#### BUILD A CAREER THAT LASTS FOR DECADES



Randy Pennington Author, Advisor, Resource





## What is the reason you are in this profession?

- 10 words or less.
- 30 seconds each.
- Go!





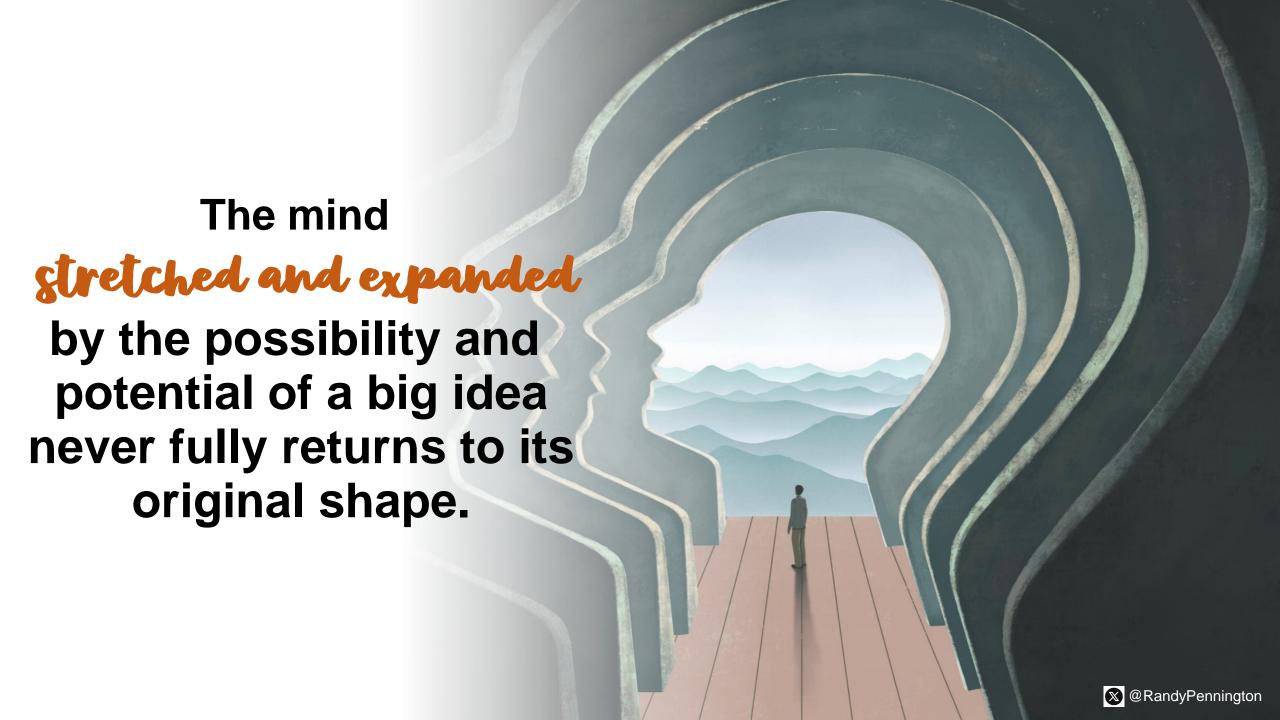
You are exactly where you have earned the right to be.

Calling yourself a "speaker" is like calling yourself a "Coke machine."





Would you rather be the Coke machine, or would you rather be the Coke?



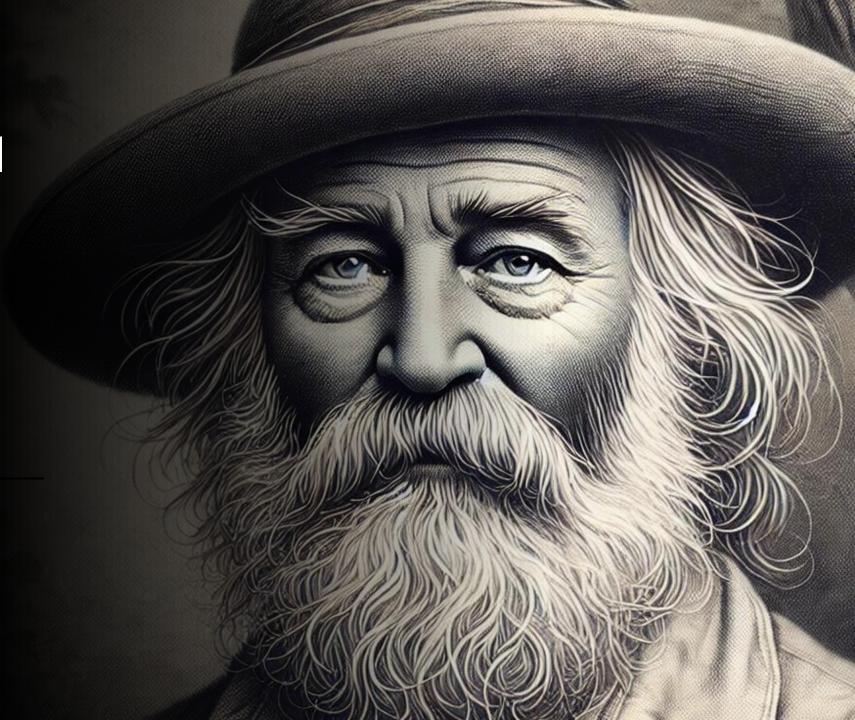


#### The BIG Idea

There are many avenues and models for success in this business.

There are definitive things that must be in place to have a sustainable business regardless of the industry. "Re-examine all that you have been told ... dismiss that which insults your soul."

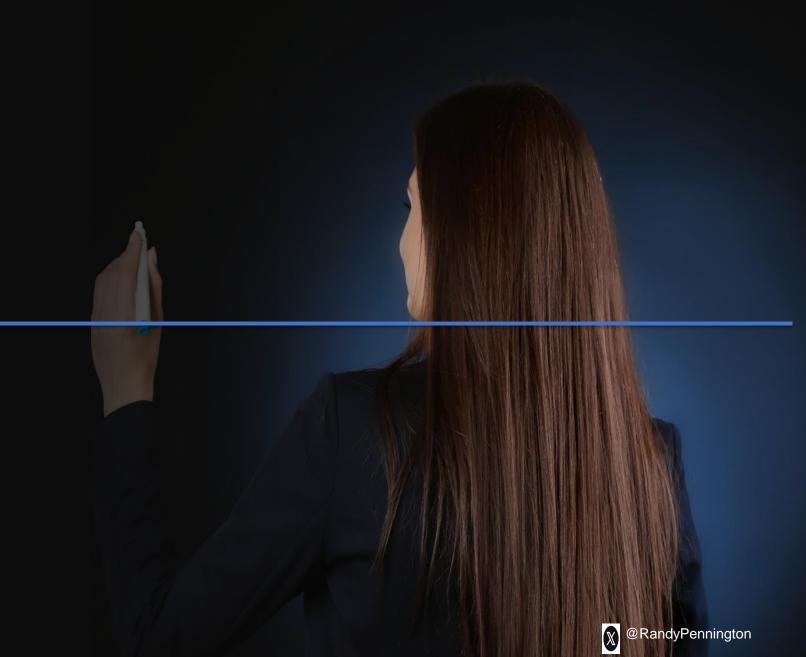
-Walt Whitman



# Want a copy of Randy's slides?



### Questions, Concerns, Issues

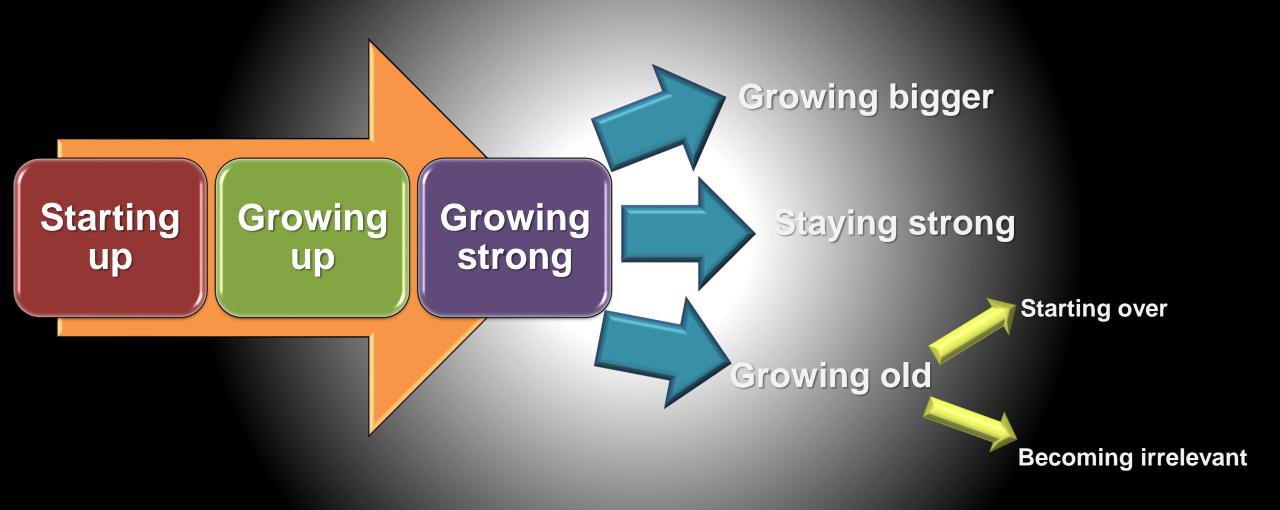


#### Myth #1

There is only one way to succeed in this profession.

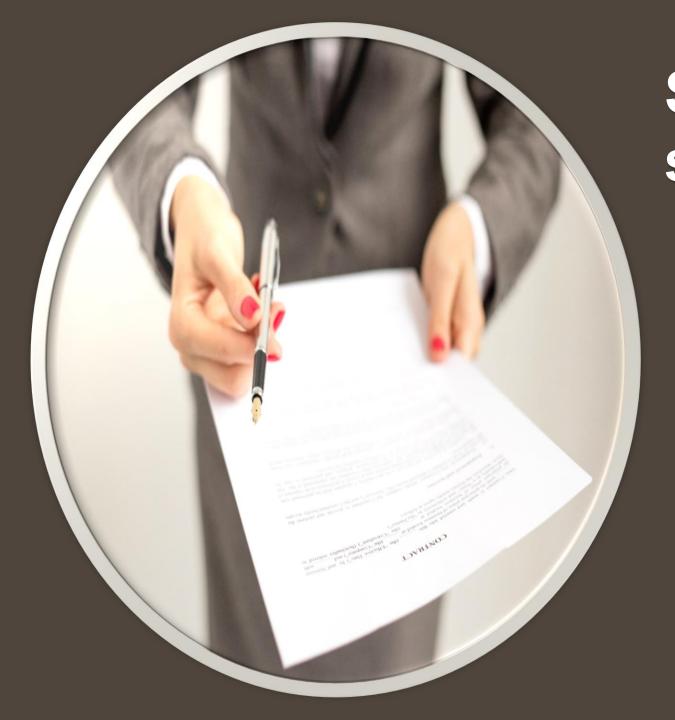


### Stages of Business's Life



## Things You Need for a Sustainable Business





Strong marketing and sales get you hired.

A product/service that solves an important problem gets you paid.

#### Myth #2

People hire you for your passion.





## You are paid in proportion to the...

- Importance
- Complexity
- Urgency

of the problem you solve.

# What is the compelling problem you solve for your clients?

- 10 words or less.
- 30 seconds each.
- Go!



#### **Myths #3-5**

- 3. You are better than you are.
- 4. Fee integrity is an absolute necessity.
- 5. Timing, circumstance, and luck don't matter.



Randy's 25
Most
Important
Lessons



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Three reasons why speakers fail to build a sustainable business

- 1. They are "nice to have" rather than have to have.
- 2. They confuse a good year with a great career.
- 3. They do not remain relevant.





Two^ reasons why speakers fail to build a sustainable business

- 1. They do not plan for financial downtime
- 2. They aren't proactive at the "Growing Strong" stage



## Primary Priorities at Startup

- Determining your broad guiding focus, purpose, and brand values
- Developing a product or service that solves a real problem rather than easing an irritation
- Developing a systematic process for acquiring new customers
- Getting to cash flow and a comfortable financial cliff as quickly as possible
- Designing operational processes with the future in mind



## Primary Priorities at Growing Up

- Execution of your strategy and plans
- Reinvest in the business for future growth
- Pursue opportunities to extend and/or expand your products/services
- Refine all processes
- Stay focused



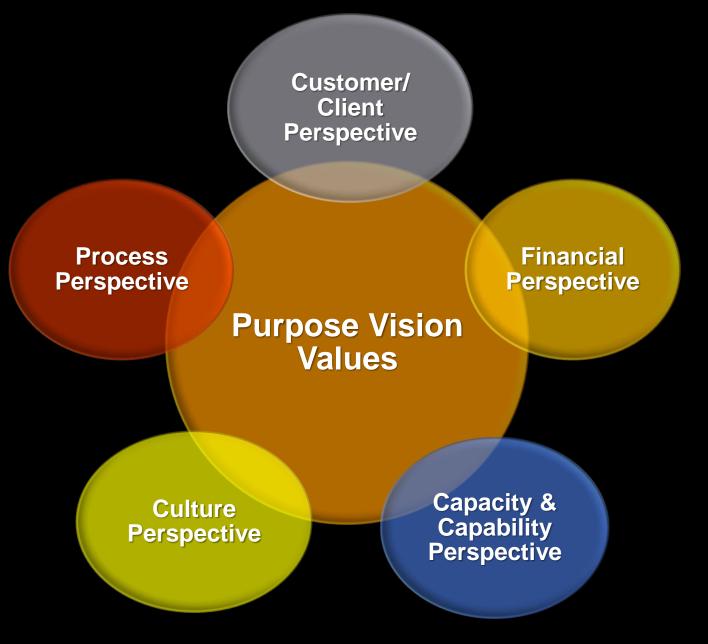


## Primary Priorities at Growing Strong

- Execution of your strategy and plans
- Reinvest in the business for future growth
- Pursue opportunities to extend and/or expand your products/services
- Refine all processes
- Determine your New Next®



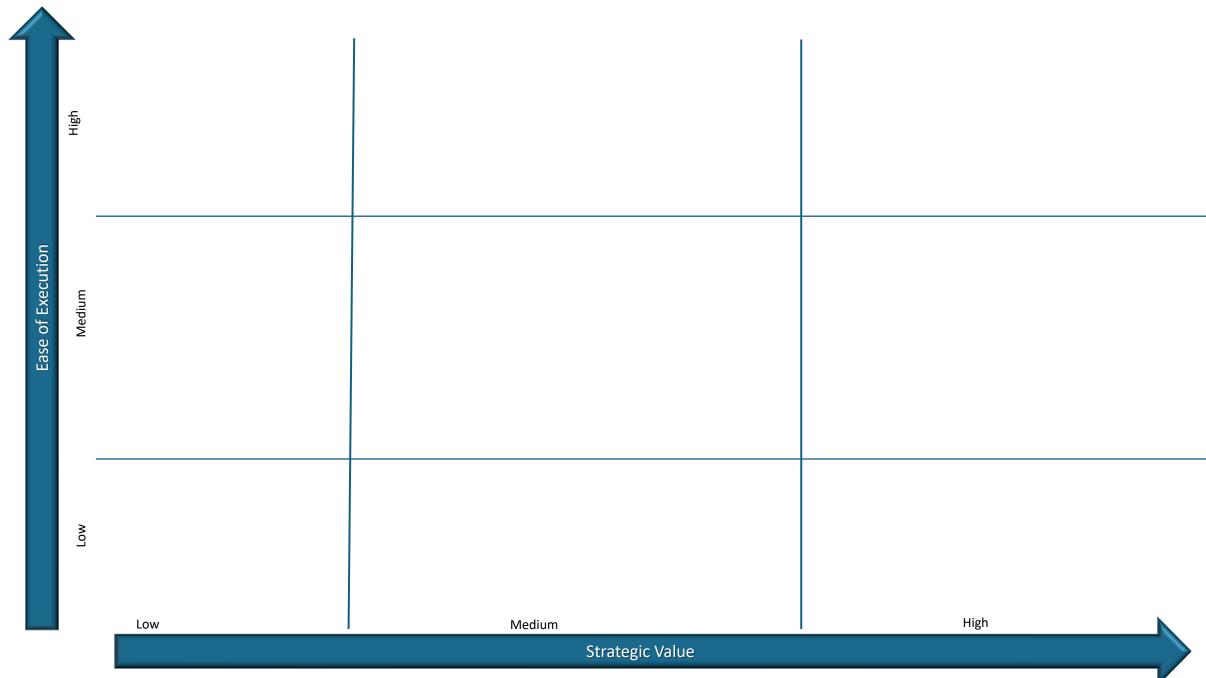
# New Next® Planning Perspectives



# Business Analysis & Planning Document







### 3 1/2 Ideas to Do Next

- 1. Be great at the fundamentals especially solving an important problem
- 2. Understand where you are
- 3. Chart your path to "next"
- 1/2. Think 1 step and 5 steps ahead.





What is the future?

## NSA 8 Professional Competencies

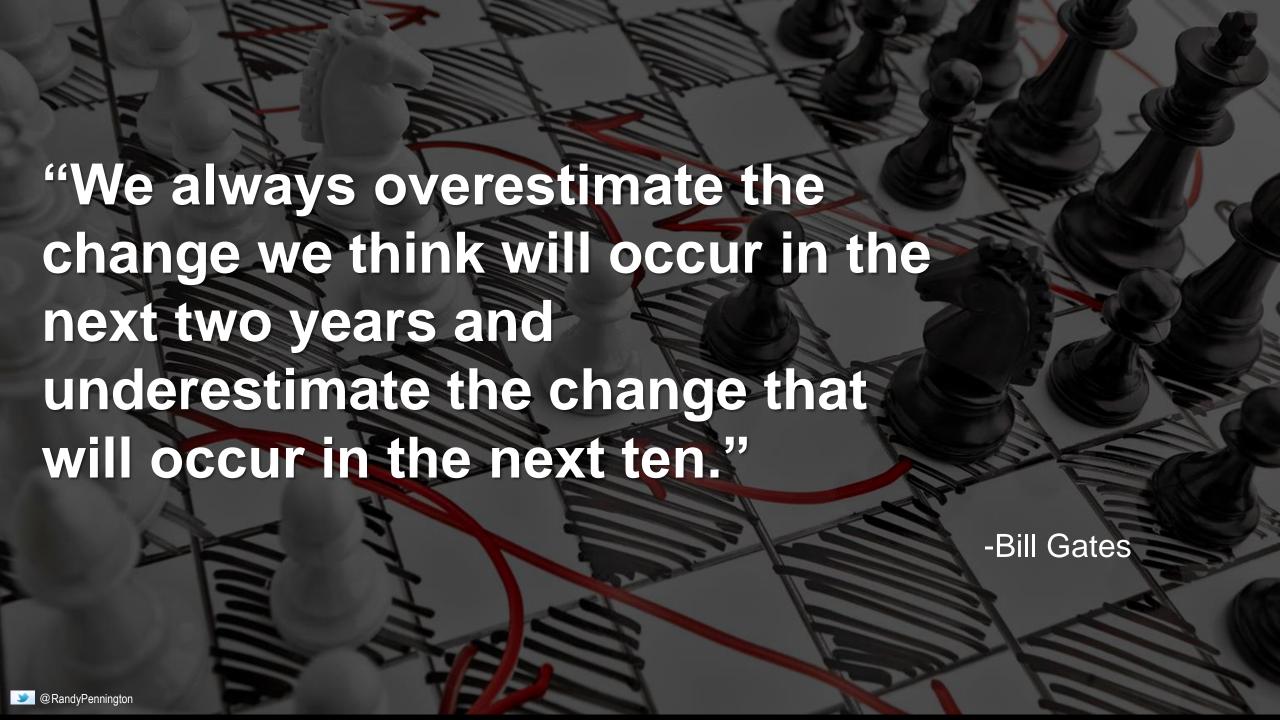
- Environmental Trends and Impact
- Professionalism
- Content Development
- Product Development
- Platform Mechanics
- Performance Mastery
- Business Development
- Strategic and Operational Business Management





## There is no more "New Normal."

## There is only a New Next.



"Al is unlikely to make professional speakers completely obsolete, but it will certainly change the landscape of the industry.



#### Why Speakers Won't Be Replaced

- 1. Human Connection and Emotional Resonance:
  - Authenticity
  - Emotional Intelligence
- 2. Creativity and Innovation:
  - Original Thought
  - Adapting to Complex Situations
- 3. Trust and Credibility:
  - Expert Authority:
  - Ethical and Moral Guidance: ..
- 4. Inspiration and Motivation:
  - Motivational Impact.



#### Where Speakers Could Be Replaced

- Al-Generated Keynotes: For more transactional or data-heavy presentations. Al can deliver factual, pre-programmed speeches with accuracy and even handle basic Q&A using natural language processing.
- Low-Cost Events: Budget-conscious events may turn to Al-generated content or avatars to replace human speakers when the goal is simply to deliver information rather than create a memorable or emotional experience.



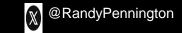
## There is the possibility that the AI is lying to us.





Uncertainty and change are the water in which we swim.

When people drown, it isn't the water's fault.



## The present should be guided more by the future than the past.



If you want things to be better, they have to be different.

If you want things to be different, they have to change.





### Thank You!

Hook forward to seeing your success!

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