

**SPEAKERS &
LEADERS
GUIDE**



STUDY TOUR: Challenge The Way You Think



Canada Study Tour Guide to Speakers



Alina Deja (Polish Academy of Canada)

She is a passionate Canadianist, energetic English Coach Confidence, Positivity Purveyor, and Passionate Home Cook. I have Silesian-Polish roots, fell in love with Canada, and currently I live in Berlin with my husband where I enjoy the German cultural diversity and share the Canadian values. Her mission is to inspire and empower today's young Europeans to leave a positive impact on our world through their involvement in leadership exchanges. She also dedicates herself to strengthening EU-Canada bilateral relations, by developing multilateral applied educational projects in areas of common interest for both Europe and Canada.



Stu Saunders - Youth Speaker, Founder of YLCC in Canada

Since 1991 Stu has been traveling North America delivering inspirational and hilarious speeches to over 2 million people in every province, the Yukon, across Europe and over 40 American states. In 2005, Stu was awarded the Canadian Leader of Distinction award recognizing him for his contributions to youth leadership in Canada. In 1999 he was tagged as one of North America's funniest young comedians. Stu also has been named one of the top 30 leadership trainers and facilitators in the world, a list that includes Stephen Covey, Robin Sharma and Tony Robbins. Stu Saunders is the founder and owner of Youth Leadership Camps Canada (YLCC), a summer camp and 2 full service leadership training centers. Stu runs the largest multi day leadership conference in Canada, the Ontario Student Leadership Conference (OSLC). In 2006 Stu partnered with Robin Sharma who is the founder of one of the worlds most recognized leadership development firms; Sharma Leadership International. Stu has been known for his ability to inspire and connect with the youth and he strives to provoke positive change. He exudes courage and strength with his persona and somehow targets the true inner self within all those that he interacts with.

That's right, not yesterday or some future day, but TODAY!

Too often people of ALL ages wait for something to happen before they decide to make a change or a choice. Stu's keynote program challenges us with powerful examples of people who seize today. His true-life stories are hilarious, thoughtful and full of adventure. Stu encourages his audiences to stop worrying about what they look like amongst their friends and co-workers. He encourages them to start living each day, each hour, each minute, and each second to the fullest!

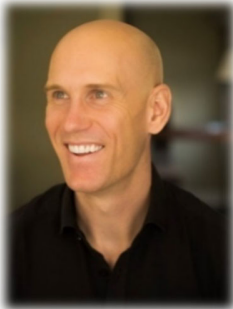




Carla Cuglietta

Carla Cuglietta is a Canadian born educator, consultant, humanitarian and keynote speaker. Over the last 22 years she has been involved in global projects in several countries around the world, all aimed at teaching youth about building a better life through personal leadership. Carla is the Executive Director and Co-founder of YoungLeaders.World, an international non-profit organization with the aim to help young people understand that leadership is a mindset, not a status, and that mindset is possible for all. To date, she has trained over 12,000 youth worldwide and has spoken to tens of thousands more through her speaking tours. Carla has been awarded the Canadian Prime Minister's Certificate of Achievement and the University of

Alberta Alumni of Distinction for her work in engaging youth in Canada. In addition, she has been awarded the YWCA Woman of Distinction and the Lions Club International Humanitarian Award for her leadership and humanitarian work around the world.



Tyler Waye

Tyler Waye is a career strategist, leadership consultant, author, agitator of those on autopilot, green tea drinker, athlete and keynote speaker. Tyler speaks around the world and consult globally, having worked with numerous private, not-for-profit and public sector organizations. His body of work includes: leadership, the future of work, and strategies for change. Tyler is the author of the book, "I Went To School That Long For THIS?!" He is the co-founder of YoungLeaders.World, a global non-profit helping young people understand leadership.

Tyler holds a Master of Arts degree in Leadership. He has been a long time instructor with Executive Education at the University of Alberta, and he is the host of the 10,000 Days docu-series. Tyler currently works as an executive at one of the biggest YouTube media outlets in the world.



Lois Harder

Lois Harder is the Dean of Social Sciences at the University of Victoria. She is committed to creating opportunities for engaging conversations about leadership. Before starting this new role, Lois was the Principal at the Peter Lougheed Leadership College at the University of Alberta for 3 years. Lois holds a PhD in Political Science and Government. As an academic, Lois' research and teaching focuses on citizenship law, social policy and the complexities of birthright citizenship. In 2014, Lois was the Eccles Centre Visiting Canadian Fellow in North American Studies at the British Library and a Visiting Scholar at the University of

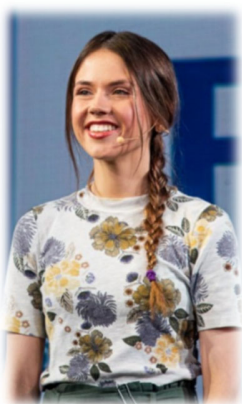
Kent Centre for Law, Gender and Sexuality in March 2015. She also held a Fulbright Professorship at the University of Hawaii (2008). Together with her former student Michelle Thomarat, Lois was awarded the Jill Vicker's Prize from the Canadian Political Science Association for her work. In addition to her academic work, Lois is an avid amateur musician, playing violin in a piano trio and violin and viola in an early music ensemble.





Dr. Curtis Clarke

Curtis Clarke served as the Deputy Minister for Education and PostSecondary Institutions in Alberta, Canada for 6 years. He has held a variety of public service leadership positions including associate deputy solicitor general, assistant deputy minister and executive director. He helped design and implement national and international models of competency-based curriculum design and delivery as a founding member of the INTERPOL Group of Experts in Training, as president of the Canadian Association of Police Educators, and as a board member of the National Police Sector Council. He holds a PhD in sociology from York University, has a leadership certificate from Cornell University, and has completed an executive program in public policy from the Harvard Kennedy School. Curtis currently works in leadership development and consulting.



Lauren White

When Lauren is an award-winning advocate and youth keynote speaker. When Lauren was nine years old, she fell in love with filmmaking and storytelling and started to post YouTube videos online. Since then, she worked for years as Creative Director for a group of children's YouTube channels with millions of subscribers. Her early success in her career allowed her to travel the world, reaching every continent in an effort to learn as much as she can about global and social issues including weaving in her own stories of being able to persevere through some of her own challenges. Lauren has raised thousands of dollars for education projects, led petitions and campaigns in support of Gay-Straight Alliances in Alberta, played for Team Canada Junior Roller Derby, has written many screenplays and short stories, and has started her own business in photography and videography. Now, Lauren is 22 years old and is working for a YouTube company.



Melissa Hoffort

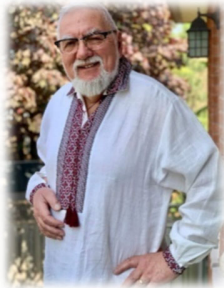
teaches the Kindness Course in Polish Academy of Canada and is a helping hand to understand leadership in Canada. Melissa Hoffort is a native to the Canadian Prairies before she found her home on Vancouver Island, more than 20 years ago. Melissa identifies as Spouse, Mother, Sister, Daughter, Recovering perfectionist, reader, walker, be-outsider, spiritual being, anti-hustler, Human-doing-their-best. Beyond that, Melissa is a Certified Professional Coach with a primary focus on working with Mothers to be their best at all stages of parenthood. Her background as a Mother and small business owner, combined with over 15 years of retail sales and management has offered many opportunities to work with a variety of people and grow as an individual. Melissa is grateful to be growing through and with her community and clients.





Helen Bajorek McDonald

An educator and active life-long learner. She is committed to best practices in curriculum design and instruction, both in the classroom and through E-learning. Whether working in a leadership capacity, as part of a team, or independently, I welcome challenges, applying strong organization, problem-solving and effective communication skills to all tasks and projects, along with a commitment to purpose and respect for others, timelines, targets, performance, and results. Extensive travel has played a role in informing my perspectives on teaching, learning, the arts, global awareness, and the roles of individuals in society.



Jean-Michel Komarnicki

Jean-Michel Komarnicki is a photographer and instructor of photography, as well as owner of JMK Image-ination where he specializes in the concept, design and production of books, and photography. Since his graduation from the Photographic Arts Department of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute (1971), he has exhibited his works in a variety of venues. He has lectured on Canadian photography at universities in Poland and Ukraine (2009). He curates the Artspace on the Mezzanine at the Bowmanville branch of the Clarington Public Library.

About his work, Jean-Michel states: “When I photograph, I simply observe. I try not to intrude, without hiding. I look for the artifice and layers of images in a scene, I then let the shutter click as quietly as possible. I seek the unusual and fleeting in the ordinary – be it in people or objects. In a way, I look for the unintentional and attempt to transform it into an intentional image. In the end, I hope to elicit from the viewer, after perhaps a bit of puzzlement, a smile of understanding. And, as Robert Frank wrote: ‘When people look at my pictures, I want them to feel the way they do when they want to read a line of a poem twice’.



Ken Wu

Ken has worked in the environmental movement for over three decades, first volunteering for his Calgary high school environmental club in 1990. He was the Co-founder and Executive Director of the Ancient Forest Alliance between 2010 to 2018 and served as the Executive Director and Campaign Director of the Wilderness Committee in Victoria between 1999 to 2010. He graduated from the ecology and evolutionary biology department at the University of British Columbia and previously worked as a biologist, tree-planter, and math tutor.





Jesse Murphy

Jesse grew up at camp, and has always dreamed of turning his passion for camping into a career, making his role as Assistant Director extra exciting.

Jesse is responsible for co-directing Camp Scugog's Year-Round Leadership Program and Nature School, and helping to develop and operate the emerging Leadership Centre. In an effort to continuously grow his skills and knowledge within the camping industry, Jesse has worked at other camps in Ontario including YLCC and Camp Tanamakoon, and even had the opportunity to travel to Australia to work with kids at Kangarooobie. As programs at Camp Scugog continue to grow, Jesse has continued to expand his skills, which is why he is now working towards his certification as a Forest and Nature School Practitioner. Outside of camp, Jesse is passionate about sports and holds his diploma in Broadcast Television/Videography from Humber College.



Jenny Rhynas

Jenny's passion and love for working with children in the outdoors is a key part of her identity.

Growing up at Camp Scugog as a camper and being a senior resource staff for many years, she is thrilled to be a part of developing future leaders. She is now a co-director of Camp Scugog's Year-Round Leadership Program and Nature School, and is helping to develop and operate the emerging Leadership Centre. Jenny earned her Bachelor of Environmental Studies with a Diploma in Ecological Restoration and Rehabilitation from the University of Waterloo in 2021. She continued her studies at Queen's University obtaining her Bachelor of Education with a specialization in Outdoor and Experiential Education. Jenny has been an occasional teacher and outdoor education specialist with the Durham and Toronto District School Boards since September 2022.



Aya Dabbah

Aya's continued desire to make connections and encourage joy is what has brought her back to camp over the years.

Having always remembered her time at Camp Scugog from her summer as a camper, Aya knew she would return years later. She did, joining our Leadership Program, then later wearing several hats as a staff member. This year, Aya is excited to be part of the Fundraising and Communications team.

Aya holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the University of Guelph and continued her studies at Humber College with an Ontario Graduate Certificate in Public Relations. She completed her internship at Toyota Canada working with its Corporate Communications team. Aya stayed in the Public Relations space before taking time off to travel, and subsequently returning to Camp for Summer 2023.

