

## **Romy Terkel, M.Ed., M.A.**

Romy Terkel's passion for hearing people's life stories led her to pursue her graduate studies at the University of British Columbia, where she completed two Master's degrees – one in School Psychology and the other in Counselling Psychology. Romy subsequently worked as a Psychological Services Provider in schools for over 15 years.

Along the way, she also engaged in different roles at outside agencies, including as a facilitator of adolescent bereavement groups and most notably, as a leader of life review groups.

Romy's passion for hearing life stories grew into the vision of preserving them in the form of Memory Books. Romy started recording people's life stories in 2006 and eventually founded her business Fingerprints with Love, to pursue her dream full time.

Romy's education and experience working alongside vulnerable people with complex psychological needs, have afforded her the opportunity to cultivate a unique skill set as a "Memory Keeper."

Many of Romy's clients are elderly people. Some of whom are in the early states of dementia. Romy uses her background in psychology to create a space for people to express themselves and be seen. In her listening, Romy provides a very humanizing experience for elderly people who often report feeling socially isolated and ignored.

Romy loves speaking with audiences about her passion for preserving memories. She believes there is a lot to learn from our elders – we just need to be brave enough to ask the questions.