Eddy Isaacs, PhD
President, Eddy Isaacs Inc.

Eddy Isaacs is the former CEO of Alberta Innovates – Energy & Environment Solutions and is currently the President of Eddy Isaacs Inc. and a Strategic Advisor to the University of Alberta, Faculty of Engineering.

Eddy has spent his career promoting innovation in energy and environment across Canada and in forging partnerships between industry, government and academia. In 2014, he received the ASTECH Foundation’s award for his outstanding contribution to the Alberta science and technology community.

Eddy has served as co-Chair of the Energy Technology Working Group of the Canadian Council of Energy Ministers. He is regularly called upon to provide expert opinion and insight into Alberta’s future in energy and environment.

Eddy holds a Ph.D. from the University of Alberta and a B.Sc. from McGill University. He has over 80 publications and 6 patents in the energy field. He is currently the President-elect of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. He also serves as a Board Member of: the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Council of Canadian Academies; the Scientific Advisory Committee for the NRG-COSIA X-Prize; and the External Advisors’ Panel of the Auditor General of Alberta.

Jared Wesley, PhD
Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Jared Wesley is a “pracademic” -- a practicing political scientist -- whose career path has taken him from government boardrooms to university classrooms. Prior to joining the Department of Political Science, Jared served in various senior management roles in the Government of Alberta, including as Director of Learning and Development Policy (Public Service Commission), Senior Operations Manager (Executive Council), and Director of Intergovernmental Relations (Executive Council). Jared is also Vice Chair of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) Edmonton Regional Group, helping to build bridges between academics and public policy professionals throughout Canada.
Mauricio Vizconde  
Sessional Instructor, Alberta School of Business

Mauricio is originally from Mexico City and grew up in a business family. He completed his MBA at the University of Saskatchewan, and has now lived in Canada for over a decade. Mauricio is passionate about supporting successful business owners, professionals, and corporate executives – and their families. With over 12 years of experience in financial services, he has had the privilege of providing personalized, discrete financial counsel to a select group of high-net-worth families and their businesses throughout western Canada. Mauricio works with a talented group of specialists in the TD Wealth and TD Bank Group teams.

Kirsten Lindquist  
Aboriginal Governance and Partnership Administrator

Kirsten assists with developing, coordinating, participating, and administering projects related to Aboriginal Governance programming within the Faculty of Native Studies.

Working with interdisciplinary teams and the Director, Kirsten provides support to various initiatives under the direction of the program (i.e. Certificate with degree, online development, the stand-alone Certificate, executive education, governance research, stakeholders and partners, and funding grants).

Arden Tse  
Manager, Venture Mentoring Service

After an extensive career in commercial real estate sales, pension fund investment management, and as a finance professional, Arden set his sights on the world of entrepreneurship. He is a co-founder and owner of Prairie Noodle Shop and also currently the Manager of the University of Alberta’s Venture Mentoring Service, a dedicated mentorship program for UAlberta entrepreneurs.
Ramneek Purewal & Lisa Zhu  
Co-Founders, Evented

Evented was started by two students looking to use a creative approach to event planning. They knew they wanted to create a solution to the problem of event planning being a stressful situation for many people. Evented started out as a one-stop-shop for event resources but quickly evolved into an event planning service for couples looking for a unique service and simpler planning, now “dubbed” pop-up weddings. Evented is now a published and growing business.

Ramneek Purewal  |  Co-Founder

Ramneek entered University of Alberta’s School of Business in 2014, shortly after graduating with a degree in Psychology and Sociology through the Bachelor of Arts program. She was first encouraged to pursue entrepreneurship seriously through U of A’s eHUB program. Ramneek is excited to be carving out a unique space of the event industry and thrives on watching visions turn into realities for both the Evented team and their clients.

Lisa Zhu  |  Co-Founder

Lisa started her entrepreneurial journey 4 years ago while in school and immediately knew being an entrepreneur was the path she wanted to take. Having a background in Digital Media and IT, Lisa makes sure that Evented is looking and functioning at its best. With an eye for all things beautiful, digital or otherwise, Lisa shares in the Evented belief that events really can be fun and inexpensive.

Adam Simmons  
COO & Co-Founder, trioova

Trioova™ began when Luke Butterworth identified gaps in communication throughout the healthcare system. Specifically, communication channels between a patient’s multiple clinicians and caregivers were cumbersome and disconnected, making it frustrating to find information, understand results or engage everyone that needs to be part of the conversation. Communication was often slow and disjointed, preventing patients from getting the quality and speed of care they needed. Trioova’s™ Founders, Luke & Adam identified a need for a communication and collaboration platform to be used by the complicated networks of caregivers, patients and clinicians.
Adam Simmons is a co-founder of Trioova™ and holds a Bachelor’s degree in Human Kinetics majoring in Movement Science. Adam has completed post-graduate studies in Bioinformatics specializing in Biological Data Analysis and has extensive hands-on experience in complex multidisciplinary care as a Kinesiologist within community based rehabilitation settings and private disability insurance as a Rehabilitation Consultant. Through these experiences, Adam has personally witnessed the multiple challenges facing the patient and treatment providers across both public and private healthcare settings. Adam, alongside Luke Butterworth and Mike Bildersheim envisioned a significant improvement in communication between healthcare providers was possible through the use of digital health technology and co-founded Trioova™ to realize this vision.

Michael Taschuk
Founder & Technical Lead, G2V Optics Inc.

G2V Optics is improving the technology that makes it possible to grow plants indoors by mimicking the sunlight conditions of locations around the world. Its grow lights offer as close a match to natural sunlight as you can get, along with the ability to replicate sunlight conditions for any location on earth.

Dr. Michael Taschuk is the Founder and Technical Lead for G2V Optics Inc. Following a short time working as a machinist in Calgary, Michael moved to Edmonton to complete his Bachelors and PhD in Electrical Engineering at the UofA. His research on laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy (LIBS) led to numerous scholarships and a patent. Michael is a dedicated, efficient Research and Development engineer who thrives on challenging technical problems in experimental optics, nanostructured thin films, compact optical devices, gas sensors and organic solar cells. After 7 years working as a Research Associate at the UofA, Michael founded his company in Edmonton. He has found that many of the skills in engineering are transferable to the world of commercialization, and that many supports were available at the UofA to get him started on this career path.
Sravya Kalyanapu  
Co-Founder & COO, Seleste Lipsticks

Sravya is currently a fourth year chemical engineering student at the University of Alberta. She is someone who believes success is not solely measured by personal growth but also through one’s contribution to the betterment of society. She devoted most of her time volunteering with a number of charitable organizations in her community. She strongly believes that comprehensive education is the ultimate approach to empowering women and abolishing gender inequality. To transform her vision into actions, she co-founded a social enterprise that actively promotes education amongst women for the overall development of a nation. Her company, Seleste Lipsticks, produces and sells handcrafted lipsticks based on 100% natural ingredients that nourish and repair lips.