

# Cassandra Yonder BA, M.Arch, Cert.Thanatology

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The Keirsej Temperament personality test finds me to be a rational architect ([www.keirsej.com](http://www.keirsej.com)). I'm a self starter with vision and the drive and determination to see projects through. Equipped with strong communication skills, not only am I a compassionate listener, I enjoy public speaking and writing as well as facilitating small groups and community events.

## FORMAL EDUCATION

- 1995 **B.A. Gerontology and Sociology** McMaster University Hamilton, Ontario  
1999 **Master of Architecture** The University of Calgary; Faculty of Environmental Design Calgary, Alberta  
My thesis topic was Architecture for the Elderly for which I received the prestigious **Waugh Scholarship** for Social Architecture.  
2009 **Certificate Grief and Bereavement** University of Western Ontario / King's College London, Ontario

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2003 **Animal Assisted Therapist** Harcum College Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania  
2004 **Group Facilitation** Hospice Simcoe Barrie Ontario  
2006 **Hypnotherapist** National Guild of Hypnotists Toronto, Ontario  
2009 **Shambhala Meditation levels I and II** Dorje Denma Ling Tatamagouche, Nova Scotia  
2011 **Home Funeral Guide certification** Final Passages Sebastopol, California

## COMMUNITY SERVICE/ PARTNERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

- 1993 **Peer Counselor** Student Health Education Centre  
1994 **Respite Care** Special Steps; Hamilton's Alzheimer's Society  
2001 **Evaluator** Therapeutic Paws of Canada  
2004 **Visiting Volunteer** Hospice Simcoe  
2008 **Authored Support Group Program** Bereaved Families of Cape Breton  
2008 **Founder and Facilitator** Monthly Grief Support Group  
2006-2012 **Chairperson** Victoria County Hospice Society Board.  
2010-2012 **Founding Member** CINDEA.  
2009-2012 **Secretary** Victoria County District Health Board.  
2010-2013 **Working Group** Grief Nova Scotia  
2014-2014 **Founding Member** One Washcloth  
PRESENT **Member** The Order of the Good Death  
PRESENT **Board Member, Canadian Representative** National Home Funeral Alliance  
PRESENT **Founding Member** Beyond My Will; Holistic Advance Care Planning for Canadians  
PRESENT **Visionary Advisor** End of Life Professionals Collective  
PRESENT **Founding Core Group** Canadian Community for Death Midwifery

## EMPLOYMENT

- PAST **Architectural Services**  
PAST **Horse Boarding / Training / Instruction**  
2011-2013 **Research Assistant** Dalhousie Family Medicine  
PRESENT **BEyond Yonder Death Midwifery; Education / Home Funeral Guidance / Bereavement Support**  
PRESENT **BEyond Yonder Homestead; Animal Husbandry / Workshops**