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In 2009, a serious car accident drastically changed Sharon Lambert's life, leaving her with a brain injury and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). The mother of three young children went from a functional music performer and teacher to an "angry swearing machine...who got lost in the bathroom."

Sharon's story is a moving one and her resilience to overcome that fateful 2009 day is truly extraordinary.

After the accident, Sharon was heavily sedated, unable to care for her children, and unable to work. The family had to hire a full-time nanny and her husband became the sole income earner, "We eventually cashed in our RRSP's to pay for essential services that led us to bankruptcy in 2012," Sharon explains, "We had to move from North Vancouver to my Mother-in-law's house in Chilliwack. At the time it was devastating but it really was a blessing in disguise."

Surrounded by love and support, Sharon and her family got their finances in order, moved to their own house and Sharon decided it was time to go back to work. As a classically trained opera

**SHARON LAMBERT**

**Sharon Lambert, The Contagiously Emotional Voice**

**CHILLIWACK**

singer, she turned to what she loved – singing and acting, “But, I literally forgot the words to the song “Memory” for my audition for the musical “Cats”,” Sharon laughs.

Realizing she wasn’t ready for live performance (yet), she turned to voice over work – voice over is a production technique used in radio, television, and other presentation platforms. With the help of Diana Kaarina, a Vancouver-based voice over professional, Sharon made a demo and was signed by an agent.

With her foot in the voice over door, Sharon won a scholarship to attend Voice Over Atlanta – a voice over industry conference. “I was chosen for a scholarship to attend the event which helped me professionally. I was in a room filled with people in the industry and I was one of their feature performers.”

The conference confirmed that a voice over career could be profitable and Sharon began looking into organizations that could help develop a business plan and found the Community Futures Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program (EDP). “From the beginning, EDP was great realizing I had different learning capabilities – I could learn, but not in a traditional all day workshop.”

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Through EDP, Community Futures South Fraser set Sharon up with a coach who worked with her one-on-one at her speed. “My coach became my life line,” Sharon explains.

EDP provided nine months of assistance for Sharon to finish her business plan. “I thought business plans were something you write to get a bank loan – but now I realize they are a tool to guide expenses, prioritize and track my booking ratio.”

After completing her website in 2015, Sharon runs a complete voice over business out of her Chilliwack home. She has been featured in commercials all over North America and is the voice over for EDP’s promotional video. Ask Sharon and she will tell you, “EDP made my business fit into my life versus fitting my life into my business.”

For more information on Sharon’s remarkable story, visit: [www.sharonlambert.com](http://www.sharonlambert.com) For more information on the services CF South Fraser offers, visit: [www.cf-edp.ca](http://www.cf-edp.ca)

## Success is made, not found.

**Since 1997, entrepreneurs with disabilities have started and grown successful businesses with EDP loans and our support.**

If you have the raw materials, excellence, determination and passion, ask about the Entrepreneurs with Disabilities Program at your local Community Futures Office.

**1.877.685.2332 | [www.cf-edp.ca](http://www.cf-edp.ca)**

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