Dan Pontefract

Speaker Overview

AKA: You Need a Speaker or Workshop Facilitator, and You’re Thinking About Using Dan
It’s Part Of My Purpose

Rarely does a day pass where I don’t find myself reiterating my declaration of purpose:

“We’re not here to see through each other; we’re here to see each other through.”

Speaking in front of an audience helps me fulfill my purpose. Facilitating workshops is also a part of my purpose. It’s my me.

Ultimately I want to help. Speaking allows me the chance to assist others in their quest to better themselves. For that moment—when I step out on stage—I am there to teach, to facilitate, to unearth, to brighten, to deliver, and to smile.

I am an educator at heart. I speak not because it’s a job, but because my purpose in life is to help others grow.

In other words, when I’m on stage speaking or facilitating a workshop, I’m there specifically to improve people’s tomorrow. Thank you for considering me.
Some people call me a “pracademic,” part practical and part academic. Others liken me to an “edutainer,” where I get to educate and entertain while on stage.

I draw my material from first-hand, executive leadership roles. I have helped individuals, teams and organizations change the way they operate as a full-time employee (in the weeds) as well as an external consultant (as an adjunct guide on the side.)

I am blessed to tap into a 25-year career, as well as an army of contacts & acquaintances. I am always researching, learning, and evolving. Ancora Imparo.
I don’t believe in “canned talks.” Thus, no talk is ever the same.

What to Expect

I have themes, stories and concepts that serve as a basis for the content. Leadership, purpose, culture & thinking are the main ones, although I am malleable. We can go deep, or cover them all. I possess over 1000 slides to choose from, whether for talks or workshops.

But you are the customer. I work with each client to determine what is the best fit for the big day. Thus, each gig or workshop can be tailored to your needs.

I use metaphors, colourful graphics, historical stories, humour & I may even wear a hat. Oh, and fancy shoes.

The pace is fast. And there are always takeaways.
Themes & Topics

Leadership
- How to be a Humane Leader
- The Importance of Communication
- Being a Modern, Pragmatic Leader
- Taking Action through Benevolence
- Empathy vs Sympathy vs Selfishness
- Recognize, Coach & Mentor
- The Value of the Change Mindset

Purpose
- The Interconnections of Purpose
- Personal, Organizational & Role
- The Declaration of Purpose
- Develop, Define & Decide Your You
- The GOOD DEEDS of Organizations
- Job vs Career vs Purpose Mindsets
- How to Enact & Unleash Purpose

Thinking
- The Balance of Reflection vs Action
- Distracted, Disengaged & Dopamine
- Creative, Critical and Applied Thinking
- Indifferent, Indecisive & Inflexible States
- Dream, Decide, Do, Repeat.
- How to Win Back your Imagination, Focus, Attention, Time & Productivity

Culture
- The Importance of Collaboration
- The Open & Trustworthy Organization
- Networks are our Net Worth
- Pervasive Learning is a Cultural Arc
- Breaking Down Silos & Fiefdoms
- Empowering versus Powering
- Unobstructed Flow of Commonality

Remember, no talk is the same. I can weave in and out of all themes/topics.

Workshops always contain activities.
Dan is the best-selling author of three books, each focused on a specific theme & where his talks or workshops emanate.

**FLAT ARMY**
Culture can really become your competitive advantage. How can organizations become more engaged & productive?

**THE PURPOSE EFFECT**
When we understand & balance personal, role and organizational purpose, we will find ourselves in the “sweet spot.” How can you live and work with more meaning?

**OPEN to THINK**
We have become too distracted, busy, and unfocused. It has endangered our lives, and our work. How to fix it? Be “Open to Think.” Dream. Decide. Do., Repeat.

Coming January 26, 2021: SIX DEGREES of LEADERSHIP
Dan is currently writing his 4th book, destined to shake things up.

Books can be bought in advance of a talk, if desired.
Dan’s Span

A mix of academic and corporate, real world first-hand leadership roles.

Senior positions at TELUS, SAP, Business Objects and the British Columbia Institute of Technology

4 different TEDx Talks

Winner of 20 industry awards

Not only a best-selling author, but a frequent contributor at Forbes, Harvard Business Review and The Huffington Post.

Talks and workshops delivered at conferences such as KM World, ATD International Convention, HR.com, APEX, CIO & Women’s Executive Network.

Venues have included the IMF, Hockey Hall of Fame, Vienna Hall of Sciences & the Gentry Complex.

Private functions with AT&T, Eli Lilly, TD Bank, Adobe, MainTrain & A&W to name just a few.
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<th>Q1: How long can Dan talk for?</th>
<th>Q2: Is Q&amp;A included in a keynote?</th>
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<td>My wife says “forever” but talks can range from a TED-like 15 minutes all the way up to 90 minutes. Anything more just doesn’t work.</td>
<td>Of course. It can be handled at the end of a talk or during. Sometimes questions can be planted at key times to engage the audience.</td>
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<th>Q3: What does Dan need to speak?</th>
<th>Q4: How does the workshop work?</th>
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<td>If it’s in a conference format, a comfort monitor &amp; a lavalier microphone. A cordless mouse (aka clicker) is also required. If this isn’t possible, then a podium with Dan’s laptop plugged into the A/V system in addition to a wired podium microphone. A projector &amp; screen is a must.</td>
<td>Workshops are part talking &amp; part activities. Attendees need to be assembled at tables. The minimum timeframe is 90 minutes and it can be increased to 3 hours. It depends on the themes you’d like to address. Some activities are individual and others are group based.</td>
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<th>Q5: What’s included in the fee?</th>
<th>Q6: Okay, what is the fee?</th>
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<td>I believe in flat fees. We discuss what you’d like to accomplish—and whether you would like books for the event—and we work out the fee, which always includes all travel and incidentals. My home base is Victoria, BC, Canada located in the Pacific Time Zone, so travel typically involves an airplane. On occasion I can kayak but there are orca whales, so it’s risky.</td>
<td>That’s where we get to chat about your event.</td>
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<th>Q7: Is Dan a prima donna speaker?</th>
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<td>I book my own travel, do my own stunts &amp; make my own bed. The last thing anyone needs is another prima donna speaker.</td>
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In Conclusion

As a former Chief Learning Officer as well as a higher education director, I have hired dozens of speakers. I know what you’re going through. Is Dan the right fit? First, let’s be clear...

I am not a motivational speaker.

I am a thinker, connecting dots & providing insights that help attendees understand the critical importance of leadership, culture, purpose and thinking. Indeed, it is my life’s work.

I am available to educate & facilitate insights, to change behaviours. My purpose is to help.

I would love to help your attendees grow & learn.

Best of luck in your search.
Want to watch Dan in action?
All 4 TED Talks can be viewed at danpontefract.com/tedx-talks/

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