

**TED<sup>x</sup>** Surrey  
x = independently organized TED event

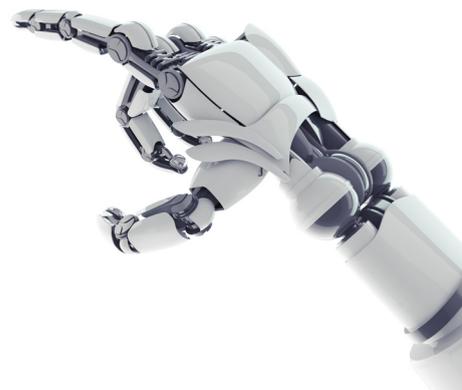
**A SHIFT  
IN  
THINKING**

JANUARY 21, 2023



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## Welcome to TEDxSurrey 2023

On behalf of the TEDxSurrey Volunteer Team, welcome to our fifth annual TEDxSurrey event! It is such a thrill to be back in the beautiful Bell Performing Arts Centre, with a large audience to support our speakers. Being at the Bell allows us to enjoy the energy and excitement of being together in person.

Our twelve speakers went through a rigorous process before they were selected for today's event. For the past three months, they have been involved in an intensive coaching program under the expert guidance of our seven-person Coaching Team. Each speaker has been challenged to hone and sharpen their talks so that they can offer their idea as a true gift to you...our audience members today.

In our event this year, we are emphasizing the "E" in TED (Entertainment) and will be providing a number of different musical and dance performances. This will keep the energy high and provide a nice balance with the important ideas you will be hearing from our speakers.

We have received outstanding financial and in-kind support from many local businesses which has allowed us the freedom to provide a high-quality event at a reasonable cost to attendees. These businesses have been recognized in our program (please check them out) and we extend our sincere appreciation to all of them.

TEDxSurrey is run by a team of 20 dedicated volunteers who pour their hearts and souls into ensuring that all elements of our event are ready to go on time. I would like to commend all of them for their high standards and tireless efforts.

Finally, let me thank all of you, our audience members, who are attending today. Thank you for believing in us and being part of what we anticipate will be a magical TEDx day!

### ALAN WARBURTON

Licensee / Curator

### IDEAS WORTH SPREADING

Share your TEDx Experience: [TEDxSurrey.ca](http://TEDxSurrey.ca) / [@surreyBCTEDx](https://twitter.com/surreyBCTEDx) / [#TEDxSurrey](https://www.youtube.com/TEDxSurrey)



## THE TED MISSION: SPREAD IDEAS

TED is a global community, welcoming people from every discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world. We believe passionately in the power of ideas to change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world. On [ted.com](https://ted.com) we're building a clearinghouse of free knowledge from the world's most inspired thinkers—and a community of curious souls to engage with ideas and each other, both online and at TED and TEDx events around the world, all year long.

In fact, everything we do is driven by this goal:

### HOW CAN WE BEST SPREAD GREAT IDEAS?

## OUR TEDx LEADERSHIP TEAM

The overall goal of our Leadership Team is that everyone in attendance at TEDxSurrey will feel enriched and invigorated so they can leave our event with a clear hope for a better tomorrow.



**ALAN WARBURTON** / Licensee & Curator

Alan is a retired school principal. He has been an active Toastmaster for the past two decades where he has held senior leadership positions, as well as becoming an award-winning speaker. Alan has been deeply involved with TEDx for the past six years. He was the Curator for TEDxWhiteRock in 2017-18, and then founded TEDxSurrey (formerly TEDxBearCreekPark) in 2018 and has been the Licensee/Curator for the past five years. Alan feels privileged to work with our outstanding teams of dedicated volunteers who freely give their time to produce high-quality TEDxSurrey events year after year.

[alan@tedxsurrey.ca](mailto:alan@tedxsurrey.ca)



**RON NEWELL** / Partnership Lead

Ron's career in sales and business development aligns perfectly to his role representing TEDxSurrey, to build and engage our community-minded partners. He is proud that all our valuable partners have been with us for 5 years and actively promote, support and attend the event each year. They are the change-makers!

Ron is a Distinguished Toastmaster and always interested in new ideas and perspectives, making TEDxSurrey the highlight of the year. He is dedicated to his family and passionate about giving back to community.

[ron@tedxsurrey.ca](mailto:ron@tedxsurrey.ca)

**TANIA EHMAN** / Lead Coach

Tania believes that every speaker needs to find that one Clear, Original, Relatable, Engaging message within them that can change everything - their CORE message. An International award-winning speaker and Personal Brand and Speakers Coach, Tania works with entrepreneurs and speakers across Canada and the U.S. helping them find their message and create their brand. Tania has been involved in coaching TEDx speakers since 2017 and is the Lead Coach for multiple TEDx events.

[taniaehman.com](https://taniaehman.com) / [letstalk@taniaehman.com](mailto:letstalk@taniaehman.com)



**TREVOR MARPLES** / Technical Director

Trevor is the founder of Leaders Media Ltd. (aka "We Film Events"), a Surrey based video production company that specializes in filming conferences, seminars, and educational workshops. Trevor and his team combine their 10 years of video production and live event experience, to assist leaders, experts, and educators across BC, to capture their ideas and bring them to the world. Aside from being one of our valued partners and producing the video coverage and live streaming of today's event, Trevor has also been involved with organizing TEDx events since 2017, as the Communications Director for TEDxWhiteRock, and as the Technical Director for TEDxSurrey (formerly TEDxBearCreekPark) since 2018.

[trevor@wefilmevents.ca](mailto:trevor@wefilmevents.ca) / [wefilmevents.ca](https://wefilmevents.ca)



**NOEL BENTLEY** / Host & Program Lead

Noel is an accomplished speaker, emcee, humourist and storytelling coach. His natural habitat is the stages and coffee shops of B.C.'s lower mainland. Whether it's coaching storytellers and speakers or leading photographic workshops, Noel realizes that everyone has stories they need to tell. Presently he is curating and helping to edit and publish an anthology of stories for a multi-year storytelling project, Surrey SHARES. Noel is aiming to change public speaking and keynote presentations with Power of 3 Speaking, a project that brings audiences a richer, more challenging and broader perspective on important topics.

[noel@noelbentley.ca](mailto:noel@noelbentley.ca) / [noelbentley.ca](https://noelbentley.ca) / [linkedin.com/in/noelbentley](https://linkedin.com/in/noelbentley)





**MONICA NEVILLE** / Finance Manager

Monica is a CPA working in public practice with her daughters at L. Neville & Company. She is inspired by the ability of TED to facilitate the sharing of ideas on a global scale. Monica sees TEDxSurrey as an opportunity for anyone with an idea, that could make a difference in our world and shift how others think, to share their idea on our TEDxSurrey stage.

monica@tedxsurrey.ca



**ELLIE NEWELL** / Event Manager

Ellie is a certified coach and facilitator who experienced a rewarding career in leadership development and executive coaching. She enjoys family, personal growth, making a difference in the community and the organizational challenge of event planning—so being involved with TEDxSurrey is a natural fit! Ellie is thrilled to collaborate with the talented volunteer teams, generous partners, and inspiring speakers on the exciting journey to the red carpet.

ellie@tedxsurrey.ca



**GARY DROUILLARD** / Writer & Content Guideline Lead

Gary's involvement in TEDxSurrey stems from his commitment to bring out the best in people. There is no greater thrill for him than to help someone get unstuck and start running again. His background in communications and marketing is being used to convey our message that sometimes a mere shift in thinking can reveal novel solutions, ignite hope, and hasten meaningful changes.

gary.drouillard@gmail.com / garydrouillard.substack.com



**QUINTIN EHMAN** / Marketing Manager

Quintin joined the Leadership Team in 2021 as our Marketing Manager, drawing on his varied experience ranging from dental technology to commercial transport, start-ups, web design, digital marketing and event promotion. Quintin really enjoys his West Coast Sailing Charters and his African Safari companies. He believes in the power of the ideas presented through TEDxSurrey and is excited to be on the Leadership Team.

quintin@tedxsurrey.ca

**OUR CURATION TEAM**

The Curation Team is made up of 6 people whose responsibility is to seek out and select the 12 speakers for our event. It is a detailed process that takes more than 5 months and includes many connections through phone, email and text; information meetings; application forms; a shortlist of speakers for audition; and then the selection of the final 12 speakers. This challenging process certainly tested the commitment of the speakers!

The Curation Team feels extremely positive about our work for TEDxSurrey 2023. We feel fortunate to have found an incredibly qualified, dedicated and delightful team of speakers who truly understand the core values behind the TED name. We feel sure that our audience will learn a tremendous amount from these outstanding individuals and their ideas.



**ALAN WARBURTON** / Curator



**ISABELLE MERCIER** / Team Member



**JANET LAW** / Team Member



**ROB MCDERMID** / Team Member



**VIVIEN IP** / Curation Team Coordinator



**TANIA EHMAN** / Advisor



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**Annual Report**



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📱 @uniti4all



## A SHIFT IN THINKING / OUR SPEAKERS

Sometimes it starts as a quiet rumble. Sometimes, it's as powerful as a lightning strike. Other times, it's the voice of someone telling you their story, inspiring you with their words to discover, change, and grow. At TEDxSurrey, twelve different voices are coming together, unified by the power of a Shift in Thinking, to inspire and support the growth of ideas in our community.



### DR. KAI CHAN / You're a Special Agent in a Planetary Crisis, and We've Got Missions For You

Dr. Kai Chan is a professor and Canada Research Chair at the University of British Columbia. He strives to understand how to make our planet both better and wilder. Kai leads CHANS lab, where inspiring students study Connected Human-and-Natural Systems. He is co-founder of CoSphere, a Community of Small-Planet Heroes, which is finding a place for everyone in combating the crisis of climate, ecology, and equity.

kai.chan@ubc.ca / cosphere.net / @cosphereproject / chanslab.ires.ubc.ca



### FINN LIU / Trans, Asian, Human: to Kua Past the Divide

Finn is an openly transgender Chinese high school student who seeks to spread awareness for trans-identifying individuals within the Asian community. Experiencing fear and helplessness surrounding his gender identity growing up, he recognized the lack of resources and stories shared by queer individuals of Asian descent. By recognizing the existence and prominence of trans people in Asian culture, Finn strives to highlight how people like him are unquestionably valid in society; we are human, we are here, and we deserve dignity regardless of cultural obstacles.

fuliyaliu@gmail.com / @f...liu

### KELSEY CARIGNAN / The Powerful Significance of Hair in a Cancer Diagnosis

Kelsey is a mindfulness practitioner, yoga instructor, and speaker. With a background in Psychology, she worked as a Mental Health Counsellor before completing her Yoga Certification. In 2018, her life took a major shift when she was diagnosed with Stage III Breast Cancer. It was during this time that she discovered just how powerful her yoga practice was on the path to healing. Inspired to share her knowledge with others, Kelsey founded the Vibrant Yogi community and co-created the innovative Yoga for Hockey Mat and training App. Through her teaching and speaking engagements, Kelsey is on a mission to promote movement and mindfulness, inspiring others to feel the transformative benefits for themselves.

kelseycarignan.com / hello@vibrantyogi.ca / @vibrant.yogi / @yoga.for.hockey

### CARLA GUERRERA / Housing for Everyone Creates Healthy Thriving Communities for Us All

As a globally recognized real estate developer and CEO of Purpose Driven Development, Carla believes that real estate development, when done well, is one of the most powerful tools to transform the way we live, work and thrive in our communities. Her portfolio includes leading many award-winning complex, mixed-use, master plan and waterfront revitalization projects. In 2022, she was recognized as one of Business in Vancouver's Most Influential Business Leaders in the province. As an active Board member, she currently serves on the British Columbia Pavilion Corporation Board and has been appointed to the Thames Estuary Growth Board. Carla is an international speaker and thought leader on innovative approaches to development and city building.

purposedrivenroi.com / carla@purposedrivenroi.com

### MUHADDISA SARWARI / What It Takes To Be a Refugee: Fighting the Battle Against Prejudice

Muhaddisa is a 17-year-old student who arrived in Canada as a Hazara refugee from Afghanistan less than three years ago. Before that, Muhaddisa and her family lived as stateless refugees in Indonesia, where they spent five years in limbo. At ten years old, Muhaddisa discovered that she had no legal rights to obtain education as a refugee in Indonesia. Having to overcome the obstacles stacked against her education and the harsh living situation for refugees in Indonesia, Muhaddisa utilized her ongoing struggles as a fuel for growth. She is passionate about advocating for the rights of refugees and shedding light on the struggles of finding a place to call home.

muhaddisasr@gmail.com





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**DR. STEFANIE GREEN** / This is Assisted Dying

Trained as a family physician, Dr. Stefanie Green spent over 20 years as a leader in maternity and newborn care before changing her focus to become one of Canada’s first practitioners of medical assistance in dying (MAiD). Her pioneering work led her to co-found the Canadian Association of MAiD Assessors and Providers (CAMAP). She is co-lead of the Canadian MAiD Curriculum Project, a multiyear, federally- funded project to develop and help standardize the clinical approach to this care, to educate and train clinicians new to the field, and to enhance the skills of those already involved. Beyond her clinical practice, Dr. Green frequently speaks about assisted dying to a wide range of audiences locally, nationally and internationally, and she has provided expert testimony to subcommittees of both the Canadian House of Commons and the Senate. More recently, Dr. Green is the author of the powerful, internationally- bestselling book, “This is Assisted Dying: A Doctor’s Story of Empowering Patients at the End of Life,” a memoir about her first year providing assisted dying in Canada.

StefanieGreen.com / info@stefaniegreen.com / @DocSGreen

**KAL DOSANJH** / It Takes a Village to Raise a Child

Kal Dosanjh is a veteran police officer, who served in one of the most challenging and violent environments in the Vancouver Downtown Eastside as part of the Beat Enforcement Team and who later was featured on the hit reality series, the BEAT. Kal is founder and CEO of a registered charity, KidsPlay Foundation, which provides youth with free high quality educational initiatives, sports programming, and after school mentorship programs. The organization now boasts over 500 volunteers, and approximately 100,000 youth have participated in KidsPlay programs since its inception in 2015. The organization has grown to include chapters located in major cities across Canada, and internationally in Colombia and India.

@Kal\_dosanjh / kaldosanjh@hotmail.ca



**LINDA FAWCUS** / The Surprising Ways Technology is Transforming How We Age

Linda Fawcus is a software development veteran, a podcast host, writer, and founder of Gluu Society—a Canadian non-profit that helps older adults use technology to stay happy, healthy, and connected. Linda is working to ensure that older adults are not left behind with the rapid pace of technological development. Since 2015, Gluu has helped thousands of older adults gain the confidence and digital skills needed to participate in the modern world. She wrote the 'Gluu Guide to Digital Security' which helps older adults learn how to secure their devices, online accounts, and digital lives. Linda is also the creator and host of a TV show, 'How to Be Unscamable.'

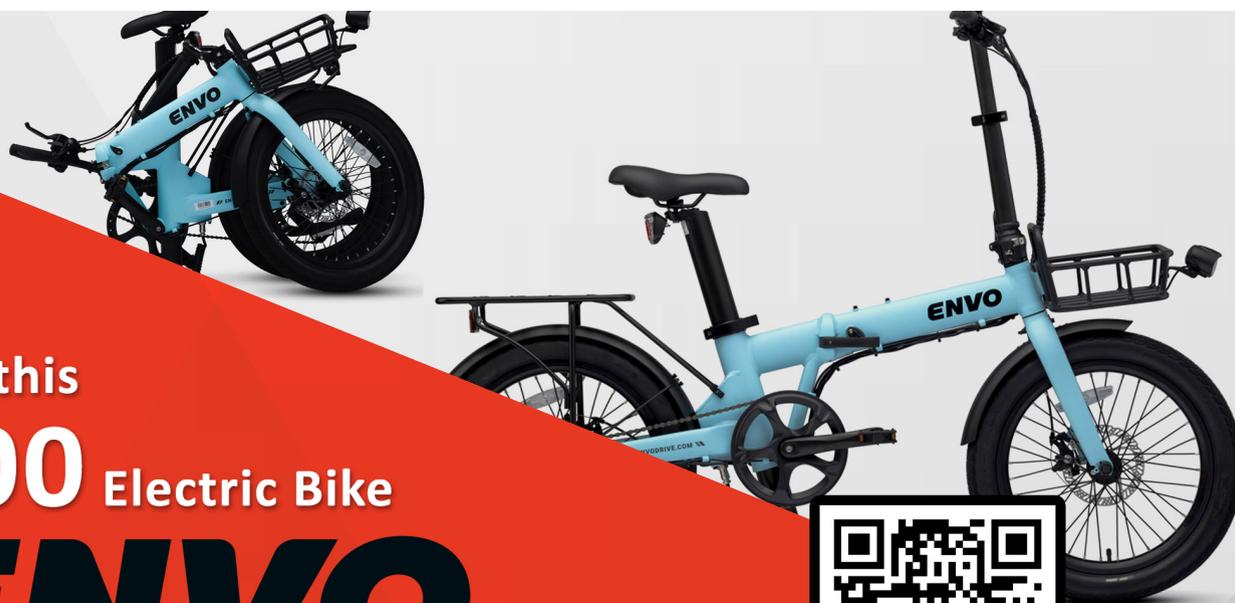
gluusociety.org



**DEREK STROKON** / Escaping Hero Culture: What My 2-Year-Old Taught Me About Being Human

Derek is the #1 International Best-Selling Author of “Stop Stalling Start Selling,” and is in the process of completing his second book, “Human being Human” (May 2023). He is a leader and business consultant whose practice focuses on resilience development and process implementation. His award-winning approach to sales excellence is driven by a team-centered approach of ‘Strength Through Vulnerability’. His relentless passion for evangelizing the ‘Human Journey’, is both inspiring and contagious.

sacredline.ca / derekstrokon@sacredline.ca



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**KAI SCOTT** / How to Navigate Disagreements About Gender with One Simple Concept

Kai is president of TransFocus Consulting, a firm that supports organizations across North America with greater inclusion of gender diversity. He is a social scientist who has dedicated his 15-year career to addressing complex social issues, especially related to vulnerable yet resilient populations. His insights on gender diversity are sought at conferences and symposia for professional associations, boards of trade, academia, and government and legal sectors. His style is engaging, reassuring, and balanced.

[TransFocus.ca](http://TransFocus.ca) / [linkedin.com/company/transfocus-consulting/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/transfocus-consulting/)



**DR. TANYA GEE** / The Ancient Cultural Tradition of Togetherness

Dr. Tanya Gee is an award-winning Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Best described as a storytelling, intuitive doctor of TCM who is known to belly laugh out loud and inspire everyone to be the most optimal version of themselves. She is a global wellness educator and a board member of the Pneuma Institute Foundation, a Canadian non-profit society dedicated to transpersonal psychology, philanthropy and the preservation of ancient wisdom of the Q'ero Holy people of Peru and the Tibetan Buddhists residing in India. Dr. Tanya has traveled great distances seeking truth and teachings.

[drtanyagee.com](http://drtanyagee.com)



**MARILYN NORRY** / The Extraordinary Lives of Ordinary Women

Award winning Canadian actor Marilyn Norry has been seen on stages across Canada, and in over 100 film and TV projects around the world. She is also a director, writer, teacher, and dramaturg/story editor of plays and screenplays. Marilyn is the creator of My Mother's Story and founder of the non-profit Mothership Stories Society. She has created an online Archive for mother story submissions, co-edited and published three written My Mother's Story anthologies, written the workbook Writing Women's History Starting with Your Mother, and has co-created ten My Mother's Story theatrical presentations including upcoming production Heirlooms and Baggage: My Mother's Story with Delta Stageworks.

[mymothersstory.org](http://mymothersstory.org) / [marilyn@mymothersstory.org](mailto:marilyn@mymothersstory.org)

**OUR AGENDA**

- 9:00 AM** Doors Open
- 9:25 AM** MEI Screaming Eagles Marching Band / Energizer
- 10:00 AM** Introduction of Host Noel Bentley
- 10:05 AM** Opening Ceremonies

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- SESSION #1**
- 10:15 AM** Dr. Kai Chan / Speaker
- 10:30 AM** Jacques Lalonde / Energizer
- 10:45 AM** Finn Liu / Speaker
- 11:00 AM** Kelsey Carignan / Speaker
- 11:15 AM** Mid-Morning Conversation Break

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- SESSION #2**
- 11:40 AM** Carla Guerrero / Speaker
- 11:55 AM** Brodie Marples / Energizer
- 12:05 PM** Muhaddisa Sarwari / Speaker
- 12:20 PM** Dr. Stefanie Green / Speaker
- 12:35 PM** Lunch Break
- 1:00 PM** Shale / Energizer

**SESSION #3**

- 1:30 PM** Kal Dosanjh / Speaker
- 1:45 PM** Linda Fawcus / Speaker
- 2:00 PM** Richard Tichelman / Energizer
- 2:15 PM** Derek Strokon / Speaker
- 2:30 PM** Mid-Afternoon Conversation Break

**SESSION #4**

- 2:55 PM** Kai Scott / Speaker
- 3:10 PM** Mandeep Sarkaria / Energizer
- 3:20 PM** Dr. Tanya Gee / Speaker
- 3:35 PM** Marilyn Norry / Speaker
- 3:50 PM** Closing Ceremonies
- 4:00 PM** Program End

## OUR MARKETING TEAM

Under the experienced leadership of our Marketing Manager, Quintin Ehman, the Marketing Team has made the TEDxSurrey name known far and wide. Leveraging the success of our 2022 event and following Quintin's design for the 2023 campaign, our knowledgeable team reached many thousands across BC through captivating posts, dynamic videos, compelling copy and dazzling print. With a bright future ahead, TEDxSurrey is on track to become Canada's premier TEDx event.



**QUINTIN EHMAN**  
/ Marketing Manager



**RON NEWELL**  
/ Team Member – Partnership Lead



**GARY DROUILLARD**  
/ Team Member – Writer



**TREVOR MARPLES**  
/ Team Member – Technical Advisor



**ALYSSA MILLAR**  
/ Social Media Manager



**ELIZABETH TICHELMAN**  
/ Social Media Manager



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## OUR COACHING TEAM

Under the expert guidance of our Lead Coach, Tania Ehman, and her "Collective Coaching Approach Program," which is unique to TEDxSurrey, our Coaching Team provided a rigorous 3-month coaching experience for our speakers. Our Coaching Team is made up of a talented group ranging from an executive coach and trainer, Distinguished Toastmasters, professional speakers' coach, two past TEDx speakers, and a community-engaged artist, poet and arts director.

The Coaching Team worked collectively throughout as they supported each speaker in scripting and delivery skills. Speakers and coaches attended nine sessions as a whole team and many more one-on-one coaching sessions in preparation for our event day. An indication of the quality of the Coaching Team is seen by the fact that 5 of our 12 speakers from TEDxSurrey 2022 were recognized by TED for the outstanding quality of their talks. Each of their videos was highlighted on the TEDxYouTube channel and distributed to its 34 million subscribers.



**ELLIE NEWELL** / Coach



**JOHNNY TRINH** / Coach



**STEFANO COSSALTER** / Coach



**TANIA EHMAN** / Lead Coach



**DARLENE ILLI** / Coach



**DEBORAH RICHARDS** / Coach



**WENDY LEROUX** / Coach



**VIVIEN IP** / Coaching Team Coordinator



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## OUR EMCEE & ENERGIZERS



### NOEL BENTLEY / Emcee

Noel is an accomplished speaker, emcee, humourist and storytelling coach. His natural habitat is the stages and coffee shops of B.C.'s lower mainland. Whether it's coaching storytellers and speakers or leading photographic workshops, Noel realized that everyone has stories they need to tell. He's curating and helping to edit and publish an anthology of stories for a multi-year storytelling project, Surrey SHARES. Noel's aiming to change public speaking and keynote presentations with Power of 3 Speaking, a project that brings audiences a richer, more challenging and broader perspective on important topics.

noel@noelbentley.ca / noelbentley.ca / linkedin.com/in/noelbentley



### MEI SCREAMING EAGLES MARCHING BAND / Energizer

The hardest working high school band in show business, the MEI Screaming Eagles Marching Band, under the direction of Chad Joiner, specializes in high energy music for all types of venues and audiences. They are sure to get your party rocking with chart topping hits from a variety of decades. You can find the sounds of the MEI Screaming Eagles on the big screen, Netflix, EA Sports video games, and in many local parades and sporting events throughout the lower mainland.



### JACQUES LALONDE / Energizer

Jacques Lalonde is an award-winning playwright, poet and public speaker. He gave his talk "The Healing Power of Creativity" at TEDx Surrey in 2020 and has performed for over 1.5 million people in his 30+ years as an Actor and Performer. Highlights include hosting at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games, appearing on Sesame Street, 21 Jump Street, hosting two live television shows (Pilot 1 and REEL TV) and interviewing David Suzuki. Jacques believes that humans need to rediscover the "Art of Working Together" to survive and feels the biggest shift in thinking needed right now is for us to strive to be kinder to everyone, even people we disagree with.

creativejacques.com



### MANDEEP SARKARIA / Energizer

Mandeep Sarkaria has been teaching Bhangra for more than 10 years and competed at competitions across North America. His vision is to preserve and promote the art of the folk dances of Punjab in North America through performance, education and community outreach. Mandeep is a Coach at the Shan E Punjab Arts Club.

spacbc.com / @shanepunjab

### THE LUCID FAIRY / Energizer

TEDx Surrey is proud to introduce Vancouver's Queer Performing Artist, "The Lucid Fairy" (she/her). Lucid has quickly become the talk of the town with her incredibly high energy performances and angelic vocals. Lucid solely creates content that is Positive, Motivational, Affirmational, and Up-Lifting. Embodied by the multi-talented Brodie Marples (he/him), Lucid has appeared as the entertainment, host and event coordinator for the Vancouver, Toronto and White Rock Pride celebrations.

Her mission is to inspire audiences to be the best versions of themselves, by instilling the basic principles of mindfulness and conscious awareness. She empowers everyone to love themselves for who they are, exactly as they are.

thelucidfairy.com / @the.lucid.fairy



### SHALE / Energizer

Shale is a polished alternative rock band with a vintage twist joining us from Victoria, BC. With angelic post-grunge vocals chaperoned by sharply passionate guitar, deviously clarifying keys, punchy and driving bass, and precisely thunderous drums, their sound comes alive. These elements combine to provide deliberate and intricate music that is irresistible. Shale's debut EP "Wither" is available on all streaming platforms. We are Shale: Kiarra O'Connor (singer/lyricist), Adam Baines (guitar), Rowan Hensley (keys), Breanna Montague (bass), and Michael Voytash (drums).

weareshale.com / @shale\_music



### RICHARD TICHELMAN / Energizer

This charismatic pop recording artist, singer/songwriter and guitarist builds on a CV already stacked high with countless accolades, awards, two EPs, and performances on marquee stages from Toronto to Los Angeles as both headliner and supporting artist. Richards newest release, "RED LIGHTS" will be a hot topic to perform live. His single 'Hands' dropped in April 2021 earning him a featured spot in MusicBC's Artist of The Week, a 2021 CMW featured artist showcase and placement in the semi-finals of the UnsignedOnly Music Competition in the Pop/Top 40 category. Richard earned the Grand Prize Winner spot in the Jim Beam® Bourbon's Virtual National Talent Search in partnership with Canadian Music Week.

richardmusicofficial.com / @richardtichelman



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