

# Maryanne Pope

## *Testimonials For Speaking Engagements/Presentations*

### **Grief/Loss**

“After reading Maryanne’s book, I felt it necessary for others to hear her story. It’s important that we learn from her and her life experiences, as I’m confident that her story can be used as a tool to allow others to cope with their loss.”

*Vince Savioa, Tema Conter Memorial Trust*

“Thank you ever so much for coming. It was all abuzz here at work this morning with various people talking about how passionate you are and how fortunate we all were that you presented to our group.”

*Sabrina Grunow, RCMP officer and Chair of the Red Deer RCMP spousal support group*

“Maryanne’s presentation to our volunteers was nothing short of remarkable. The journey she shared is insightful, heartbreaking, hopeful and even hilarious at times. An amazing peek inside the world of someone totally lost in grief. Her open and honest presentation has provided valuable tools for the front line volunteers in their work with families after a loss...a must for anyone working in the field of grief and loss.”

*Penny Ferguson, Coordinator, Calgary Police Service Victim Services Unit*

“It is a great healing process to listen to someone else’s trials and tribulations with their grief.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Great, personal, informative, authentic...Maryanne normalizes the process of grieving in that people grieve differently.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Maryanne’s presentation gave good insight into the thought process a person goes through when suffering the loss of a loved one.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Excellent insight into Maryanne’s personal journey...well presented thoughts and feelings of a traumatized person.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Hearing Maryanne’s presentation help me understand the victim’s reactions and prepares us to be aware of symptoms that we need to be aware of when helping others.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Such an incredible presentation.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Thoroughly enjoyed the honest, uninhibited presentation.”

*Attendee, 2009 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Maryanne’s was an incredible presentation. It was wonderful for her to share her story with us to understand her experience better.”

*Attendee, 2012 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Wow! Maryanne’s was a very emotional presentation...very applicable look into a victim’s journey, broken down step by step and raw and emotional.”

*Attendee, 2012 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Maryanne’s presentation showed the rollercoaster of emotions, both physically and psychologically that people with grief go through – and how they use different coping mechanisms to deal with their feelings.”

*Attendee, 2012 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“What I found most useful from Maryanne’s presentation, *Behind the Scenes; A Grief Deconstructed*, was her candid dialogue about emotion, transition through grief, feedback she found useful and feedback she found negative in the interactions with others. I appreciated this intimate level of workshop i.e. informally structured.

*Attendee, 2009 Presentation to Volunteers with the Calgary Police Service Victim Services Unit*

“Hearing Maryanne’s *Behind the Scenes; A Grief Deconstructed* presentation gives me better insight into what people dealing with death feel and need – and how I can help them in my role as a volunteer.”

*Attendee, 2009 Presentation to Volunteers with the Calgary Police Service Victim Services Unit*

“It is amazing how strong Maryanne is and how hopeful she makes you feel about the healing process when it feels like you will never heal. I love her upbeat yet powerful presentation, *Behind the Scenes; A Grief Deconstructed*. Her comment that “grief is not a competition” was very powerful and something I will remember when speaking with victims.”

*Attendee, 2009 Presentation to Volunteers with the Calgary Police Service Victim Services Unit*

## **Overcoming Adversity/Pursuing Dreams**

“Maryanne is an energetic speaker with an important message about facing life’s challenges head on and reaching for your dream.”

*Brian Willis, Winning Mind Training*

“A heartfelt and emotional tale of desperate sorrow turned into inspiration as Maryanne used the passion of her lost love and her eloquence to reach out and touch the hearts of hardened police veterans...not an easy feat.”

*Mike Turcotte, Calgary Police Veterans Association*

“Maryanne Pope’s presentation to our breakfast club was meaningful, insightful, touching, spirited and fast-paced.”

*Bruce Lee, Chairman, Synergy Networking*

“The students thought you were ABSOLUTELY AMAZING! You really moved them in so many ways. You were incredibly inspirational to them in many ways. It was a treat to have met you and I feel so privileged you were able to come to my class this morning. I know that your presentation touched all of us, as you have such power to motivate and inspire...thank you!”

*Linda MacGillvray, Grade 11 teacher, Bishop Grandin*

“I really enjoyed your presentation to the Alexandra Writers Centre this evening. I admire your courage and determination, as well as your ability to reach out and touch your audience.” *Ellen Kelly, Calgary, AB*

“Motivational, powerful, exceptional.”

*Attendee, 2012 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Very valuable look into how one woman coped with a terrible loss, turning a difficult and senseless tragedy into a hopeful and creative way to move forward.”

*Attendee, 2012 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

## **Workplace Safety**

“We deeply appreciated Maryanne’s efforts in making Calgary 2009 NAOSH week outstanding. Her presentation helped to impress attendees with practical ways in which they can ‘make it home safe every day,’ which was this year’s theme. We received many positive comments regarding Maryanne’s presentation.”

*Ronald Waters, Chair 2009 CSSE NAOSH Calgary Conference and Trade Show*

“I just absolutely loved working with Maryanne Pope. She was extremely professional but so fun. Her passion for the subject of workplace safety is evident and had a room full of people absolutely silent when she spoke of her experience. She is definitely someone that I would listen to and work with over again.”

*Sarah King, 2009 NAOSH Week Edmonton Committee Co-Chair*

“Hearing Maryanne’s heartfelt and touching account of John’s death really brought to light the hazards emergency responders face while working to protect all of us. We may think of the usual dangers associated with their jobs but are less likely to recognize the hazards in their way when they come to our worksites to help us. Maryanne’s presentation was a valuable addition to our North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week Conference and Trade Show.”

*Michelle Roth, 2009 NAOSH Week Committee Member, OHS Officer, Alberta Infrastructure*

“Very enlightening presentation and the presenter was very strong willed, as not many can stand up and talk about their husband’s passing.”

*Attendee, 2009 NAOSH Week Edmonton Conference and Trade Show*

“Presenter related her life experience and turned it into an impressive presentation.”

*Attendee, 2009 NAOSH Week Edmonton Conference and Trade Show*

“Maryanne was very good at making the necessity of maintaining safe workplaces a human subject, rather than a dry matter of policy.”

*Attendee, 2009 NAOSH Week Edmonton Conference and Trade Show*

“Thanks for sharing your story and raising awareness for the living. I will be incorporating the JPMF material into in-house training.”

*Attendee, 2009 NAOSH Week Edmonton Conference and Trade Show*

“Maryanne’s safety presentation was moving, inspirational and motivational.”

*Denise Howitt, CRSP, BCL Consulting Group Inc*

“Maryanne presented to our Recruit Training class in May 2011 and was found to be a great resource facilitator for the Peace Officers. Officers commented on how informative and relevant the information was to their role. Maryanne’s assistance in future training sessions would be greatly appreciated.”

*Tina Mercier, Calgary Transit*

“Thank you for the work you are doing. I am a 31 year member...and my family feels better now when I am out there.”

*Attendee, 2012 Alberta Provincial Victim Service Conference*

“Maryanne’s presentation, *Officer Down; Transforming Loss into Safer Workplaces*, will be remembered for some time. I know it had a profound effect on several attendees, especially those who have been personally affected by a workplace injury. The *Put Yourself in Our Boots* DVDs will be well utilized by all the delegates who attended Maryanne’s presentation.”

*Susan Bullock, Upper Island Safety Conference*

“I never thought of workplace safety in terms of emergency personnel. This presentation was an excellent eye opener.”

*Attendee, 2011 Upper Island Safety Conference*

“I was impressed with Maryanne’s workplace safety presentation and have recommended that we, WorkSafeBC, use her as a presenter.”

*Bjarne Nielsen, CRSP, Senior Regional Officer, WorkSafeBC*

## Writing

“I have reflected on your writing workshop, *Telling the Tale; The Art of Writing and Self-Publishing Creative Non-Fiction*, you gave at the Alexandra Writers Centre Society. Your energy, passion and sincerity were truly an inspiration for me. I gained so many insights throughout the day. Your workshop, your presence and your story was THE catalyst that brought my own book to fruition. I can’t thank you enough.”

*Cristy Lynn Hayden*