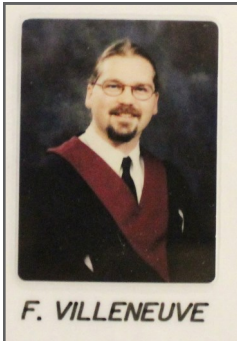


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Where Are They Now? Class of '95



by Florent Villeneuve

Have you ever wondered where your classmates are today? When asked to prepare this article I took the '95 class list and went to the CMTO website to see who still maintained an active registration. Out of 95 graduates 47 still hold a general certificate, while a few were inactive, and many others were no longer registered. Even though staying in contact with each other over the years has been challenging, it was a pleasant surprise to discover that it was very easy to call and pick up where we left off. Here are some of the stories I was able to gather.

- **Krishna Arbour – Toronto, ON**

After working for a few years with S-C professional clinics, in 2006 Krishna opened her own treatment space in the Roncesvalles area, where she still maintains her massage practice. After starting out as an examiner with the CMTO, she turned her attention to teaching the next generation of RMTs at Kikkawa College, in Toronto, where she has been teaching since 2003. Krishna is currently completing a degree in health care management at Ryerson University.

- **Elizabeth Eleyonich – Ancaster, ON**

Having been a nurse for a number of years, becoming a massage therapist was a logical next career step for Elizabeth. After graduation she worked for a physiotherapy clinic for a few years before transitioning to a home-based practice. She enjoys seeing clients throughout the day interspersed with other activities and interests. Over time Elizabeth evolved to include a more holistic focus to her treatments, studying nutrition and energy work. She has taken courses at the Hippocrates Health Institute in Florida, and has also taught courses in raw foods and nutrition. Elizabeth continues to love working from home and has no desire to stop anytime soon.

- **Martha Hunter – Calgary, AB**

Martha's career has taken her from coast to coast. In '95 she went out to write the BC exams and immediately began to work there. She then jumped to the east coast and opened a massage therapy clinic in Halifax. She became very involved with the local professional community, volunteering as a board member of the Massage Therapist Association of Nova Scotia. After six years in Halifax Martha decided to move to the mountains and found work at the Heliskiing Lodge. Alberta has been home ever since. She set up shop at the Still Point Clinic in Calgary. Her bodywork approach incorporates elements of energy and spirituality with a focus on craniosacral applications. After 20 years of being a massage therapist, Martha is taking a sabbatical to rejuvenate and pursue continuing studies.

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- **Anita MacPherson – Oakville, ON**

Soon after graduation Anita joined the Willow Therapy Centre in Toronto, an established clinic in the upper Beaches. She covered for a maternity leave and then stayed on. Anita has had a home-based practice in Oakville since 2000. She focuses mainly on treatments for chronic pain management, and also treats a number of sport-related injuries for the Oakville and Burlington Soccer Clubs (both her sons play on competitive teams). She has completed studies in integrative manual therapy techniques, nutrition, homeopathy/homototoxicology and metagenics. In her spare time Anita finds relaxation in hiking the trails, swimming and meditation.

- **Scott Miller – Toronto, ON**

After graduation Scott and classmate Lindsey Carter opened a clinic in the Ontario Hydro building at Carlton & Yonge. He worked there for the first eight years of his career. Scott's interests in holistic modalities lead him to pursue studies in yoga. Deciding to expand his business to include a more whole body/mind/spirit approach, he and a partner opened a popular spa in Cobourg, creating a mediation-yoga retreat and massage centre. After a successful eight-year run, Scott returned to Toronto and is practicing at a massage therapy clinic near Yonge & Bloor. He has also been working as a CMTO subject matter expert (SME), preparing questions for the registration exams.

- **Kelly Ould – London, ON**

On graduation, Kelly relocated to London and established a massage clinic, where she continues to treat. She started out as a full-time massage therapist and then caught the teaching bug. Her first experience was as an instructor for six years at D'Arcy Lane Institute. Since then she has worked as a DAC insurance examiner and a CMTO-approved tutor helping RMTs re-enter the profession. She recently joined the Canadian Massage Therapy Council for Accreditation as a surveyor. Kelly currently works at Lambton College in Sarnia as a full-time instructor. She loves her career and feels there is nothing else she would rather be doing professionally.

- **Vivian Steel – Kitchener-Waterloo, ON**

What drew Vivian to massage school was the idea of having a job where she could work from home. When she returned to Kitchener she started a home-based practice right away, but after a few years she teamed up with a local therapist and opened The MediSpa, a 3000 sq. ft. clinic in Waterloo. They started out offering aesthetics and massage therapy treatments. Vivian brought in other modalities which included a hydro jet tub and cold laser, ultrasound, and infrared therapies. Her own treatments focus on deep tissue and myofascial approaches. Today, Vivian is the sole owner of the spa. She stays engaged in learning by attending conferences and taking a variety of continuing education courses.

About the Author: After graduation Florent worked in Ottawa for a few years before deciding to travel throughout Asia, working and studying eastern massage approaches. Upon his return, and for the next 17 years, he worked as a teacher and school administrator at Northumberland College in Halifax and Kikkawa College in Toronto. Florent now works at S-C as Director of Admissions.

Please encourage your alumni friends to give us their address and email updates. We want to follow their careers and stay in touch!