

NOLA SIMON

Strategic Futurist | Speaker | Podcast Host

"The future isn't predicted. It's practiced."

About

Nola Simon is a strategic futurist, keynote speaker, and podcast host who spent 20+ years across five large, complex organizations before leaving to build something different. Her methodology, Everyday Futurism, helps leaders and organizations trust themselves to read signals, challenge narratives, and make intentional moves before the status quo collapses underneath them.

She doesn't predict the future. She helps people practice it. Her career pivots, sabbatical, corporate exit, and choices as a working parent aren't anecdotes. They're data. She is the case study.

Everyday Futurism

A methodology grounded in five phases: Metacognition, Narrative Recognition, Signal Scanning, Small Experiments, and Narrative Building. The core principle: trust and identity come first. You stop waiting for permission. You start noticing what's already changing. You make moves before the map is complete.

Signature Speaking Topics

- Everyday Futurism: How to practice the future before it arrives
- The Self-Trust Deficit: Why smart leaders stay stuck
- Signal Reading for Leaders: What you're already noticing (and ignoring)
- The Future of Work Is Already Here: Culture, trust, and what comes next

Formats: Keynote (30-60 min) | Fireside chat / panel | Virtual keynote

Credentials

- 20+ years across five large organizations in strategy, communications, and leadership
- LinkedIn Top Voice 2024 & 2025
- Keynote speaker at Elevate Festival, Future of Work conferences, and enterprise events across North America
- Host of the Hope + Possibilities podcast (109+ episodes)
- Writer on Substack covering self-trust, leadership, and the future of work

Select Media

Maclean's Why I Made a Midlife Career Switch

CBC Spark The Future of Remote Work

CTV News Difficult conversations ahead for employers looking to bring staff back to office

CBC News Finally heading back to the office? It's getting more expensive to do that

The Canadian Press Back-to-office plans fall flat amid arbitrary rules, lack of communication

CityNews Canadian employers missing the mark with hybrid work policies

Reworked How to Equitably Handle Employee Recognition in a Hybrid Workplace

Speaking Highlight

Elevate Festival— "Make Work Love You Back"

A talk on self-trust, intentional change, and building a working life that actually works — delivered at Canada's leading innovation festival.

Advisory & Consulting

High-touch strategic partnerships for leadership teams navigating transformation. Signal scanning, landscape analysis, facilitated strategy sessions, and ongoing advisory partnership. Selective 1:1 consulting for senior leaders by invitation.

Every engagement starts the same way: a conversation about what you're seeing and where you want to go.

Headshots

High-resolution headshots available for download:

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Portrait (wildflowers): | nolasimon.com/images/nola-about.jpg |
| Speaking (black & white): | nolasimon.com/images/nola-speaking.jpg |
| Media (autumn, kimono): | nolasimon.com/images/nola-media.jpg |
| Editorial (pink backdrop): | nolasimon.com/images/nola-pink.jpg |

Contact & Links

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| Elevate Speaker Page: | elevate.ca/speakers/nola-simon/ |

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