

Wild possibilities for staying connected while being apart

For conferences that have been cancelled or postponed, or teams, organizations, and leaders in need of support as you navigate these uncharted waters.

Video:

A ~20 minute pre-recorded video that speaks directly to your group. I take a lot of time with these videos, making sure I understand what your attendees are experiencing, the challenges that are particular to their situation, not shying away from naming how difficult this is for everyone. False platitudes and forced positivity are not Wild, nor are they helpful!

And, with the help of a couple sled dog stories, I strive to keep us connected to the best of who we are and our collective humanity. Reminding us about how resilient and resourceful we two-leggeds are when we take care of ourselves and each other.

I know to my core how imperative it is that we are Wild right now—honest, real, holding to who we are, tapping into our gifts, our strengths, and daring to be present to all that we are experiencing. So, I make these videos to offer concrete tools for teams and leaders, and to support and encourage people's Wild spirits at this time of such profound loss and the hint of opportunity that exists alongside this crisis.

Virtual Program:

As a stand-alone or as part of a series of speakers for your conference, this is a live session with your group. It's carefully crafted and customized in order to speak directly to the challenges and needs of your group and to keep it engaging and interesting.

Being together online is radically different than face to face meetings. Many of us are getting familiar with the platform, while others of us may scream if we have to spend any more time in front of a screen. So, with sensitivity to the later (and, admittedly being in that camp myself), I design programs that are long on connection and engagement, and short on lengthy periods of no interaction or breaks. There are multiple opportunities to be part of the program, to ask questions, to have discussions and conversations in small groups, and to join together in "chat" storms of ideas.

I love being with and speaking for people, in groups large and small, face to face. The energy is fun, powerful, and reciprocal, and I'm able to read people and re-direct what I'm presenting in the moment to follow their interest. In truth, I think this style is an advantage as we all move to virtual sessions for the time being. I am particularly sensitive to the need for engagement, connection, networking, and a sense of belonging as part of any presentation—virtual or otherwise.

So, this is a Wild adventure for all of us. What I know is that this is NOT the time to leave people feeling even more isolated by missing conferences and meetings that have been meaningful to them in the past. So, we find a way. Wildly curious and open to what's possible in this new format. I know we need it. We need each other. And I'm honored to get to be a part of this togetherness.

Hybrid Meeting:

This model is being adopted quickly as a compelling alternative to virtual or face to face meetings. As your speaker, I'm there with a small group of attendees. It's a live presentation, complete with an audience—albeit smaller—of people who are seated safely distanced apart and who want to be present for the event. The rest of the attendees are tuned in remotely, able to listen and participate while enjoying the feel of the conference.

This offers a lot of appealing advantages, giving people a choice in terms of how they attend the conference, and providing an engaging, live program for people to consume in whatever way is comfortable for them.

I've actually done this a lot over the years, delivering a program to a live audience while it is being broadcast all over the world. What it takes is a steady appreciation, as the speaker, for the people not in the room, being sure to include them regularly and make accommodations so they, too, can participate in the discussions, questions, and “calling out” responses.

To speak in that environment is a lot like driving a dog team, so maybe that's why it is comfortable and familiar to me. You need to work with the dogs on the line, but be mindful of the ones in the yard. Paying attention to trail conditions, who's getting along with who, and what will make the next run with the other dogs a little bit easier.

I feel confident that I can travel safely in order to be at your event. So if this is of interest, let's talk it through and make sure we can do it with whatever precautions are necessary in order to give people a rich and profound experience to help them through this uncharted territory.

Team Check-In:

Designed specifically for teams, it's time to get real. I'll open with some thoughts, context, a story or two, and reinforce the fundamental importance of being Wild at Work, especially right now. The remainder of the time will be a chance for team members to share what this experience is like for them, and how they can best support each other. We'll also explore what is being revealed in this crisis. What is working better than expected? What isn't? And how can we more fully incorporate Wild principles as part of this enormous re-set?

It's a combination of a presentation and a facilitated discussion. Because teams and leaders deserve so much help and support as they navigate this completely unknown terrain. My experience as a wilderness guide serves me well here. We will find a path, or make one if we have to, and we'll do it Wildly together.

Leader support:

Now what? Are you returning to your office, trying to design systems and protocols to keep everyone safe? Are you settling in for a longer haul of working and leading remotely? Or have you been on the front lines of working harder and more intensely than ever, amidst so much fear and uncertainty? This program offers a space to let down, be real, talk about the challenges, the grief, the hint of hope.

Beginning with some thoughts and stories on leading in this Wildly different landscape, this session then moves toward a facilitated open discussion. Things are getting revealed in this time. A wise colleague of mine described it as a tsunami wave. Before it hits, the water recedes far back, revealing what isn't typically seen—the shells and rocks, fish flopping, seaweed, and more. Let's not let these revelations simply get washed over. This is a chance to take a good look at how your organization is functioning. The places that fully support people and the places that don't.

To my mind, this is a giant re-set. It's a chance to see where and how your teams are showing up Wild at work—where they feel supported in being whole, engaged, creative, passionate, and brave. And this re-set also reveals where more could be done in support of the greatest resource in your company—the people.

All it takes is a phone call or email to begin this journey. We can do this...together. Let's get started.

