



Leaside High School Council Presents

Virtual Careers Night

9 Presenters



Wednesday November 27, 2024
7:00 - 8:00pm

[Click here to register](#)

Breakout Room 1

Presenter: **Brooke Shang**

Job description: **Management Consultant and Real Estate Investor**, Self Employed

Background:

Meet Brooke, a multifaceted entrepreneur, seasoned real estate investor, and dedicated educator. As the author of 'Financial Freedom the Royal Way', Brooke shares her expertise on achieving financial independence through smart investing. With a passion for empowering others, she teaches both beginners and seasoned investors how to navigate the real estate market with confidence.

By day, Brooke applies her business acumen as a management consultant for a nationwide computer hardware repair company. By night, she's a driving force in the real estate community, guiding investors toward financial freedom.

With her unique blend of entrepreneurial spirit, investing savvy, and consulting expertise, Brooke inspires and equips individuals to build wealth and secure their financial futures.

Brooke has an MBA from Schulich School of Business from York University and an Hons BA in Economics and Environmental Studies from University of Toronto. She is an award winning author of the book "Financial Freedom the Royal Way".

Breakout Room 2

Presenter: **Gordon Lau**

Job description: **Engineer - Systems Architect**, AMD

Background:

Born and raised in the Toronto area, Gordon graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering from Ryerson University in 2002. His career began in the Toronto area with several startups specialising in design, testing, and manufacturing of high-speed electronic circuits, processors and embedded systems. Later, he transitioned to helping other companies grow and develop new technologies and products by joining a semiconductor technical sales team and becoming well versed in processor, and embedded systems designs. He now works for AMD as a systems architect in the broadcast, media and entertainment space.

In this role, he engages with top companies in the world to understand requirements related to audio / video compression technologies, security / encryption, media distribution, and systems design to build new products such as switchers, cameras, wireless transmitters, real-time processing equipment used to create media in industries such as traditional broadcast, cinema as well as streaming services.

Breakout Room 3 - **SICK (unable to present)**

Presenter: **Rachel Nelson**

Job description: **Vice President, Original Programming & Head of Corus Studios**. Corus Entertainment Inc.

Background:

With over 25 years of experience across the industry, Rachel Nelson spearheads a diverse portfolio of Scripted and Unscripted content as Vice President of Original Programming and Head of Corus Studios at Corus Entertainment. In this role, Rachel leads strategies for commissioning, developing, and producing first class series for Corus' slate of channels, and continuously demonstrates a devotion to empower and inspire world-class talent in an ever-evolving market.

Under Rachel's leadership, the Original Programming team oversees Canadian content for all of Corus' original flagship channels including, but not limited to: Global, History, Home Network, Flavour Network, W, YTV, and Adult Swim. In addition to Corus Originals, Rachel oversees the growing portfolio of Corus Studios, which has become a leader in distributing home-grown Canadian Lifestyle and Factual series internationally.

Rachel graduated from the University of Guelph with an English degree.

Breakout Room 4 Presenter: Craig Larlee Job description: Director, Sustainability Directorate Environment and Climate Change Canada <u>Background:</u> Craig graduated with a degree in Political Philosophy from University of Waterloo and a Master in Environmental Studies from York University. Early in his career, he worked as an environmental campaigner, managed the operations of an innovative recycling plant, developed educational materials for a Conservation Authority, and advised community-based organizations working on the Great Lakes Action Plan. After joining Environment Canada (now ECCC), Craig served in many different roles including lead for corporate risk management, advising the weather service on a major renewal project, senior advisor to a task force on environmental information which reported directly to the Minister, departmental lead for program performance measurement, and is currently responsible for reporting and accountability for the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. Craig also was involved for more than 10 years (as a country delegate and as an employee) with the Group on Earth Observations, an international organization affiliated with the United Nations, and can advise on how to prepare for a career in the international civil service.	Breakout Room 5 - SICK (unable to present) Presenter: Caroline Fernandez Job description: Children's book author, Self Employed <u>Background:</u> Caroline Fernandez loves to write children's books for curious kids. She's won awards for her fantastic stories, like the exciting chapter book series "Asha and Baz" which highlights real-life historical women in STEM. She has written numerous picture books including; "Hide And Seek: Wild Animal Groups in North America" and "The Adventures of Grandmasaurus" (series) and "Stop Reading This Book". For those looking for a big adventure, her middle-grade historical novel "Plague Thieves" is now out. Caroline graduated from McMaster University (humanities BA).	Breakout Room 6 Presenter: Jason Pan Job description: Corporate Lawyer <u>Background:</u> Jason graduated from McGill University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and East Asian studies and subsequently got his JD at Georgetown University Law Center. He started his career as a corporate lawyer in New York, working at Davis Polk, an international law firm, and was then transferred to their Hong Kong office. Subsequently, Jason moved in-house and was Head of Capital Markets Legal in Asia for Standard Chartered Bank until he moved back to Toronto this past summer after having spent 20 years in Asia.
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Breakout Room 7

Presenter: **Michelle Ocampo McIvor**

Job description: **Author and Entrepreneur**

Background:

Hey students! Just so you get the full picture, here's what I took after high school: Journalism, Marketing & Communications, Usability, Psychology, and Data Science. After college I went to Seattle, and while working at AT&T I went back to school to earn my Masters; then while working at Microsoft I earned several more accreditations. (Big Tech is highly competitive!) But as I grew in my career (Product Marketing, Usability, and Data Analysis), my interests became clearer and I figured out what I enjoyed and wanted to learn further. After Microsoft, I started my own consulting company. But I've always been a writer. Today I'm an author and entrepreneur. In a way, I've gone full circle with my very first degree, which was in journalism. And it was in journalism that I learned the **TWO** most important things in my corporate career and beyond: 1) Curiosity, and 2) Asking the right questions.

I will tell you the **THIRD** most important thing—which I learned while working with some of the smartest people in Technology—when I see you in our virtual session.

Last thing to know about me: I am back at university to earn a PhD in Neuropsychology. I just completed my certification in Neuroscience of Mindfulness at UofT, and in the near future I will be doing research on the mind-body connection and gut-brain axis. I am a writer and researcher at heart. And now, I have a new practice as a Mind-Body Integration Specialist.

Bottom Line: you are always growing and evolving. You don't have to have everything figured out in your high school years, and your path does not need to be straight and narrow. No one really knows what the future holds, so follow your unique interests and see how far you go!

Breakout Room 8

Presenter: **Sherry Robertson**

Job description: **Senior Vice President, Global Business Development**, Morningstar DBRS

Former: **Investment Banker – Canadian Bond Desk**

Background:

- Was part of RBC Capital Markets for ~20 years of which the last 16 years was spent on the Bond Desk in C\$ Fixed Income Syndication.
- My roles at RBC include fixed-income institutional sales, syndication and origination and sustainable finance.
- Prior to investment banking, I worked as a Registered Nurse in critical care at Mount Sinai Hospital and as a Flight Nurse via Sky Service Inc
- I started with a Diploma at Sheridan College, advanced to a BScN from University of Buffalo then earned my MBA from Queen's University, and the Canadian Securities Course
- Recently obtained the Queen's University Sustainable Investments Certificate

Breakout Room 9

Presenter: **Teresa Bayley**

Job description: **Senior Producer**, Zulu Alpha Kilo (Advertising Agency)

Background:

Teresa's career journey started like many others — as a coffee-fetching intern at Young & Rubicam (don't worry, she eventually graduated to more exciting tasks). After studying advertising at Loyalist College, she fell in love with the crazy world of ads, campaigns, and creative chaos. Since then, she's worked her way up from studio coordinator to senior integrated producer, managing everything from TV ads to, most recently, a brand activation at a car wash in Germany.

On any given day, Teresa is the person making sure the creative ideas go from "we should totally do this" to "wow, this looks amazing!" She spends her days building schedules (yes, there's a lot of planning involved), negotiating with vendors (because who doesn't love a good deal?), attending edit sessions and eating all the snacks at voiceover recordings.