

2018 Hope Conference for Parkinson's

FUTURE → FORWARD

Connecting Communities through Wellness

Keynote Speaker Bios:

Nathan Dempsey



Born and raised in Spruce Grove, Nathan drafted in the 11th round 245th overall to the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1992. He was team captain of the St. John's Maple Leafs from 1997-2002 and won the Fred T. Hunt AHL League Memorial Award which honors the player best exemplifying the qualities of sportsmanship, determination and dedication to hockey – 2001/2002.

Nathan then went on to play 260 games in the N.H.L with Toronto, Chicago, Los Angeles and Boston. In his career, he has played over 850 games during a 14 year professional career in the N.H.L and A.H.L that spanned Canada, United States, and Europe.

Nathan was diagnosed with Parkinson disease at the age of 37. He continues to play hockey, coach and works as the Campus Director at Edmonton's Vimy Ridge Hockey Academy.

Dr. John Ratey



Best-selling author, John J. Ratey, MD, is an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and an internationally recognized expert in Neuropsychiatry. He has published over 60 peer-reviewed articles, and 11 books published in 15 languages, including the groundbreaking ADD-ADHD "Driven to Distraction" series with Ned Hallowell, MD. With the publication of "Spark-The Revolutionary New Science of Exercise and the Brain," Dr. Ratey has established himself as one of the world's foremost authorities on the brain-fitness connection. His latest book, "Go Wild" explores how we can achieve optimal physical and mental health by getting in touch with our caveman roots, and how we can "re-wild" our lives.

Recognized by his peers as one of the Best Doctors in America since 1997, Dr. Ratey was recently honored by the Massachusetts Psychiatric Society as the "2016 Outstanding Psychiatrist of the Year" for advancing the field. Dr. Ratey and his work are frequently profiled in the media, where he's been featured on ABC, CBS, NBC, PBS and NPR, as well as in The New York Times, Newsweek, The Washington Post, US News and World Report, Men's Health, and other national publications.