

NSCDA Elevate Event

Membertou September 11 – 12, 2025

8:30 to 9:10

Registration

9:10 to 9:30

Welcome

9:30 to 10:30
Session 1



Terrence Taylor: Storytelling for Career Success

During this Storytelling session, attendees will learn the science of storytelling and a blueprint for how to craft and deliver impactful stories for personal & professional success. We will cover how to use this blueprint to make connections and networks, improve and advance your career opportunities, sell your products & services and/or grow your business. During the session, we'll also highlight how mental health is connected to storytelling and discuss practical ways to improve our personal well-being, which ultimately will improve your ability to be a more successful professional. Attendees also receive a personalized notebook.

Terrence is originally from Las Vegas and moved to Nova Scotia in 2004. At five, he began his first business venture, selling bracelets at a local Kwanzaa celebration. He then started a neighbourhood lawn mowing business at 12, making flyers with his grandmother's computer on Microsoft Paint. At 25, he entered the footwear industry to resell hundreds of sneakers worldwide. Since then, Terrence has successfully launched multiple businesses in the food, content production and education sectors. His companies were always a culmination of life experiences and passion projects that he was clever enough to turn into a profitable business. Terrence is an artist at his core and masterfully pairs creativity with the right systems, plans and blueprints to successfully deliver on big ideas. He has an eclectic background and can work with anyone but focuses on prioritizing the stories of youth and creating safe spaces for people to share and be honest & vulnerable. During his fadeaway from digital content production. Terrence realized the need for high-quality, tangible storytelling resources and shifted from podcast & video production to writing, book publishing and live events.

	<p>COVID-19 showed how convenient technology could connect us, but honestly, we're all a bit "screened out," and he saw this as the opportunity to bring human beings back together again. He's also attended enough events & conferences around the world and received resources that got thrown away at the door or never looked at again. This further prompted the shift away from online storytelling, to dust off old lesson plans from his classroom teaching days and repackage these learnings into books and human experiences. All four of his books are written with school curriculum outcomes embedded but are made for learners of all ages. Each book is paired with an in-person experience, book signing and meet & greet so that both the event and the book will last in your mind & soul (and on your bookshelf) forever!</p>
10:30 to 10:45	Coffee and Networking Break
10:45 to 11:45 Session 2 <div data-bbox="115 837 406 1125" data-label="Image"> </div>	<h3>Transforming the Disability Sector and Emerging Career Opportunities</h3> <p>The disability sector is undergoing significant transformation, driven by policy changes, evolving workforce needs, and a growing focus on inclusion and accessibility. The REMEDY Report provides key insights into these shifts, highlighting emerging challenges and expanding opportunities for professionals in the field.</p> <p>This session will explore the report's findings, including funding developments and best practices shaping the future of disability services. Attendees will better understand how these changes impact service delivery, workforce demands, and career pathways in the sector. Whether you're a career development professional, service provider, or job seeker interested in disability support work, this session will provide valuable insights into the growing employment landscape and how to navigate new opportunities in this evolving field.</p> <p>Diana Poirier, Regional Hub Manager for Eastern, brings 25 years of experience in community services and leadership, with a strong focus on advocacy and inclusion. She is excited about the REMEDY and is looking forward to walking along side everyone on this journey.</p>
11:45 to 1:00	Lunch Break
1:00 to 2:15 Session 3	<p>Jeremy McQuigge is a dynamic thought leader in workforce development and a passionate advocate for recognizing prior learning (RPL) as a</p>



catalyst for career success. In this inspiring keynote, Jeremy will explore the critical intersection between RPL, career decision-making, and job search strategies.

Jeremy McQuigge is a dedicated advocate for Work-Based Learning (WBL), an acclaimed speaker, published author, researcher, and educator with over two decades of experience in post-secondary education. As a founding member of the Council Advancing Work-Based Learning (CAWBL) and board member of the Canadian Association for Prior Learning and Assessment (CAPLA), he plays a pivotal role in shaping global standards, frameworks, and regulatory models that connect training, workforce development, and industry needs. His work empowers learners across industries and life stages to engage in purposeful, structured, and assessed learning, ensuring that knowledge, skills, and experiences are recognized, validated, and transferable. Currently pursuing his Doctor of Education at the University of Calgary, Jeremy's research advances WBL as an internationally recognized system, aligning occupational standards, assessment methodologies, and regulatory frameworks to establish learning through work as a structured, equitable, and scalable pathway to professional and academic achievement.

2:15 to 2:30

Closing