

# My Story of Perseverance After Tragedy.

Just a few years ago I felt like I was on top of the world. I was in my twenties, living in Toronto, and working on a career path in fashion business management. Then things took a turn. My mom got diagnosed with cancer and was on a fast decline and I found myself a new single mother. I felt lost. Never did I imagine where I would be today... Let me rewind.

Around the same time I found out I was pregnant, we received the news of my mom's cancer diagnosis. It was already in stage 4 and had metastasized through her body. With such an aggressive cancer, the specialists gave her 5 months to live and she wasn't supposed to meet my son. As I adjusted to my new reality, I moved home to help care for my mom full time.

I was drained financially, emotionally, and physically. I felt like everything I had planned for was slowly dwindling. All I knew was, I had this little person needing me to be strong. The only light in my dark tunnel at the time was that my mom did get to meet my son and spend a wonderful year with him. When my mom passed away peacefully at home, my son was just starting daycare. I went from caring for both my mom and son to being at home alone taking some time off of work to emotionally heal. Soon after returning from my leave, it became clear, the position I held was no longer suitable for my new life. I had to go back to the drawing board.



As luck would have it, a friend gave me the opportunity to peek into the real estate field and that's when I saw a possible path. A real estate career could give me an opportunity that was beneficial for me and provide the flexibility I needed for my son. I took a leap and started the journey to complete my real estate license. I'd spent years in sales and customer service and incorporating my existing skills with my new found skills toward my own business would be a great transition into my new life. One I created for myself the way I wanted.

As I started to grow in my new career I found that

through sharing my story and using my raw authentic emotion on my social media, it rekindled some wonderful old relationships and introduced new ones in the process. I was building a real network of people that related to me in some way. This is how I started getting clients. By being myself I was building a genuine human connection with my audience. I also realized the more I started talking about real estate, the more I loved real estate. Social media gave me a space to share my knowledge in a fun and effective way with my niche market. The beauty of social platforms is it lets me attract like minded individuals, and that is exactly the business I'm trying to build.

It was through this path of industry collaborations and social media networking that I stumbled upon Maria Saputo. Maria had just added me to Instagram so I introduced myself with a quick hello message. Funny enough, Maria had the same idea and was also reaching out to tell me about a women's group where she felt I'd be a great fit. We immediately set up a call and I was introduced to an idea that aligned perfectly with my path. After a great conversation with Maria, I already felt connected. I said yes without any hesitation.

Welcome to The Women's Collective.

*"The Women's Collective was created for women going through a divorce or separation that need support while on their road back to independence. We know first-hand how difficult this transition can be, which is why we created a network of professionals that are here to support you on this journey. Whether you are in need of legal, financial, physical, emotional or spiritual guidance, we got you!"*

*"We are more than just a network of professionals. Our goal is to create a community of women who are here for one another. A space to feel understood and supported. We will be hosting local events in the Greater Toronto Area for women who want to connect and be heard. Our events are designed to uplift, inspire, educate and empower you while you are on this journey. You do not have to go through this alone."*



### ***Our Professional Community***

*Financial Security Advisor | Mortgage Specialist | Real Estate Professional | Family Law Lawyer | Chartered Professional Accountant | Certified Nutrition + Life Coach | Advanced Certified Grief Recovery Specialist | Reiki Master/Meditation Coach & Huna Practitioner*

This is an important passion project for me, I value the new friendships I've made and I'm excited to help other women do the same. Never did I imagine I would be in this position with a new career, a new outlook and in the position to help other women like myself achieve their dreams. The response that we got through social media and word of mouth has been absolutely amazing. We didn't realize there was such a demand for this type of strong network in the GTA. We are hosting our first social night to meet our community of other strong dedicated women on June 23rd! To find more details about the event, contact me.

I want to dedicate this article to all the amazing mothers and women, killing it out there. Though I'm often hesitant in sharing something so personal, in sharing my story I hope that it gives other women the confidence and strength to know they can create the new life they desire. After years of following my own path, and trusting my gut, I finally found a career I truly love that allows me the life I never even imagined was possible with my amazing son.