

2-Minute Speaker Introduction

Our keynote speaker today has not simply studied leadership—he **has lived the lessons he shares.**

Please join me in welcoming **Abbas Alimorad, MA, MPed, PMP**—an international keynote speaker, executive leader, educator, executive coach, and author of *From Displacement to Leadership: How Adversity Shapes Extraordinary Leaders*.

Abbas's journey began far from the boardroom. As a young child, he and his family were forced to flee Iraq, spending years rebuilding their lives before immigrating to Canada as refugees. Those early experiences with uncertainty, adversity, and change would ultimately shape his perspective on resilience, leadership, and the human capacity to adapt.

Today, Abbas brings more than two decades of leadership experience across government, healthcare, higher education, and the private sector, where he has led complex strategic initiatives and organizational transformations. He serves as a Senior Project Management Consultant with Global Affairs Canada, teaches project management at Western University, and serves as President of the Project Management Institute's Southwestern Ontario Chapter.

His thought leadership has been published in *Ivey Business Journal*, and he has spoken to audiences across North America on leadership, resilience, organizational transformation, artificial intelligence, governance, and project leadership.

Abbas was also **featured on CTV Weekend Spotlight**, where he was interviewed about his book, his extraordinary personal journey, and the leadership lessons that can emerge from adversity.

Through his writing, speaking, and leadership work, Abbas brings together lived experience and more than 20 years of professional leadership to deliver a powerful message: **adversity does not have to define our future—it can help prepare us to lead it.**

Today, you will hear a story about resilience, transformation, purpose, and the choices we make when circumstances challenge us most.

Please join me in giving a warm and enthusiastic welcome to **Abbas Alimorad!**