build on Sheila's example of mentoring & coaching in order to create the unique model of ongoing integrative care that is the cornerstone of Rising Angels' work with survivors.

Information & Resources Tables

Available will be representatives from 4 organizations in the Maritimes working in the anti-trafficking field, plus the guest speakers organization:

- Community of Hope NB= <https://communityofhopenb.ca/>
- Even For One= <https://www.evenforone.org/about>
- TREY Nova Scotia= <https://treynovascotia.org/>
- Freedom Coffee= <https://freedomcoffee.ca/>
- Rising Angels= <https://risingangels.net/>

Crowne Plaza 1005 Main St

Room blocks are available until March 16th. Rooms can still be booked after the cutoff date based on availability; however the link won't work after the cutoff date.

Reservations can be booked individually by calling 1-866-854-4656 or 506-854-6340. Please mention the block code **MWX** to benefit from the special rate of \$159+taxes.

The booking link and QR code below can also be used. Attendees can book directly with the hotel with the block code by emailing reservations@cpmoncton.com .

Below is the QR code for your group booking

