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Upon the completion of my M.A. degree, I would like to continue my research at the doctoral level. I hope to become an accredited psychologist with the College of Psychologists of Ontario, so that I can pursue a career in clinical child psychology, with an emphasis on working with individuals with autism. In addition, I intend on becoming affiliated with a university that emphasizes research.

I attended many fascinating presentations during the conference; however one presentation was of particular interest to me. The transition to young adulthood is a challenging time, particularly for individuals with developmental disabilities. Mary Forhan presented results from a 5-year program evaluation of Opening Doors. This project, run by Hamilton Family Network, has provided direct funding to 10 families of young adults with developmental disabilities. This funding is intended to enable families to develop supports needed to help with the transition from high school to adulthood and includes a facilitator to help the family develop networks within

the community and to provide advocacy support. This project led to several positive outcomes including: the development of community connections, participation in meaningful community and employment activities, and a parent-reported increase in quality of life. The presenter emphasized the importance of skilled facilitators to assist families to develop networks within the community. The importance of being engaged in *meaningful* work was also highlighted. Through this evaluation, a manual outlining best practices to support individuals into adulthood was developed. This research will assist the community in providing services to adults with developmental disabilities.

I enjoyed meeting local clinicians and researchers who share my interest in assisting individuals with developmental disabilities. This experience provided me with specific feedback, which I will consider when preparing my thesis for defence and publication. I would like to thank Autism Ontario for providing me with the opportunity to attend RSIG-OADD, and I look forward to RSIG 2009.