

Michael Kerr

“The Workplace Energizer!”

Michael Kerr, CSP, Speaking Hall of Fame member, is an award-winning, Certified Speaking Professional and the author of six books. He is known as one of North America’s leading authorities on how to create more productive, less stressful, more creative, and more inspiring workplaces. His hilarious, inspiring and thought-provoking programs are often rated as having the greatest impact and relevance of any presentation at a conference.

Michael has delivered his captivating keynote presentations and training workshops to more than 800 audiences, from Iran to Texas, from Austria to Honolulu. Michael’s programs offer relevant, practical ideas delivered with his memorable brand of high-energy, clean humour. "Inspiring," "hilarious," "energizing," "fabulous ideas," and "incredibly relevant and timely content," are phrases clients repeatedly use to describe the impact of his presentations.

One of Michael’s books, *Putting Humour to Work*, has been described as the “bible of humour in the workplace,” while his book *Inspiring Workplaces – Creating the Kind of Workplace Where Everyone Wants to Work* has been called “an inspiring blueprint for workplace success.” Michael’s company, Humour at Work, also offers books, training DVDs, audio CDs, resource articles and a monthly Workplace Energizer Subscription program to help his clients achieve a lasting impact.

Michael lives in Canmore, Alberta in the Canadian Rockies.



Topics Michael Speaks On

Humour in the Workplace
Inspiring Workplaces
Employee Motivation/Teambuilding
Putting Creativity to Work
Presentation skills training
Welcome to the Rockies

Inspiring Workplace Resources

Putting Humour to Work (book)
Inspiring Workplaces (book)
340 Ways to Put Humour to Work (e-book)
Putting Humour to Work DVDs/audio CDs
What’s So Funny About Alberta? (book)
When Do you let the Animals Out? (book)



Presentation Messages

Creating Inspiring Workplaces with Humour

* This is a sample of the messages Michael typically delivers in either a **Putting Humor to Work** or **Inspiring Workplaces** presentation. Most clients prefer a more general approach, touching on as many of these key issues as possible, however, Michael will be pleased to tailor and focus in on the messages most relevant to your workplace.

1. Moving from the Rat Race to the Human Race
 - Creating a “want to” kind of workplace vs. a “have to” workplace
 - The attitude choice we make every day
 - The importance of communicating an inspiring, collective vision
 - Valuing workplace values: Actions really do speak louder than words!
2. Inspiring Humour in the Workplace
 - Four common humour in the workplace myths: Why humour is no joke!
 - Practicing “safe” humour in the workplace
 - The physical and medicinal benefits of laughter
 - Stress-busting with humour – 3 R’s to a more positive workplace
3. Inspiring Workplace Communications
 - It’s not what you say, it’s *how* you say it and it’s *what people hear!*
 - Adding humour to your communication: Why and how humour fosters a more open and honest workplace environment
 - Creating more inspiring meetings
4. Inspiring Customer Service; Inspiring Teamwork
 - Why client service matters more than ever
 - The link between teamwork and inspiring service
 - Exceeding service expectations with humour
5. What a Great Idea! Inspiring Creativity in the Workplace
 - Inspiring creativity: *Why* Ha + Ha = AHA!
 - Where great ideas come from; building teams for greater ideas
 - Idea-supporting language and attitudes vs. idea-squashing attitudes
6. Inspiring Motivation
 - How to attract & keep great employees
 - Three simple P’s of powerful workplace motivation and performance
 - Creating a culture of celebration and recognition

Rave Reviews!

Michael Kerr

"Our participants rated you as the speaker with the **highest quality and relevance.**"
Lana J. Larocque, Alberta Human Resources

"**Your name and topic brought a record crowd** to our meeting. Your presentation provided us with an opportunity to laugh and a chance to look at how we can make our workplaces truly exciting places to be!"
Heather Ayres, Human Resources Management Association of Manitoba

"**87% of the staff gave you the highest rating available – many said it was the best workshop they have EVER attended.** Based on the evaluations you were hilarious, inspirational and motivational and many want you back! I still see examples in the workplace more than two months after the workshop!" *Charlene Dalen, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation*

"Michael's presentation was **highly energetic and humorous**, focusing on creating a more pleasant work environment. Comments from members included: **'fabulous, wow!, awesome and timely.'** **Over 90% of the audience rated the session as having exceeded their expectations!**" *Bill Baumgartner, Secretary Treasurer, Co-operative Managers' Assoc.*

"People were **engaged, energized, inspired** and most importantly, they laughed a lot! Michael was **an absolutely wonderful consultant to work with.**" *Sophia Langois, HR Director, KPMG*

"Your presentation really **hit the mark! After seeing the reaction, our president felt it was important for you to come to our head office** and address all of our employees." *Kathy Hammond, Conference Planner, The CUMIS Group Limited*

"Many of the head office staff thought you were **the best keynote speaker we've ever had!** Thank you for your invigorating and energizing keynote presentation."
Tanya Dusyk, Territory Manager, Shell Canada

The best keynote speaker ever! You've left a lasting impression with us!" *Roxanne Plante, Medicine Hat College*

"Your dynamic and interactive presentation was the **highlight of our conference.** To this day, **years later, when our management teams gets together we will often refer to the topics that you enlightened and enriched our lives with!**"
Steve Enns, Vice President and General Manager, TGS Harvard Management

"From the feedback forms your presentation **scored a perfect 10 out of 10!** Your presentation was humorous, thought-provoking and insightful." *Paul Ryan, Alberta Association of Radiology Managers*

"I have **never heard so many 'thank-you's!**' The group laughed and walked away with a **rejuvenated attitude and concrete ideas.** Michael presents **valuable, pertinent, and USEFUL information** in a manner which is **highly amusing and effective.**" *Terry Zitnak, Manager, Alberta Sustainable Resources*

"Michael Kerr **earned a perfect evaluation** for his presentation at the conference. We appreciate the time and effort it took to plan and deliver an **excellent and thought-provoking session.**" *Jean Silzer, Travel Alberta Conference*

"**We were in stitches laughing so hard** during our meeting. Michael is very entertaining and humorous, which **held our attention while teaching us valuable information.**" *Wendy Kirkpatrick, Meeting Planners International*

"**This was the best and most focused training I've had in 30 years!**"
Peter Hope, Communications Manager, Atlantic Region Parks Canada

"Michael's session was the **best part of the meeting!** Excellent and well worth the time – so **relevant and beneficial** to our work."
Jocelyn Baker, Regional Forester, Saskatchewan Environment



Sample Client List

Michael Kerr

CORPORATIONS

WestJet Airlines
Bell Canada (x3)
Shell Canada Ltd. (x4)
KPMG
Imperial Oil (x3)
Encana (x3)
Scotiabank
Credit Union Central of B.C.
Deloitte Inc.
Co-Operators Insurance
Bacardi International
Compaq Computers
Nova Corporation
Sheraton Hotels (x4)
Telus Canada (x2)
C.B.C. Radio and Television
General Electric Harris
Days Inn International
Tree Top Ltd.
Humpty's Restaurants
Bumper to Bumper
Canada Post
Petro-Canada
Saskatchewan Credit Union
Suncor
Enbridge (x2)
Loblaw's
Investment Planning Counsel
Fluor Canada Ltd.
NewAlta (x2)
United Theapeutics
Calgary Airport Authority (x5)
Halogen Software
Agrium
Overwaite Food Group
Colgate
Calgary Coop
Coast Hotels
Schlumberger
TransCanada Pipeline

ASSOCIATIONS

Meeting Planners International
Society of Association Executives
American Payroll Congress
Canadian Insurance Accountants
Petroleum Accountants
Community Bankers of America
Independent Grocers
Pacific Centre for Safety
Alberta Weekly Newspapers

Alberta Municipal Administrators
Police Womens Association
B.C. Broadcasters
The United Way
Certified Management Accountants
Human Resources Associations (x4)
Professional Speakers (x8)
Canadian Diabetes Association
Pipeline Contractors
Canadian Business Travel
Call Management Association
Canadian Parks & Recreation
Alberta Veterinary Association
Manitobans With Disabilities
Rocky Mountain Fairs
National Electrical Contractor
Alberta Radiology Managers
AB Chartered Accts. (x18)
Construction Association
Industrial Engineering
Canadian Pharmacy Techs
Institute of Metallurgy
Alberta Assessors Association
Master Brewers Association
Canadian Tire Dealers
United Farmers of Alberta
Canadian Institute of Forestry
Can. Energy Research (x3)
AutoSense Conference
Alberta Motel Association
American Marketing Association
Toastmasters International
Real Estate Associations (x6)
Registered Safety Professionals
B.C. Municipal Safety
Senior Citizen Housing

GOVERNMENT

Public Works (x4)
Service Canada
Indian Oil & Gas Canada (x3)
Sask. Environment (x2)
City of Calgary (x4)
Parks Canada (x12)
Industry Canada (x2)
Alberta Agriculture (x3)
Middle Managers Conference (x2)
City of Edmonton (x3)
Alberta Justice
Canadian Military (x2)
Travel Alberta (x2)
NWT Leaders Forum (x2)

Environment Canada (x2)
Revenue Canada (x3)
Wild Rose Foundation (x3)
Small Business and Revenue
Transport Canada
AB Urban Municipal Assoc.
Alberta Sustainable Dev.
AB Human Resources
Resources Development (x2)
Aboriginal Business Canada
Canadian Coast Guard
Alberta Energy (x2)
AB Municipal Admin. Leaders
AB Municipal Clerks Assoc.
Gov't Finance Officers

HEALTH

Pharmacists Assoc. of AB
Calgary Regional Health
Authority (x3)
Community Health Nurses
Fraser Health Authority
Health Canada (x3)
Canmore Local Nurses
AB Occup. Health Nurses
AB Operating Room Nurses
Total Care Technologies
Ontario Ministry of Health
Ontario Hospitals Assoc.
College of Dental Surgeons
Peace Country Health
Vanc. Island Health Authority
Calgary Health Region
AB College of Pharmacists
AB Mental Health Assoc. (x3)
Thunder Bay District Health
AB Radiology Managers

EDUCATION

Arizona State University
Calgary Board of Education
Elk Island School Principals
School Bus. Officials of AB
Edmonton Teachers Assoc.
Red Deer College
Rocky Mountain School Dist.
Kamloops School District
AB S.E. Teachers Assoc.
Medicine Hat College
Durham College
Council on School Admin.
Surrey School District



Putting Humour to Work

Keynotes and Training Workshops

Why choose between content and fun when you can have both? *Putting Humour to Work* presentations offer practical, relevant ideas delivered in a fun, energetic and memorable style. You will laugh as you learn:

- How humour can help you choose a more positive workplace attitude
- Why humour at work is no joke, and why *it's not about being funny!*
- Why humour at work makes dollars . . . and sense
- The health benefits of laughter—the latest in laughter research
- Three reasons why humour is one of the most powerful stress busters
- The “3 R’s” of humour and stress management
- It’s not always what you say, it’s *how* you say it that matters
- Customer service with a laugh and valuing your workplace values
- Teams that laugh together, stay together
- Sparking creative thinking through the power of play and humour
- Practicing “safe” workplace humour
- Guiding lights for putting humour to work without getting fired!

Presentation Length

Keynote presentations typically last from 45 – 90 minutes, while longer half day or full day workshops offer the chance for more group interaction and team learning activities.

Tailored To Your Needs

All presentations are tailored with your specific audience in mind. For the workshops, we’ll offer you a menu of program topics/messages to choose from so you can build a workshop that is just right for your audience.

The presentations include door prizes, fun giveaways and the resource handout “*Putting Humour to Work.*”

To help participants bring the message home and to have a longer-lasting impact, we can arrange to have humour books, cards, tapes and CDs available for participants. Or ask us about a bulk discount rate if you’d like to pre-purchase a product for each participant.

Related Presentations

- *Leading with Laughter* (designed specifically for supervisors and managers)
 - *Putting Humour to Work in Presentations*
 - *Putting Creativity to Work*
 - *Inspiring Workplaces*
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Inspiring Workplaces

Keynotes and Training Workshops

Why choose between content and fun when you can have both? *Inspiring Workplaces* offers practical, relevant ideas geared towards creating healthier, happier and more productive workplace environments, delivered in a humorous and memorable style. You will laugh as you learn:

- Choosing your workplace attitude before it chooses you
- Why inspiring workplaces value their values
- Creating an inspiring workplace vision
- Why (and how) inspiring workplaces put humour to work
- Creating inspiring service for colleagues and customers
- Inspiring creative thinking in the workplace
- Inspiring communication in the workplace
- Inspiring employees: how to attract employees and keep them engaged!
- Thanks a lot! The importance of celebrating, recognizing and rewarding
- Guiding lights for creating healthier, more inspiring workplaces

Presentation Length

Keynote presentations typically last from 45 – 90 minutes, while longer half day or full day workshops offer the chance for more group interaction and team learning activities.

Tailored To Your Needs

All presentations are tailored with your specific audience in mind. For the workshops, we'll offer you a menu of program topics/messages to choose from so you can build a workshop that is just right for your audience.

The presentations include door prizes, fun giveaways and the resource handout "*Inspiring Workplaces*."

To help participants bring the message home and to have a longer-lasting impact, we can arrange to have humour books, cards, tapes and CDs available for participants. Or ask us about a bulk discount rate if you'd like to pre-purchase a product for each participant.

Related Presentations

- *Putting Humour to Work*
 - *Leading With Laughter* (designed specifically for supervisors and managers)
 - *Putting Creativity to Work: Why Ha + HA = AHA!*
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Inspiring Leadership

Keynotes and Training Workshops

What does it REALLY take to inspire, motivate, and engage employees, especially during difficult times? How do you create a “WANT to” kind of workplace, rather than a “HAVE to” kind of workplace? How do you develop future leaders? What’s the difference between being a manager and a truly INSPIRING leader?

And how do you make sure your workplace doesn’t end up in tomorrow’s Dilbert™ strip?

Inspiring Leadership is designed specifically for supervisors and managers with any level of experience. *Inspiring Leadership* is relentlessly honest and packed full of relevant ideas that leaders can immediately implement. And as a bonus that audiences have always appreciated: Michael’s thought-provoking ideas are delivered in a unique, high-energy and hilarious style. (Why choose between great content and humour when you can have both!)

- Leaders leading leaders (featuring a few words courtesy Southwest Airlines and George Carlin)
- The “vision thing”: how inspiring leaders inspire an inspiring vision
- The truth about those workplace values you value so much
- Inspiring communication: why great leaders don’t necessarily have to speak like Winston Churchill (sure it’d be *nice*, but it’s not necessary. . . and here’s why)
- Inspiring creative thinking: why great leaders ask a lot of leading questions
- Leading with laughter: why your sense of humour may be your best secret weapon
- Thanks a lot! Recognizing all the obvious and not-so-obvious ways we recognize employees
- The real truth about workplace motivators and de-motivators
- Getting to know you, getting to know all about you (No, you don’t have to be best buddies, but inspiring leaders really do need to get to know their employees . . . and here’s how.
- “He shoots! He scores!” How goal setting, workload, work-life balance, and the meaning of life impact inspiring leadership
- Take me to your leader: are you going to be part of the problem or part of the solution?

Presentation Length

Keynote presentations typically last from 60 – 90 minutes, while longer half day or full day workshops offer the chance for more group interaction and team learning activities.

Tailored To Your Needs

All presentations are tailored with your specific audience in mind. For longer workshops, we’ll offer you a menu of program topics to choose from so you can build a workshop that is just right for your audience. The presentations include door prizes, fun giveaways and the resource handout “*Inspiring Leadership*.”

To keep the message alive and guarantee a long-lasting impact we can also arrange to have books, audio CDs or videos available for all participants. Or ask about our subscription program, custom-designed videos, or follow-up presentations.



Putting Creativity to Work

Keynotes and Training Workshops

Do you want to get more ideas from your employees? And better ideas? Do you want to eliminate “but-headed thinking” (*but, we can’t do that!*)? *Putting Creativity to Work* offers simple, practical ideas on how to foster a more creative workplace, delivered in a fun, memorable style. Audiences will learn:

- Why creativity is the most valuable workplace commodity
- The three most important traits of innovative workplaces
- Storming the brains: how to inspire creativity in your meetings
- The humour connection: Why HA + Ha = AHA!
- Simple ways to get generate more ideas
- Eliminating idea-squashing language and behaviour
- Turning failure on its heads
- Advancing and selling your ideas: how to turn ideas into results

Presentation Length

Keynote presentations typically last from 45 – 90 minutes, while longer half day or full day workshops offer the chance for more group interaction and team learning activities.

Tailored To Your Needs

All presentations are tailored with your specific audience in mind. For the workshops, we’ll offer you a menu of program topics/messages to choose from so you can build a workshop that is just right for your audience.

The presentations include door prizes, fun giveaways and the resource handout “*Putting Creativity to Work.*”

To help participants bring the message home and to have a longer-lasting impact, we can arrange to have humour books, cards, tapes and CDs available for participants. Or ask us about a bulk discount rate if you’d like to pre-purchase a product for each participant.

Related Presentations

- *Putting Humour to Work*
 - *Inspiring Workplaces*
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Training Workshops

It's not so much WHAT you say that matters, it's HOW you say it!

How you say it, how you make that sales pitch, how you deliver that speech at the annual conference or how you present an idea in the boardroom, means the difference between success and failure. Or at least between being mediocre and brilliantly effective.

It can mean the difference between boring your audience into a catatonic stupor and keeping them awake; the difference between alienating your audience and connecting with the audience; the difference between having absolutely no impact on your audience (and really, how depressing is that?) and inspiring your audience to action, whether it be an audience of 3 or 3,000.

Inspiring Ideas for Inspiring Presentations workshops offer practical tips designed to help *any level of speaker* improve both their confidence and their speaking skills.

This engaging workshop is interactive, informative, and fun. Michael practices what he preaches, so not only do you hear the information, you see it in practice, which is why many of Michael's clients have described this workshop as *"the best workshop they have ever attended on any topic."*

And yes, the workshop will even cover *what* you're going to say, because truth be told, it's not just how you say it that matters, what you say has an impact too. So you'll learn tips and tricks and secrets from an experienced professional speaker on how to plan your presentation, develop ideas, organize your ideas and deliver your ideas *more effectively than you ever have before.*

RAVE REVIEWS

"The best and most focused training I have had in 30 years." Peter Hope

"Mike is great! The presentation skills workshop was one of the best workshops I've ever been to." Barb Bertch, Parks Canada

"You have a unique ability to inspire confidence and foster significant improvements in people at any level." Mary Dalman

"I thought this was one of the best workshop sessions I have ever attended."
Leanne Howard, Alberta Agriculture
