



# IMPACT

## fcssaa

Annual Conference

Nov. 26-28, 2025

DoubleTree by Hilton,  
West Edmonton

## CONFERENCE NOTES

### Opening Keynote: Wednesday, November 26

#### Dan Riskin

##### *How to Thrive in the Brave New World of Artificial Intelligence*

The FCSS is focused on helping Albertans build meaningful relationships with the other people in their communities. At first glance, artificial intelligence (A.I.) may look like an impediment to that mission—a potential replacement for the connections on which people rely. But recent research on the ways A.I. is being used across workplaces, schools and other institutions, shows the opposite trend. People are finding ways to enhance their abilities with A.I., and to fill the gaps where human connection isn't feasible, all without the fragmentation of peer networks.

In this talk Dan will explore the positive consequences of the A.I. revolution on human connections and offer a roadmap for how to get the most out of the A.I. tools all around us. Based on the overarching theme of bio-inspiration, we will also look at the connections we have to the natural world.

#### About Dan



Dan Riskin is a renowned evolutionary biologist, bestselling author and award-winning science communicator known for making science accessible and entertaining. He co-hosted Discovery Canada's *Daily Planet*, hosted Animal Planet's *Monsters Inside Me*, and frequently appears on CTV as a Science and Technology Specialist. A world expert on bat biomechanics with a PhD from Cornell, Riskin left academia to focus on outreach and now shares his passion for science through television,

documentaries and wildlife tours around the globe. Charismatic and humorous, he's been interviewed by major media figures and is the author of *Mother Nature Is Trying to Kill You* and the children's book *Fiona the Fruit Bat*.



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## Closing Keynote: Friday, November 28

### Jessica Janzen

#### *From Surviving to Thriving*

When life throws challenge your way, how do you move from merely surviving to truly thriving? In this session, Jessica Janzen will share actionable resiliency tools that can unlock forward momentum and reinvigorate not only yourself but those around you. She'll dive into how to shift from a problem mindset to a possibility mindset, opening the door to new opportunities and growth.

Audiences will also learn strategies to get back on track when life derails your plans, plus the key to flowing through different seasons of life rather than struggling for perfect balance. With these tools in hand, audiences will leave equipped to lead themselves and others through adversity with confidence and grace.

Key takeaways include:

- Resiliency tools to unlock forward momentum.
- How to move from a problem mindset into a possibility mindset.
- How to reinvigorate yourself and those around you.
- The art of flowing through seasons rather than the struggle for perfect balance.

#### About Jessica



Jessica Janzen is a dynamic motivational speaker, bestselling author and resilience expert who helps teams overcome burnout, change fatigue and disengagement with high-energy keynotes that inspire lasting transformation. Known for her straight-talking, joyful approach, she empowers audiences with actionable strategies to shift their mindset from problems to possibilities. Janzen is co-founder of *The Love for Lewiston Foundation*, which has raised over \$3 million for Spinal Muscular Atrophy

(SMA) and helped implement newborn screening in Alberta. Named one of Calgary's *Top 40 Under 40*, she draws on her personal journey with love, loss and mental health in her book *Bring the Joy*, guiding audiences to thrive through adversity and lead with purpose.