BY ERIN LEGG

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DATING CONCEPT YET SO
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umans are meant to be coupled." These are the words of Lianne Tregobov, professional intuitive matchmaker and owner of Camelot Introductions, a traditional matchmaking service based in Saskatoon and Winnipeg that works to unite men and women with their life partners.

Many components of people's lives are outsourced to professionals with expertise. For example, when we want to purchase a new home, we hire a realtor. When we need to file our taxes, we call an accountant. Turning to a professional matchmaker is no different — it is a "cut-to-the-chase" approach that makes sense in today's fast-paced society. Lianne is a matchmaker who has a gift that has enabled her to happily match thousands of clients over the past 24 years. "This is finding people's soul mates," she says. "People's lives are so much more fulfilled when they're in the right relationship. There is no reason to be alone."

To participate in Camelot's matchmaking process, clients — men and women who range in age from late 20s up to their 90s — must be able to pass a criminal record check, be non-smokers, and be ready and willing to fall in love with an open heart. People who contemplate hiring a matchmaker are often faced with trepidation, skepticism, excitement and fear. Lianne has a telephone conversation with each client, and from this discussion she determines if she would like to invite that person for an interview. Clients are given homework where they write down some point form notes to prepare for an in-person interview. When Lianne meets her clients face-to-face, she creates a profile about them that she refers to — in combination with her intuition — during her matchmaking process.

Lianne relies on her keen intuition and her support staff, as opposed to a computer, to determine compatibility. Lianne's assistant contacts each client and reads to them the handpicked profile of a possible match, all while maintaining confidentiality





which she provides one-on-one coaching and engages a formal recruiting process. This membership is \$10,000, with up to half of that invested in creative marketing to find potential partners who are not necessarily within the existing Camelot client pool. "My clients have chosen to invest in the process," says Lianne. "They know they're worth it."

Because of her selective pre-screening and innate ability to recognize potential suitors, Lianne's services are much more effective than the tired "blind date set-ups" or Internet dating. "People have a tendency to pick the same type of wrong person over and over again," Lianne explains. "A good matchmaker will break this pattern. All you have to do is be patient and trust the process."

Online dating has attempted to infiltrate the natural dating process. "Old fashioned matchmaking is a tried and true method," she says. Comparing her matchmaking services to online dating, the differences are compelling. Camelot Introductions has established a strict code of conduct that Lianne not only expects from each client, but ensures is adhered to. Online dating doesn't provide that safety: you never know who you are interacting with, you don't know their true intentions, you don't even know if they are who they say they are. Lianne refers to the "kid in a candy store" phenomena with online dating: "Online dating appears to be about 'how many people' someone can 'get', as opposed to with Camelot where clients are just looking for The One," she points out.

After years of matchmaking, Lianne knows one thing for certain. "Love never goes out of style," she smiles. "It warms my heart when I talk to a giddy client who is simply over the moon because they've found the right partner." Lianne suggests those who are seeking a romantic partnership to give her a call. "I know there are great men and women right here in Saskatoon. With all the incredible people out there, there's no reason why anyone should be single if they want a relationship." \blacksquare



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what our clients are saying

"When Nick and I first started talking after being matched by Lianne, we knew right away that this was it. If you are serious about finding love, what do you have to lose? My experience with Camelot was great — I am so glad I did it. Lianne knows what she's doing."

—Dr. Cherise Spies, DDS. Cherise had grown wary of the online dating scene. Being busy at work meant meeting people was tough, and she certainly wasn't interested in the bar scene. Not wanting to give up on love and what she ultimately wanted in life, Cherise turned to Camelot Introductions. Today, she and her husband Nick Brandt are happily living the family life they've always wanted.



Lianne Tregobov, professional intuitive matchmaker and owner of Camelot Introductions