

# THE PROOF IS IN THE DATA

How a private investigator went from rising through the ranks at MUFON to running his own Experiencer Support Organization.

“**was in a very dark place...**” Ryan Stacey explains in regards to his acrimonious exit from the Mutual UFO Network (MUFON). He'd seen the signs, heard the testimonies from colleagues, tried to take it up with the higher ups but was told to keep quiet. A few months later, former disgraced director Jan Harzan was arrested. It was at this point that The Experiencer Support Association was born.

Canadian Ryan Stacey is a career private investigator who, despite being interested in the paranormal, had never found himself paying too much attention to the subject of UFOs. That was until he was asked by a family to investigate the disappearance of their son who they were convinced had been the victim of an abduction extraterrestrial in nature.

“In order to locate this person, I had to join these social groups and follow certain hashtags and things like that in order to wait for this person, or someone that they're associated with, to surface and then trace those leads.” Ryan tells us from his office. “Eventually it turned out this individual joined Scientology - kind of in the same realm - but it wasn't quite alien abduction! Through that investigation I learned that there was a Canadian division of MUFON.”

Upon speaking with the local representative, Ryan was given a copy of the expansive

MUFON manual for a read through and to give his opinion before he was given his first case to investigate for the world's largest UFO organization.

“MUFON considered it a cold case because there wasn't any information that they knew of to break that case. It turned out to be what I call today, the paranormal hat-trick: ghosts, UFOs and consciousness - or psychic abilities - all in one location. That was the start of my career with MUFON Canada, as provincial director.” Ryan adds.

In short time Ryan became Chief Investigator for Ontario and then the Assistant Chief Investigator for MUFON Canada, and subsequently National Chief Investigator for Canada, responsible for overseeing all investigations for the organization in that division. Soon after he was given the opportunity to apply for International Field Investigator Trainer, a position which meant he was responsible for the teaching of everyone in the entire organization how to investigate UFOs. It was while he was in that position that he began proposing changes in investigation and data collection methods to the decision makers, at the behest of other experienced members within the organization, but ultimately all he got as a response was there wasn't the funding of the time to implements any changes. Frustratingly, he was continually stonewalled.

“Sometimes these experiences happen in their mind, well how do you prove that?”





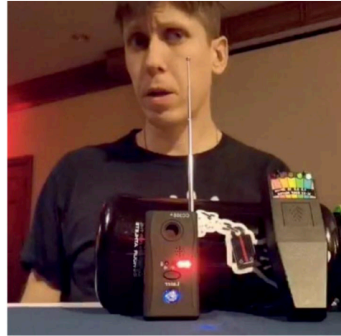
**Above left: Ryan met with the Military Police while investigating a UFO sighting at Canadian Forces Base North Bay for forthcoming a video production.**

This lack of interest led to Ryan creating his own data collection platform. "I wanted to solve problems, for example: What do we do with paranormal cases? What do we do with Bigfoot? What do we do with abduction cases? MUFON only really knows how to investigate UFOs, so I created a different protocol for people who had reported things to MUFON but were still waiting for a response but never getting it. No wonder people were getting angry, it's counterproductive to any organization. That was when I started getting treated a little bit differently on the inside."

And then Ryan came an epiphany of sorts which set him on the path he finds himself today with The Experienter Support Association, or TESA for short.

"I had what's called a 'psychogenic' or 'psychic' experience, where I received a vision of an intricate geometric shape that had the letters TESA on it, amongst a bunch of other symbols. From reflecting on that came The Experienter Support Association, which was this whole idea of putting the experiencers first and acknowledging that these people are the reason that I'm here today, they're the reason anyone is here today and we need to give more back to them. We can assist by referring them to people that we know who can assist with symptoms of anxiety or PTSD, any of the stresses that are exhibited with having an experience and not having the answers or not getting validation from our governments.

"Not only do we help experiencers in investigations, but we help others who like myself may have had potential and all of a sudden got ghosted or didn't get the opportunity to rise because you were doing something off the beaten path." Ryan adds. "We're looking to encourage people



**Above right: Ready to test some equipment at an alleged haunted hotel, it's not just UFOs Ryan investigates.**

to create content, either through video or blogging towards the goals that we have - to provide educational content on all these different things and tie it in together. It's basically a way for everyone to express themselves with the goal of being positive while trying to get the answers for ourselves and walking that middle ground."

From our, ahem... experience with the UFO field the biggest problem when it comes to reporting a sighting or whatever comes down to just two things: belief and evidence. Firstly, someone sees something they can't explain. It may be outside of their wheel house of current knowledge, an unfamiliar occurrence or simply just a misidentification. This is where evidence plays a vital part - an experience is had whereby a sighting occurs and it can go down separate paths, like a flow diagram, leading to an ultimate conclusion. Sometimes this conclusion is rejected by the experienter for whatever reason: the need for continued attention, embarrassment at being wrong, stubbornness or "I just know it was a UFO!" attitude despite all contrary evidence pointing otherwise. Oftentimes though people are just grateful for closure and a more prosaic explanation so they can go on their merry way. But hard evidence in any case is generally difficult to come by as Ryan explains.

"My expertise is handling evidence, collecting evidence and retrieving and recreating events, that's my forte. There is a degree of patience that isn't present with a lot of these ad hoc investigators or researchers that we have today. They're looking for a well-orchestrated finished package right off the bat so they can get their article written.

"Now, if the experienter reports to us, I work with the experienter to assist them in

doing the work themselves, I don't need to go to the physical location. If you were to make a report from the UK, there's no sense in me hopping on a plane to go there and collect the evidence and do all that other stuff. But I can communicate exactly what evidence I need from you and instruct you how to collect it, so I can see it and do my work from here. By coaching the experienter and walking them through that process, if we end up coming to a conclusion where it's something that can be identified or it's accepted a little bit more, you start to understand the process."

The problem when it comes to evidence in our opinion is that most people think they need, a crystal clear image or video - both of which will inevitably be torn apart when it's shared online. But, and Ryan agrees, that experiencers rarely have time to take a photo, even with cameras as accessible as they are today. If you see something in the sky, you're going to watch it, see if you can work out what it is and only then will you possibly remember to take a photo of a video, which will be blurry or inconclusive. The other problem Ryan has encountered is that not every experience can be considered as 'visual'.

"Sometimes these experiences happen in their mind, well how do you prove that? What we do is we work with the experienter, we get them to recreate the event or draw what they saw and what they imagined. The problem is no one is doing compare and contrast or association of facts with all this

evidence available. Our research focuses on the experienter element because I would like to know why these experiencers are experiencing these phenomenon and others are not. So there's a lot of information about their blood type, their eye colour, their sex, a lot of constants that won't change between race and ethnicity and location. We just dial it down to those human elements." One further problem is the credibility of the witness, as we've already seen this as a major issue with the so-called 'Pentyrch Incident', so how does Ryan and his TESA team tackle this problem, after all, he does have a background in private investigation.

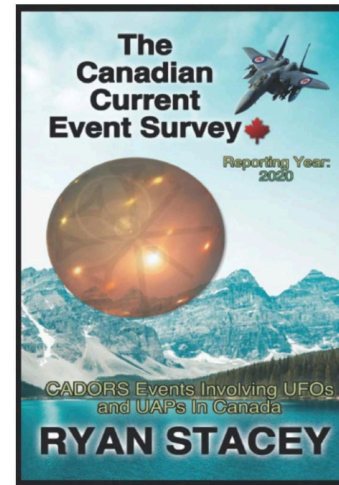
**“We believe that something has happened but we may not agree with the way it happened or what they saw is what happened.”**

"First and foremost we believe the experienter. We believe that something has happened but we may not agree with the way it happened or what they saw is what happened, but I'm going to look into it so we can figure it out and come to a conclusion. If we do end up with something where it can't be explained, then I'm able to show that.

"When I have an experienter report, I start with the reason they made a report in the first place. Then I ask whether they've had more experiences than this? If the answer is yes, then we work with the experienter to get everything that they've ever experienced under the spectrum and we whittle away on all those cases individually. Once those cases are done, some are inconclusive, but we may have a batch that are unknown.

"The experienter won't know the outcome until they read our report but they *will* be able to see how it compares to other reports and they'll be able to process and understand how other cases help me close their cases. They always have the option to come back if new information has come forward, and then these dispositions could change. The only way to balance the data is to quantify it, compare and contrast and see what's missing."

One of the other passion projects that Ryan is undertaking alongside TESA is digging in to the Canadian government's UFO files and comparing them, where possible, with the contemporary versions from the United States, the United Kingdom and other nations which have collated reports.



**Below: Click on the image for more information on Ryan's 2020 report on the current UFO events in Canada. He's also working on a version for 2021.**

"A lot of people are focusing on getting a single document and complain about it being redacted. Well, they don't redact the same things for the same reasons. Every time you get a document, look at the document itself and the information that's being released and compare that to the moment. This also applies to the American government and the United Kingdom." "If we were to compare and contrast dates and times and events from different perspectives, we'll have more data that way as well.

"I will also look at other reports from the Canadian Current Events Survey, where I'm focusing specifically on air traffic reports in Canada that have anonymous descriptions, including the word UFO, and comparing them with the declassified documents that I'm able to retrieve from the government. For example I'm starting to show that the government might not have redacted a certain name on one document because it didn't matter in the context of that document. However I am able to show that it was redacted in another document which therefore makes that name a person of interest and then you can look into it.

"We have people finding the documents that they want, cherry picking writing and selling books not including the documents in the books. We have journalists writing about these documents but everyone's talked about the same thing over and over and over again. Everyone puts a different spin on it and you get these anonymous witnesses chiming in, but the facts haven't changed.

As an investigator, even if I'm just skimming through, I get all the information I need from that document.

"If you look at any of the journalists that are involved in the UFO disclosure movement, if you will - and I have done this before privately - and 90 percent of what they write is opinion, leaving only ten percent of facts. "But it's clickbait and everyone's eating it and everyone's talking about it, and that's why the government can only be the true source of information, and the challenge with that is the government can lie, has lied and has admitted it's lied.

"The government's position in this may be they're responsible for it and they don't want that to come out or it's coming and they want to maintain control, or a combination of both and they're in on it. The US government is doing whatever they can right now to prevent the leaking of information at all because it forced the Pentagon and everyone to weigh in on it. They don't have the answers, so they have to do something to show that they're looking into it. The real telltale sign would be after they've done their due diligence, to see if they're going to say, Yep, we found something. Here's our confession. Or no let's go back to normal. Then the question will be, do we trust that? And how much of that can we trust?"

We agree, and what's worse in a way is not saying anything at all, as is the case with the current position in the United Kingdom. For that, we put the blame squarely on one person, someone who caused such a

media furore back in the mid 1990s with what he claimed he knew, earned himself the nickname of the "UK's Fox Mulder" and generally caused such a headache for the UK Ministry of Defence with the influx of public enquiries that they basically shut up shop. While this former civil servant has dined out for the best part of three decades from working part-time hours on the 'UFO desk', he has essentially created a wall of silence when it comes to actual researchers investigating the UAP topic in the UK. Has Ryan had the same experiences in Canada though? We asked him whether he'd had any conversations with government officials in Ottawa?

"There are some people I do trust to be able to have an off-the-cuff conversation about the idea but the way that people are fighting for answers creates challenges. That is not a way to get information. With regards officials, they need something more prepared and more functional so they can act on it. With that in mind, I am building towards that direction because I know exactly what they need. There's a younger generation that's in politics right now, that want to have this Cold War thing end and start moving forward. I'm having off the record conversations yet these people I'm talking to don't have the answers either, because it's all kept by the old generation.

"It's a similar scenario with ufology, with a lot of the old generation are passing away. I'm trying to keep ufology and paranormal studies alive on the investigative front because I envision that eventually everyone's

going to stop and there are no up and coming investigators. That's part of the training element where I want to teach people how to do what I do in this way.

"From my experience, I'm not seeing an extraterrestrial influence, however, there are experiencers, that see that and they may be inter-dimensional, that's why I'm looking into consciousness, this 'ultra spectrum', this place where people go when in different states of meditation or viewing. There's definitely an existence of something on another plane, somewhere else in space and time and that could be where all this stuff is, that could be the answer."

Ryan leaves us with something he said to figuratively meditate on. For a private investigator who quickly rose to a position of prominence in the world's largest UFO investigative body, to say he sees no evidence of influence of the extraterrestrial kind, we have to agree. Our belief in an extraterrestrial presence is based on assumptions. We assume some UFOs/UAP are from another planet because we don't have the technological capacity on Earth to produce vehicles that display the 'Five Observables' as Luis Elizondo would say. We also assume that if these 'visitors' are extraterrestrial then they must be vastly superior in intellect, spirituality, morality, ethics and technology, however again, we have no hard proof. It's easy to come to hypothetical conclusions based on limited data but to really have a definitive answer, we need to work together, until then the puzzle will *always* remain incomplete. ■

## WHISTLE-STOP TOUR OF THE NEW EXPERIENCER SUPPORT ASSOCIATION WEBSITE



**1 VISUAL EVIDENCE DATABASE**  
This feature will show all declassified document locations, as well as civilian cases I have investigated. You can toggle to see all of the categories, or just whatever you wish to see.

Visit [www.experiencersupport.org](http://www.experiencersupport.org) and take a look!



**2 DOCUMENTED EVENT TIMELINE**  
This feature shows the same as the visual evidence but in a chronological order of when the events occur. Having declassified documents combined with civilian cases I have investigated, will help layer the evidence to prove many of these events are connected.



**3 ULTRA-SPECTRUM CLASSIFICATION**  
This feature explains the system I am using to re-classify the phenomena in attempt to reprogram the way people view them and remove the archetypes, again to assist in helping people understand that it is all connected.



**4 POINTS OF INTEREST**  
This particular feature I am most proud of as it pertains only to declassified government documents in Canada. I have made an algorithm that automatically lists the persons, places, organizations and other objects that are associated with these documents in an attempt to establish a pattern.