



SHARI HUGHSON

ENTREPRENEUR, EDUCATOR, ADVISOR

CONTACT

 343-363-8044

 s.hughson@queensu.ca

 www.sharihughson.com

PROFILE

Shari Hughson is an entrepreneur, educator, social innovator, & extreme adventurer. She started her first business in her 20s & won CIBC Entrepreneur of the Year before the age of 30. She has owned 6 health companies & 2 e-commerce sites, and today is C.O.O. at Wayfound Mental Health Group & an Adjunct Lecturer at Queen's University. Shari won a National Honour from the First Nations Health Authority for a project that impacted the mental health of a remote community in 2013. She also won Canadian Top 50 Business & Entrepreneur Female Leaders of the Year in 2021 by SME Canada. Shari is an engaging educator, public speaker, and advisor on topics of innovation, entrepreneurship, social impact, well-being, and courageous leadership.

SKILLS

- RESULTS FOCUSED LEADER
- INNOVATION STRATEGIST
- SOCIAL IMPACT CHAMPION
- EDUCATOR
- ADVISOR & BOARD EXPERT
- PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER

EDUCATION

MBA

University of Calgary, Alberta

Grade Point Avg: 3.91 / 4.0

Harvard Beta Gamma Sigma Award for Top of Class Honours

BScN (Registered Nurse)

Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario

First Class Honours & awarded Greatest Contribution to the Class & Students, as voted by Professors & Fellow Classmates

EDUCATOR EXPERIENCE

Queen's University, Ontario, Educator & Advisor

Adjunct Lecturer, Workshops, Advisor, 2017 - present

Commerce, COMM201: Business Fundamentals for Entrepreneurs.

- Typically, 85 students each term. 2 Terms each year: one in-person & one online
- Commerce & Electrical & Computing Science Engineers Innovation Stream (ECEi)
- Requirement course for the Certificate in Business

Entrepreneurship & Innovation, ENIN140: Design Thinking.

- Typically, 500 students each term. 3 Terms each year: one in-person, 2 online
- Pan-campus course for all faculties, offered by Arts & Science department
- Requirement Course for the Entrepreneurship & Innovation Certificate

Commerce, COMM500: Independent Commerce student projects, 4th year.

Dunin Deshpande Queen's Innovation Centre (DDQIC), Incubator & Accelerator

- I deliver workshops on bootstrapping, financing new ventures, design thinking, courageous leadership, social acceptance to operate, co-founding, & social enterprises. I am a Startup Advisor every year with over 50 students.

Queen's University, Ontario, Program Director

Master of Management Innovation & Entrepreneurship, 2016 - 2021

- Developed, iterated, and scaled this new degree from 14 students in year one to over 119 by the 5th year. Full transformation from in-person classroom to hybrid online, in-person, and boot camp style incubator-like program.
- Led 2 full academic reviews and course co-creation with Faculty and 3 accreditation processes for Smith School of Business, Queen's University.

Olds College, Alberta, Lecturer & International Centre

I taught marketing and sales, accounting, customer service, & financing new ventures, plus I was the accounting and program lead for the International Centre for two years.



SHARI HUGHSON



[Shari TEDx Talk](#)



[Shari Interview SME Can](#)



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“Humanities greatest strength is our ability to innovate.” SH

PROFESSIONAL SPEAKER & ADVISOR

Shari Hughson is an engaging speaker, weaving stories from being an entrepreneur, innovator, extreme adventurer, wilderness fanatic, and having lived 7 years pushing her limits by living off the land with only the bare survival essentials. These experiences give Shari a very unique perspective on life, innovation, entrepreneurship, social enterprises, mindset, mental well-being, and courageous leadership.

Shari has advised and consulted to over 150 founders and executives to startup, scale-up, and make an impact through innovation. Shari is insightful and inspiring as an Advisor – helping people hyper-focus on the critical steps to success. Shari has the mind of an Entrepreneur, the spirit of an Adventurer, and the heart of a Nurse.

AWARDS

- TOP 50 CANADIAN FEMALE ENTREPRENEURS 2021, SME
- FIRST NATION HEALTH AUTHORITY PROJECT 2013
- FIRST NATION HEALTH LEADER NOMINEE, 09/10
- CIBC ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR 1994

ADVISOR & BOARDS

PRAXIS Spinal Cord Injury
Vice Chair Board & Commercialization
Committee Chair

1 Million Teachers, Africa & India
Board & Trustee for Girl Rising Program

First Nation Economic Dev
Committee Member, 3 Communities

Entrepreneur/Executive Advisor

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

Wayfound Mental Health Group Inc

C.O.O. & Shareholder.

Launched their first mental health digital product, led a cybersecurity transformation, systematized operations to scale, and created a new department in Psychedelic Care.

Xeni Gwet'in First Nation Government

Health Project Manager, Grant Writer, Consultant.

Raised over \$2 Million and created Innovative and award-winning projects & infrastructure.

CBI Health Group Inc

Director; Entrepreneur by Acquisition. Strategy & Business Development

Led exponential growth through M & A, greenfield, & organic growth, 200% year on year. Improved customer & employee engagement while simultaneously increasing revenue and profit margin. Worked with Venture Capitalists for a very successful exit.

We Care Home Health Services Inc

Founder, CEO.

Co-founded my first business at the age of 25. I started and built a national company over 6 years with a very successful exit. Over \$10M in revenue and 350 employees.

Speaking & Advising Experience

- Certified IDEO Design Thinking Facilitator
- Speaker & Advisor for over 150 executives and entrepreneurs including: Farm Credit Canada, TD Bank, YEO, Canada Life, Loyalty One, League of Innovators, Loblaw, Startup Can, Kingston School Board, TitanMedLife, Providence Care, Xeni Gwet'in First Nation, Start Proud, British Council, Sustainable Dev Commission, Climate Action, Enactus...