

Choose Your Story Workplace Practices that Transform

Keynote with Deborah Connors

Do people flourish in your workplace? Is your culture one that supports them to be creative, innovative, productive, and to contribute all they have to offer? What if you could apply some simple daily practices to build this type of culture at work?

Twenty years ago, Deborah set out to address these questions when she founded The Better Workplace Conference, a national event that she successfully led for 17 years. What started out as simply a forum for sharing of ideas between organizations and a way to bring together thought-leaders from around the world, unexpectedly and instantly built a community of like-minded individuals who were also looking for that 'better way' to do business.

This put Deb in the unique position of getting to know organizational health thought-leaders from around the world, and being at the centre of a community of thousands of workplace health professionals. She ran an online forum with this community, asking: "What is a positive organization? What is stopping us from achieving more positive cultures? And what do you want to learn as a leader about improving workplace culture?"

With that in mind, she interviewed the thought-leaders, finding stories of hope and change, along with tools and advice from the experts.

Her book: *A Better Place to Work: Daily Practices that Transform Culture,* based on these in-depth interviews provides over 30 practices to build a thriving culture at work.

What Deborah uncovered through these interviews included:

- The strong connection between workplace culture and business success
- How to positively disrupt downward spirals in your teams and slow death in your organization to create cultures where people flourish
- How evidence-based leadership practices build positive sustainable change

Through Deborah's keynote you will:

- Explore workplace practices including mindfulness, appreciative inquiry and many more, that create upward spirals to help employees flourish and contribute their best
- Hear stories of positive change from organizations around the world
- Learn about 3 shifts we can make as leaders to create more positive workplaces
- Discover the "through-line" approach to shifting culture at work
- Learn about the most highly recommended tools and advice from leading organizational health experts

What is the story of change you're writing in your workplace? If you are a change agent with a vision for a better place to work, this keynote will inspire you to develop daily practices that create a culture of possibility that attracts and retains the best people.

Singlehandedly, through the vehicle of her annual conferences, Deborah has brought the field of workplace health promotion and wellness to a point where it is now a mature, thriving concept. There is, in short, no other one person in Canada who has done more for the field.

- Dr. Martin Shain, Principal, Neighbour at Work Centre®

About Deborah:

A captivating speaker, storyteller, author and workplace coach, Deb researches the latest breakthroughs in workplace wellness around the globe. She has interviewed many of the leading thinkers, which forms the basis of her work: teaching leaders how to radically shift culture so that people can flourish. She is a prominent figure in the story of how Canadian workplaces have adopted practices to become better places to work through her development of The Better Workplace Conference, which she successfully led for 17 years. This powerful initiative created a whole generation of workplace health professionals and a huge community of practice. She has now brilliantly distilled the knowledge of hundreds of thought-leaders that she brought together each year through this forum, combining it with her own leadership experience and success in community engagement and provides very sage, practical advice for transformative workplace change.