



CANADIAN WOMEN'S HEART HEALTH SUMMIT ▶ 2023

APRIL 28-29, 2023 · VANCOUVER, BC · WOMENSHEARTSUMMIT.CA



2023 Canadian Women's Heart Health Summit

Speaker Details



Naomi Lee

Woman with Lived Experience
Vancouver, BC

Biography

When Naomi came down with the flu in June 2020, she had no idea that within a couple of weeks, her life would be completely turned upside down. At 19 years old, she'd just finished her 2nd year of university and was pursuing a career as an elementary school teacher. The virus that she had contracted infected her lungs, causing pneumonia, and her heart, causing myocarditis.

Her heart was severely damaged and she was diagnosed with congestive heart failure. Naomi's condition deteriorated rapidly and after her 2nd hospitalization in 3 months, she was implanted with a Left Ventricular Assist Device (LVAD). The LVAD allowed her to become stable and regain some strength while she waited for a new heart. Naomi only waited 3.5 months before receiving The Call, and then underwent the 9 hour long, life-saving surgery the next day. Since then, Naomi continues to recover, and everyday is thankful that she has been given the gift of life.



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CANADIAN WOMEN'S
HEART HEALTH CENTRE
CENTRE CANADIEN DE SANTÉ
CARDIAQUE POUR LES FEMMES



Heart & Stroke
Cœur + AVC



Centre for
Cardiovascular
Innovation



THE UNIVERSITY
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



Leslie Diamond Women's
Heart Health Clinic

Today, Naomi has returned to her studies, although has redirected her career goal from elementary education to healthcare. Since her transplant, Naomi has become an active volunteer/member with different heart and transplant communities including Heartlife Canada, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada, Transplant Research Foundation of BC and BC Transplant. She hopes to enter the healthcare field and draw from her experience as a patient to “pay forward” the care and empathy many incredible healthcare professionals have shown her throughout her journey. Naomi is honoured to have the opportunity to share her story at the summit.