

# The *NEXT* Chapter

*Psychedelics, Healing, and the Second Half of Life...*



A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY SCOTT PAUL WRIGHT

*Hope, healing, & the  
courage to **begin again.***

**World Premiere**

Thursday, June 18, 2026  
The Royal Theatre · Toronto

**06 · 18 · 2026**

THENEXTCHAPTERFILM.COM

## The film, *at a glance.*

*An intimate documentary following adults over 55 as they turn to psychedelic-assisted therapy to meet depression, anxiety, grief, and the unfinished work of a lifetime — and to discover whether it is ever too late to begin again.*

### SHORT SYNOPSIS

*The Next Chapter* is a deeply personal documentary following adults over 55 as they explore psychedelic-assisted therapy to address depression, anxiety, grief, and unfinished inner work. Through intimate, story-driven portraits, the film looks beyond the science to the human experience of healing later in life.

### THEMES

- **Mental health and aging** in the second half of life
- **Grief, loss** and long-unresolved inner pain
- **Psychedelic-assisted therapy** as one path among many
- **Reflection, integration,** and the possibility of beginning again

### SPECIFICATIONS

TITLE	The Next Chapter
SUBTITLE	<i>Psychedelics, Healing, and the Second Half of Life</i>
FORMAT	Feature documentary
DIRECTOR	Scott Paul Wright
PRODUCTION	Wise Rabbit Films
YEAR	2026
LANGUAGE	English
PREMIERE	The Royal Theatre, Toronto Thursday, June 18, 2026
TICKETS	\$20 · Eventbrite
PRESENTED BY	Wake Network

## A story about *healing later in life.*

**T**he *Next Chapter* follows a group of people navigating the second half of life who refused to accept that their best days were behind them. Carrying the weight of depression, anxiety, grief, and long-unresolved pain, they stepped into the world of psilocybin-assisted therapy in search of something they had nearly stopped believing in: the possibility of healing.

This is not a film about a treatment. It is a deeply personal story about courage, vulnerability, and what it means to begin again.

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*This is not a film about a drug. It is a film about people who refused to give up on themselves, people who carried pain for years and finally found a way through it.*

— SCOTT PAUL WRIGHT, DIRECTOR

Through intimate, story-driven portraits, *The Next Chapter* opens a window into vulnerability, courage, reflection, and the quiet hope of beginning again — and offers an honest look at a generation whose mental-health needs have not been well served by existing treatments.



*Stills from The Next Chapter.*

## About the *director*.



**Scott Paul Wright**  
Director & Producer  
The Next Chapter

Scott Paul Wright is a filmmaker, writer, and producer whose previous credits include *Three Days of Glory* and *John Waite: The Hard Way*. Through **Wise Rabbit Films**, his work has consistently been drawn to the human story behind larger subjects.

With *The Next Chapter*, Wright turns to a subject that is also personal. He came to psilocybin through his own experience at 68 — an age that reflects the life stage of many of the people featured in the film. He will be in Toronto for the world premiere and the post-screening panel discussion.



### DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

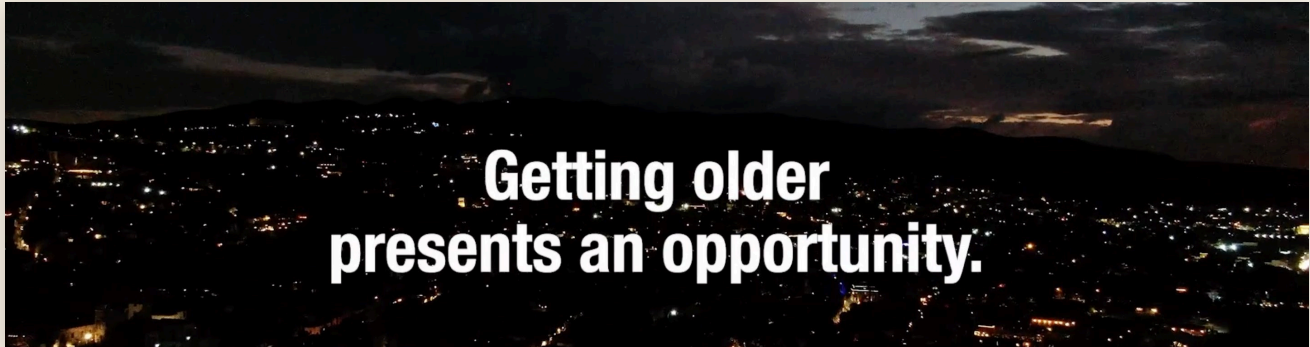
*“I came to this subject through my own experience with psilocybin at 68, the age of many of the people in this film. What I witnessed changed me, and I knew I had to tell these stories.”*

*“This is not a film about a drug. It is a film about people who refused to give up on themselves, people who carried pain for years and finally found a way through it.”*

*“Bringing *The Next Chapter* to Toronto for its world premiere feels deeply meaningful because this is a city ready for a serious, thoughtful conversation about where science, story, and healing now meet.”*

SCOTT PAUL WRIGHT · DIRECTOR

World *premiere.*



## THE EVENING

The Toronto premiere of *The Next Chapter* brings together a theatrical screening with a live panel discussion and audience Q&A with director Scott Paul Wright and invited voices from the worlds of mental health, healing, and psychedelic-assisted therapy.

The panel is designed to carry the conversation beyond the screen — offering deeper insight, broader perspective, and a meaningful opportunity for the audience to engage with the film's themes in real time.

## CHARITABLE MISSION

Net proceeds from the evening are intended to support a charitable organization aligned with mental health, healing, and community wellbeing. The final beneficiary will be confirmed as part of the event rollout.

## SCHEDULE

DATE	Thursday, June 18, 2026
VENUE	The Royal Theatre 608 College Street Toronto, ON M6G 1B4
DOORS	6:00 PM
SCREENING	7:00 PM
PANEL & Q&A	7:45 PM
TICKETS	\$20 — <a href="#">Eventbrite</a>

## PRESS ACCESS

Press passes, interview slots with director Scott Paul Wright, and pre-screening invitations are available on request. See contact details overleaf.

## The *panel*.

Following the screening, director Scott Paul Wright will join a live panel discussion and audience Q&A designed to extend the film's themes into a broader public conversation — bringing together voices spanning clinical research, lived experience, and the evolving Canadian conversation around psilocybin-assisted therapy.

### CONFIRMED PARTICIPANTS

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#### Dr. Joshua Rosenblat *MD, MSc, FRCPC*

*Staff Psychiatrist & Clinician-Researcher · Krembil Brain Institute, UHN · Poul Hansen Family Centre for Depression, Toronto Western Hospital · Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Toronto · Medical Director, Canadian Rapid Treatment Centre of Excellence*

Among the most cited psychiatric researchers in Canada, with over one hundred peer-reviewed publications in leading journals. Currently leads **seven federally funded psilocybin clinical trials** at UHN. His recent research on late-life mental health and the psychological dimensions of end-of-life experience connects directly to the human stories told in *The Next Chapter*. Appeared earlier this year on CBC's *White Coat*, *Black Art* and *The Dose*.

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#### Dr. Blake Pearson *MD*

*Family Physician · Founder, Greenly Medical Consulting · Member, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario · American Board of Family Medicine Certified*

A practicing family physician specializing in cannabinoid-based and functional medicine, having treated thousands of patients across chronic pain, end-of-life care, and long-term care settings. He stood alongside his father, Pete Pearson, as the family navigated Health Canada's Special Access Program in pursuit of psilocybin-assisted therapy — a journey that became the subject of **national CBC coverage** earlier this year. He brings to the panel both the clinical perspective of a physician working at the frontier of emerging therapies and the lived experience of a son who fought for his father's right to heal.

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*Additional panel participants will be announced in the coming weeks.*

## Why this film. Why Toronto. *Why now.*

At a time of growing Canadian research, public attention, and cultural momentum around psilocybin-assisted therapy, *The Next Chapter* brings an evolving national conversation to Toronto through the power of film.

# \$21M+

in confirmed Canadian psilocybin-specific research funding committed since 2021, through federal clinical-trial support, major institutional philanthropy, and national initiatives.

### The Science

Canada's psilocybin research ecosystem is no longer theoretical. UHN's **Nikean Psychedelic Psychotherapy Research Centre** and **CAN-PACT** (the Canadian Network for Psychedelic-Assisted Cancer Therapy) anchor a national field examining treatment-resistant depression, alcohol use disorder, end-of-life distress, and cancer-related psychological suffering.

### The Human Story

In spring 2026, CBC devoted national coverage across *White Coat*, *Black Art*, *The Dose*, CBC News, and a CBC Ideas pickup to psilocybin therapy and the story of Pete “Pistol Pete” Pearson — whose son, Dr. Blake Pearson, joins the June 18 panel.

### The Toronto Moment

Twelve days before the premiere, the **Royal Ontario Museum** opens *Psychedelics: Art. Culture. Science.* — a major original exhibition examining the history, culture, and science of psychedelic substances. Together, these developments underscore how timely the subject has become in Canada.

*On June 18, that momentum moves beyond research, headlines, and institutions into a live Toronto setting — where film, public discussion, and multiple perspectives come together in one room.*

Presented *with support from.*

PRESENTING SPONSOR

## Wake Network

The Toronto premiere is presented with support from Wake Network, a Canadian fungi-bioscience and wellness company focused on organic functional mushroom products and novel therapeutics. Their involvement reflects a shared interest in thoughtful conversation around healing, reflection, and personal wellbeing, while remaining distinct from the film's focus on psychedelic-assisted therapy.

### FEATURED PARTNERS

FEATURED IN THE FILM

#### Trip Hōm

A trauma-informed psychedelic risk-reduction collective and Social Purpose Corporation, whose guides — *Trish, Kendra and Kelly* — appear in the film as central voices in the director's own journey.

[triphom.com](http://triphom.com)

ORIGINS OF THE FILM

#### Maria Camille

Founder of the Vision Quest retreat in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Her facilitated psilocybin work helped seed the film's central question: *what does it mean to begin again later in life?*

[mariacamille.com](http://mariacamille.com)

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Toronto world premiere has drawn interest and community participation from several organizations engaged in Canada's broader psychedelic therapy and wellness conversation — reflecting research awareness, public education, patient access, professional dialogue, and community engagement.

**MAPS Canada** · Research & education

**Psychedelic Association of Canada (PAC)** · Professional dialogue

**TheraPsil** · Patient access advocacy

**Wake Network** · Wellness & fungi science

## For the *press*.

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### Trailer

The official trailer is embedded on the homepage and available on the film's YouTube channel for press use and embedding.

[youtube.com/embed/P1O2XaFBpsM](https://youtube.com/embed/P1O2XaFBpsM)

[@TheNEXTChapterDocumentary](#)

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### Pre-Release Screening

Members of the press and allies can request access to a free online pre-release screening of the film.

[mailchi.mp/wise-rabbit/next-chapter-documentary](https://mailchi.mp/wise-rabbit/next-chapter-documentary)

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### Stills & Key Art

A press-asset folder containing key art, production stills, the director's headshot, and logo files is available on request.

[ INSERT GOOGLE DRIVE LINK ]

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### Social

Follow the film for updates ahead of the premiere and during the rollout.

[Instagram](#) · [Facebook](#) · [LinkedIn](#)

PRESS OFFICE

## Media Inquiries & Interview Requests

**Michael Crane** — Film Marketing

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