

Quebec Association of  
Independent Schools



Association des écoles  
privées du Québec

## *Illness, Wellness, Resilience and Survival*



## Susan Doherty and Hal Hannaford

Susan Doherty and Hal Hannaford, both born and raised in Montréal, have been married for 37 years. For 31 years, Hannaford has successfully led three Canadian boys' schools as headmaster. Doherty and Hannaford's long union is forged from a mutual appreciation of their differences as much as their similarities.

The intersection of mental illness and physical illness establishes the thesis of their keynote: Healing pathways for survival are found through the abiding need for human connection. Mutual love of the arts also helps.

Doherty began her working life at *Maclean's* magazine in Toronto. Next, she worked for a digital publishing company in Paris, freelancing for *The International Herald Tribune*, *La Tribune de Genève*, and *The Independent* in London. In 2015, Doherty released her award-winning debut novel, *A Secret Music*. Her latest book, *The Ghost Garden*, addresses the idea of the transformative power of compassionate connection to tackle mental illness — a burgeoning global health crisis.

Hannaford has taught elementary and high school in Canada, and served on the Faculty of International Business at the American University in Paris. As a teacher, he survived with his unique brand of energy and creativity. In Toronto, Hannaford was the founding headmaster of Kingsway College School (Canada) in 1989. He joined Royal St. George's College School (Canada) in 1996 as headmaster, and remained until 2009, when he moved to Montréal and became headmaster of Selwyn House School (Canada). Enthusiastically philanthropic, Hannaford has raised more than CDN \$30 million for charities as a volunteer auctioneer, most notably for The Children's Aid Foundation in Toronto.

Doherty and Hannaford have two children: Alisse, a medical resident in Philadelphia, and Reid, a filmmaker in New York.

Marriage is a verb, and represents something to be earned. Laugh. Commiserate. Celebrate. Forgive. Love. Mental and physical illnesses are merely symptoms when genuine partnership can provide the tools for recovery.

**DATE:** August 21, 2019

**TIME:** 8:00-8:45 - Arrival  
8:45-9:00 - Welcome  
9:00-10:15 - Presentation  
10:15-10:45 - Health break  
10:45-12:00 - Presentation (cont'd)

**LOCATION:** Villa Maria High School  
4245 Decarie Blvd.  
Tel: 514-484-4950

**PARKING:** Map attached

Dress: Casual