

TED^x Saskatoon

x = independently organized TED event

November 13, 2010
St. Thomas More College
University of Saskatchewan



Thank you to the many organizations that have made TEDxSaskatoon possible.

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John Costa
TEDxSaskatoon
Licensee and Chair

On behalf of the organizing committee, I have the pleasure of officially welcoming you to TEDxSaskatoon! We are very excited to have a “TED” experience here in Saskatoon and are thrilled to be sharing this experience with you! Like the rest of the growing TED community who have been captivated by TED’s ideals, we see power and possibility when great people mix with great ideas.

As you enjoy today’s program, please make note and help us recognize the sponsors helped offset event costs; the organizing committee who brought a world class TEDx event to Saskatoon; the army of volunteers who worked thanklessly to bring life to this event; and the speakers, for their willingness to share their knowledge and lead by example.

On a personal note, planning this event has been inspiring on many levels. From the first call for volunteers to the final minutes leading up to event day, the response has been overwhelming. Email after email spoke of how TED has touched people’s lives. As a first hand witness to these testimonies, I have been inspired by you.

Finally, the speakers we have lined up for you today believe in the currency of ideas. They espouse the best of TED’s ideals and are leaders in their field. They know that ideas can and do make a difference. But ideas alone cannot overcome bias, prejudice or narrow mindedness. Ideas need fertile ground to take root, flourish and spread. Keep an open mind and let yourself be moved by their stories, perspectives and ideas.

Enjoy, John

Wireless Network: guest SSID
UN: visitor PW: visitor

Social Media Hash Tags:
#tedxsaskatoon #tedx #saskatoon #yxe #usask

Agenda

9:30am - 9:55am	Registration
10:00am - 11:00am	TEDx Talks session one
Speaker	Dale Zak
Speaker	Monique Dubé
TED Video	Alexis Ohanian: <i>How to make a splash in social media</i>
Speaker	Dean Shareski
11:00am - 11:20am	Refreshment break
11:20am - 12:20pm	TEDx Talks session two
Speaker	Jay Semko
Speaker	Ainsley Robertson
TED Video	Omar Ahmad: <i>Political change with pen and paper</i>
Speaker	Amy Jo Ehman
12:20pm - 1:30pm	Lunch STM Choices



Event host
Kaveri Bittira

Kaveri has been living and working in Saskatoon since 2002 and is proud to call the bridge city home. In 2009, after spending several years as a television reporter, Kaveri joined the anchor desk as co-host of CBC News: Saskatchewan at 5, 5:30 & 6pm broadcast weekdays on CBC Television.

Kaveri graduated from St. Thomas University in New Brunswick with a Journalism degree, and an English degree with a minor in International Relations.

1:30pm - 2:30pm	TEDx Talks session three
Speaker	Ellen Quigley
Speaker	Jeff Nachtigall
TED Video	Howard Rheingold <i>Collaboration</i>
Speaker	Lieutenant Governor Gordon Barnhart
2:30pm - 2:50pm	Refreshment break
2:50pm - 3:50pm	TEDx Talks session four
Speaker	Carolyn Schur
Speaker	Alec Couros
TED Video	Derek Sivers <i>How to start a movement</i>
Speaker	Gregg Cochlan
4:00pm - 6:00pm	Post event reception STM Choices



Dharma (Purpose of Life)

Dale Zak

The Law of Dharma states that every human has a unique talent, and it's your purpose in life to discover that special gift, and use it to help others. What special gift do you have to offer? What is your life's purpose?

About Dale • Dale Zak is a software developer passionate about social change. After spending a number of years developing applications for the corporate world, Dale has now shifted his focus to helping initiatives that promote positive change. His past projects include developing a mobile application for Ushahidi's crowdsourced crisis mapping system, helping The Extraordinaries develop their revolutionary micro-volunteering platform, and contributing to the opensource FrontlineSMS project which is used by NGO's around the world. This past spring he travelled to Rwanda to help deploy a medical record system in a small rural hospital.



Women, Water, and Will Power

Monique Dubé

Make no mistake, water is a foundation for everything, goods and services, a strong economy, natural resource extraction, health, wellness, recreation and of course food production, energy production, waste removal and drinking water. In the global water world it has been recognized by agencies like the United Nations that if we are to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, providing access to safe drinking water for example, we have to educate women. Why? Because it is the women in the developing world that manage the water, find the water, and walk for hours to fetch the water.

About Monique • Dr. Monique Dubé is a Canada Research Chair in Aquatic Ecosystem Health Diagnosis at the University of Saskatchewan. Her interest is to bring "science to service" with a focus on assessing and managing freshwater rivers and their watersheds. Monique has 20 years experience working across public, academic, government, industry (pulp and paper, mining, oil sands), consulting, and global (United Nations) networks. Never bored, Monique is a wife, mother of two, endurance kayak adventure racer, ultra-marathon runner, singer/songwriter and occasionally runs a horse around a few barrels!

TED.COM Video Presentation

How to Make a Splash in Social Media



Alexis Ohanian

In a funny, rapid-fire 4 minutes, Alexis Ohanian of Reddit tells the real-life fable of one humpback whale's rise to Web stardom. The lesson of Mister Splashy Pants is a shoo-in classic for meme-makers and marketers in the Facebook age.



The Return of Barn Raisings and Pop Ins

Dean Shareski

Ten years ago Robert Putnam wrote *Bowling Alone* where he described the rise and fall of community. Our connected world is redefining community and allowing us to return to some of the goodness lost in an age of individual, self sufficient pursuits. As an educator, the social spaces and collaborative environments are challenging schools' emphasis on individual learning and forcing us to think about school and community in some new and interesting ways.

About Dean · Dean Shareski is a Digital Learning Consultant for Prairie South School Division in Moose Jaw, SK. He works with teachers and students in understanding the power of the Read/Write Web. Dean is an advocate of design, storytelling and the power of sharing. He's been modeling this on his own blog (www.ideasandthoughts.org) for nearly six years. He won the 2010 ISTE Award for Outstanding Leader of the Year. A husband, father, dog owner and golf nut, Dean never takes himself too seriously and credits the smart people he is connected to for helping him be a life long learner.



Inspiration and Creation – From Small Things...

Jay Semko

There are so many ways to get inspired to create – I believe that everyone has the ability to find their own creative self, and to use the creativity discovered through music, writing and the arts in all facets of our lives. Tapping into the subconscious mind, where many of the most interesting ideas are waiting to be found can be done by anyone, using some of the things I have learned through my experiences in songwriting.

About Jay • Jay Semko is known across Canada and beyond as singer/songwriter/bassist with multi-platinum selling Canadian pop/rock icons the Northern Pikes, and as an award winning music composer for numerous films and television productions, including Canada’s most successful internationally syndicated series, “Due South”. He is widely considered one of Canada’s finest songsmiths, and has co-written with many well known songwriters in Canada and the USA. Jay recently released his sixth solo album, and continues to instruct and mentor at numerous songwriting seminars and workshops across Canada. For more info about Jay visit www.jaysemko.com.



A Community Fairy Tail

Ainsley Robertson

Fairy tales exist in our community, if you look for them. This is a story of a real fairy tale: The Princess Shop, a local nonprofit organization in Saskatoon. This is a story of a community that collectively embraced an idea. This is a story of how a community created impact by working together and recognizing a need that was not currently being met. This is the story of The Princess Shop: an example of a true fairy tale in Saskatoon.

About Ainsley • Ainsley Robertson discovered a passion for Saskatoon and for serving our community while pursuing her Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Saskatchewan. Ainsley is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of The Princess Shop, a non profit that provides female students with mentorship and tools to succeed after graduation. As Director of High School Programs for Junior Achievement, Ainsley provides financial literacy, business and entrepreneurial education programs for high school students. In 2008, Ainsley was nominated for a YWCA Women of Distinction Award.

TED.COM Video Presentation

Political Change with Pen and Paper



Omar Ahmad

Politicians are strange creatures, says politician Omar Ahmad. And the best way to engage them on your pet issue is a monthly handwritten letter. Ahmad shows why old-fashioned correspondence is more effective than email, phone or even writing a cheque -- and shares the four simple steps to writing a letter that works.



Eat Locally – Live Globally

Amy Jo Ehman

There is no denying we live in a global marketplace. Supermarkets are overflowing with good things to eat. Saskatchewan is a major food producer, yet it's almost impossible to find the label "Made in Saskatchewan" in the local grocery store. Where to start? How can we tap into the elusive local food market, and is it worth the effort? I can attest that it's hard work, but worth every bite.

About Amy Jo • Five years ago, Amy Jo and her husband John embarked on a culinary adventure – to serve (almost) nothing but the foods of Saskatchewan on their dinner table for one year. When the year was up, they didn't quit. That journey was the basis for her book *Prairie Feast: A Writer's Journey Home for Dinner*, a joyous exploration of the social and cultural connections forged through the food we eat.



Saskatoon Garlic Self-Sufficiency

Ellen Quigley

Saskatoon Garlic Self-Sufficiency by 2012 is:

Practical — Garlic grows readily here, a relatively modest amount of garlic is needed for self-sufficiency, and the project enjoys community support already; earlier this month volunteers planted nearly 6,000 cloves in donated yards.

Healthy—Grown naturally and available fresh, local garlic is chemical-free and more potent than far-flung varieties. Packed with antibiotic, antiviral, and antifungal compounds, garlic helps prevent colds and flu and has been linked to other positive health effects.

Ethical—This initiative employs young people at fair wages; in contrast, workers in China are paid slave wages to grow garlic that is flown thousands of kilometres to reach us.

Delicious—Local garlic is fresher, cleaner, and more potent; the difference in taste is enormous.

About Ellen - Born and raised in Saskatoon, Ellen Quigley is a 25-year-old community organizer and founder of We Are Many (WAM), a local youth environmental organization with a particular focus on cycling and urban agriculture. She holds a B.A. in English literature.



Raw Vision – The Power of Art in Health Care

Jeff Nachtigall

I believe that we are all artists. Art is our first language. Before we can read or write or speak we are drawing; making marks to express ourselves. Some say that it was our ability to communicate visually that gave homo sapiens the evolutionary edge. Art can empower those that have lost the ability to communicate. Those that find themselves on the margins of society can reclaim their voice. In my twenty years as an artist I have seen art transform lives. Art is a vehicle for change.

About Jeff - One of Canada's most prolific artists, Jeff has exhibited widely throughout North America and Europe for the past 20 years. His expressive and politically charged work is represented in a number of private and public collections. His curatorial practice has received critical acclaim, including *The Insiders* (2007), an exhibition of drawings and paintings by individuals with limited mobility and cognitive disorders, and 2010's much anticipated (In)Accessible City featuring the largest painting ever exhibited in Saskatchewan. In 2009 Jeff was short listed for the Lieutenant Governor's Award in Arts and Learning, and is currently Artist in Residence at Sherbrooke Community Centre in Saskatoon.

TED.COM Video Presentation
Collaboration



Howard Rheingold

Howard Rheingold talks about the coming world of collaboration, participatory media and collective action -- and how Wikipedia is really an outgrowth of our natural human instinct to work as a group.



**Will Democracy
Survive?**

**Lieutenant Governor
Gordon L. Barnhart**

Returning home from consulting experiences in volatile countries, I am overwhelmed by the extraordinary rights and freedoms we enjoy in Canada, not to mention the standard of living. I am also deeply distressed by the number of Canadians who don't understand that our privileged existence is the result of a system of government that requires the engagement of citizens. Young people, in particular, feel disconnected from the system. How can we motivate Canadians to get involved in governance? It is a crucial question, upon which our future relies.

About Dr. Barnhart · Lieutenant Governor Gordon Barnhart is an acclaimed historian and recognized expert on the Canadian parliamentary process. Dr. Barnhart's extensive experience in government includes twenty years as Clerk of the Saskatchewan Legislature and five years as Clerk of the Canadian Senate. He has worked as a consultant to strengthen democratic governance in countries around the world. Dr. Barnhart obtained a Ph.D. in history at the University of Saskatchewan, where he taught political studies and served as University Secretary. He has published several books on prairie history and Saskatchewan political figures.



ZZZ... Best You Can Be!

Carolyn Schur

We give lip service to the importance of sleep, yet deprive ourselves of it at every turn. Carolyn Schur makes the case that to be 'ZZZ...Best' we can be, we must make sleep a priority.

About Carolyn - A speaker, author and consultant, Carolyn Schur helps people sleep better so that they feel better and work better. She works with organizations to manage sleepiness and fatigue in the workplace and is the founder of a sleep disorders screening centre in Saskatoon. As a young adult, she struggled with her own sleep/wake issues. After much research and the publication of her first book, she became an advocate and speaker and is known internationally for her expertise on the behavior of people called 'night owls.'



Networks, Openness, and the Future of Education

Alec Couros

In the past decade, our society has seen a remarkable advance in the availability of new communication technologies, the insurmountable growth of knowledge, and the rise of new networking technologies. Yet, formal educational institutions have been slow to respond to these trends; the very same trends that will undoubtedly result in the end of education as we know it. Alec will discuss the relevant context of our information age and describe a growing open movement, where sharing, transparency, collaboration, and networking have become the norm.

About Alec - Dr. Alec Couros is an Associate Professor of educational technology and media at the Faculty of Education, University of Regina. He has given hundreds of workshops and presentations, nationally and internationally, on topics such as openness in education, social/networked learning, learning environments, digital citizenship, and critical media literacy. His graduate and undergraduate courses help current and future educators understand how to use and take advantage of the educational potential offered by the tools of connectivity.

TED.COM Video Presentation
How to Start a Movement



Derek Sivers

With help from some surprising footage, Derek Sivers explains how movements really get started. (Hint: it takes two.)



**Peaceful
Coexistence – One
Mind @ a Time**

Gregg Cochlan

Modern media thrives on controversy. The problem is that the debate is rarely even-handed. Instead, it is a clash of polarized opinions and a contest of wills to have one opinion triumph over all others. Choosing which side of a polarized debate you are on is not the road to coexistence, and certainly not the way to world peace. Coexistence demands that you be able to see more than your own perspective. It also throws out the ultimate challenge: even when you do not agree with other ideas, can you live peacefully alongside them?

About Gregg · Gregg Cochlan is an author, speaker, consultant and leadership coach whose first book, *Love Leadership*, challenged traditional corporate conditioning by positioning love as a more effective, sustainable leadership style. Gregg's newest book *World Peace*, really offers to its reader the application of cognitive psychology to enable peaceful coexistence. Since 1986 he has been helping industry leaders deal with the challenges of change. Gregg is the managing Director of The Pacific Institute a Seattle-based educational and coaching company that provides critical thinking skills that enable individuals and organizations to increase their overall effectiveness.

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