

BEAN GILL | BIOS

Benveet “Bean” Gill

Keynote Speaker | Emcee & Host | Professional Disruptor

BYLINE

Short

Keynote Speaker. Emcee and Host. Professional Disruptor.

Long

Keynote speaker and co-founder of ReYu Paralysis Recovery Centre, helping organizations Disrupt the Discomfort of Disability and build inclusive leadership that performs.

Long w/ Geo & SEO

Edmonton, Canada and USA keynote speaker Bean Gill | Disability inclusion, disruption, and leadership development | Co-Founder, ReYu Paralysis Recovery Centre | Emcee and Host

100-WORD BIO

Bean Gill is a keynote speaker, emcee, and full-on disruptor who got paralyzed by a virus in 2012 and decided that was the beginning, not the end. A former X-ray Technologist, she co-founded ReYu Paralysis Recovery Centre, retrained her own body and nervous system, and built a life and a career out of proving what is possible when you stop accepting limitations. She has starred in the award-winning CBC docuseries Push, hosted the AMPIA Rosie Awards, presented at the JUNO Awards, and taken the stage everywhere from corporate boardrooms to TEDx. Bean helps leaders, teams, and entire organizations disrupt the discomfort of disability and build workplaces where everyone succeeds.

SHORT BIO

Stage introduction bio. Read aloud by emcee or event host. ~40 seconds.

In 2012, our next speaker was an X-ray Technologist with a career she'd built from the ground up. Then a virus paralyzed her within 10 minutes. Most people would stop there. Bean didn't. She co-founded ReYu Paralysis Recovery Centre, built it from nothing, and turned her lived experience into a mission: Empower recovery & redefine possibilities. Today she's a keynote speaker, emcee, and full-on disruptor helping organizations build workplaces where people with disabilities don't just belong. They succeed. Please welcome Bean Gill.

LONG BIO

Bean Gill didn't plan to become an expert in disability inclusion. She became one by living on both sides of it.

She started her career as an X-ray Technologist. In 2012, a virus paralyzed her within ten minutes. What followed wasn't just a medical event. It was a full dismantling of identity, career, and certainty. Most people would have stopped there. Bean built a company instead.

She co-founded ReYu Paralysis Recovery Centre in Edmonton, Alberta, a facility dedicated to empowering recovery and redefining possibilities for those living with neurological conditions. As Executive Director, she navigated nonprofit governance, board accountability, and public scrutiny while simultaneously being a client of the centre she was running. She was the leader and the client. At the same time.

The hardest decision of her leadership career came from a moment of radical honesty with herself. Burned out, losing her hair, and physical stress responses her body could no longer hide, Bean made the call to step down as Executive Director. Not because she failed. Because she was half leading two companies and fully serving neither. The lesson she took from that decision has since become the foundation of her resilience framework, Fall. Feel. Rise. Repeat. If you cannot lead yourself and stay accountable to your own values, you will not lead anyone else well. Not your employees, not your family, not your team.

That lesson lands differently coming from someone who has had to rebuild her entire life from a fashion forward wheelchair.

As a South Asian woman navigating life with a visible disability, Bean understands what it means to walk into rooms that were never designed with you in mind. Her work on disability inclusion is not rooted in compliance frameworks or corporate sensitivity training. It is rooted in what she observed running an organization built around people with disabilities, hiring them, advocating for them, and truly seeing them. Not as a diagnosis. Not as a liability. As people.

The dominant framework most organizations operate from is the medical model of disability, which states the person is the problem. Bean works from the social model, which states the environment is the problem, not the person. That shift changes everything about how an organization hires, onboards, retains, and promotes.

She will tell you it is okay to say the wrong thing around her. That not knowing what to do doesn't make you a bad person. She'll be the first to tell you she doesn't have it all figured out. She just figured out how to keep going anyway. Fall. Feel. Rise. Repeat. And she's built a career helping organizations do the same.

Today Bean Gill is a keynote speaker, emcee, and TEDx speaker whose signature talk, Disrupt the Discomfort of Disability, is helping organizations across Canada and internationally build disability-inclusive workplaces that are not performative but operational. She does not ask organizations to be good. She shows them how to be better.