**Opening Keynote (April 30, 2019)**

*Career Development for the 21st Century – It Takes a Village! ~ Dr. Roberta Neault*

Although there is international debate about the speed, magnitude, and context of the changing world of work, there is little doubt that change is occurring, unpredictably and at an unprecedented rate. Career Development Practitioners (CDPs) have previously focused almost exclusively on individual factors in helping clients imagine, prepare for, achieve, and maintain work. However, at an international and interdisciplinary level, this approach is increasingly being challenged today. Emerging career development theories and practices recognize the impact of context on individual careers, and the importance of a multi-dimensional approach to choosing, planning, and navigating careers across the lifespan – and integrating work responsibilities with other significant life roles.

To shape careers relevant for the 21st century – and beyond – it will be increasingly important to mobilize and effectively coordinate an entire “village” of stakeholders, including the individuals, their “influencers” (e.g., families, teachers, community leaders, mentors, and role models), employers, and policy makers. CDPs have a key and multi-faceted role to play in shaping a socially just future – helping individuals to seek out and integrate meaningful input and, also, working locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally as advocates.

*An award-winning career development thought leader in Canada and internationally, Dr. Roberta Neault, CCC, CCDP, GCDFi, is President of Life Strategies Ltd., a BC-based career consulting firm with international reach, and Project Director with the Canadian Career Development Foundation (CCDF). Recently, she was named as a Team Canada member for ICCDPP’s upcoming International Symposium in Norway, 2019. Roberta is also an honorary lifetime member of the Career Development Association of Alberta.*

*In her 4 decades within the career development sector, Roberta has supported countless job-seeking clients, career development practitioners (CDPs), counsellors, counsellors-in-training, employment service providers, and policy makers through her extensive speaking, writing, instruction, and consultation on career-related topics. As co-developer of the Career Engagement model, Roberta’s recent work has focused on applying the model more broadly, activating a full spectrum of career influencers from work, learning, and life.*

*Roberta is known for her creativity, compassion, infectious enthusiasm for empowering others, and "hands-on" experience working with diverse groups of people– as well as for her global wanderings, keynoting for career professionals most recently in Singapore, Sweden, Scotland, New Zealand, and, of course, Canada! She brings vivid anecdotes, practical examples, and a wealth of resources to her work advocating for the advancement of the career development sector locally, nationally, and internationally.* <http://lifestrategies.ca/>

**Closing Keynote (May 1, 2019)**

*Fitting into an Agile Workforce – How to PIVOT, RESPOND and STRATEGIZE in a Contingency Workforce ~ Gail Kastning*

The agile workforce is growing. It is estimated that in 2025 the Canadian workforce will be 40% contingent. This growth in flexible staffing is happening in Canada and around the world. Is an agile workforce here to stay? If so, what will it look like? What does this mean for Canadian workers and Career Practitioners?

This keynote will focus on:

PIVOT – What is an agile workforce? PIVOT examines characteristics of an agile workforce, the statistics of its growth and what this climate will look like for Canadian workers and Career Practitioners as we support our clients.

RESPOND – Is an agile workforce good news or bad news? RESPOND challenges our attitude towards a flexible workforce and how we can positively respond to a work climate that is shifting and changing.

STRATEGIZE – Do current career development theories, models and approaches effectively support our clients in career planning and work search? STRATEGIZE examines current theories, models and approaches and their effectiveness in meeting the needs of our clients as they navigate an agile work world.

*Gail Kastning, B.Ed., CCS, is a Calgary based Certified Career Strategist, Portfolio Careerist and owner of Purposeful Careers and Bridging the Gap. With over 10 years in the field of career development and workplace training, Gail has supported thousands of Albertans in their work search and career management goals. Over the past five years, she has diligently researched the topic of the changing world of work, global trend towards portfolio careers, the increase in a global contingency workforce and gig economy. She has been a guest lecturer at the University of Calgary and has spoken at the Alberta Career Development Conference, Alberta Job Search Boot Camps, GoldMind Project Events, and Laid Off Calgary. She has been a contributing writer to Career Momentum.*

*As a portfolio careerist who has tapped into a contingent workforce for over 20 years in both Canada and Japan, she knows how to stream income from consulting, contracting, freelance, project based, entrepreneurial ventures and salaried work. Over the past two years, she has interviewed Portfolio Careerists from Alberta who are income streaming and features them on her blog. Her clients have called her a knowledgeable and pragmatic career coach who has opened their eyes to new career ideas. Her business friends tell her she has an energetic brain that never turns off!* <https://www.purposefulcareers.ca/blog/>

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