

Matthew White
CEO, Victoria Symphony

Matthew White brings a rare blend of artistic excellence and strategic leadership to his role as CEO of the Victoria Symphony. An internationally acclaimed vocal soloist turned arts executive, Matthew's career has spanned both the world's great concert halls and Canada's leading cultural institutions.

As a performer, Matthew collaborated with top-tier ensembles and opera companies including the Glyndebourne Festival, New York City Opera, Boston Early Music Festival, Houston Grand Opera, Opera Atelier, San Francisco Symphony, Toronto Symphony, Edmonton Symphony, Oregon Symphony, Symphony Nova Scotia, Vancouver Symphony, Tafelmusik Baroque Orchestra, Collegium Vocale Gent, Netherlands Bach Society, and Bach Collegium Japan, among many others.

In 2012, he transitioned from stage to strategy, serving as Executive and Artistic Director of Early Music Vancouver (EMV), where he led a period of unprecedented organizational growth. Under his leadership, EMV more than doubled its operating budget and audience base, expanded its administrative capacity, and emerged as one of North America's most ambitious presenters of historically informed performance. He was also instrumental in the renovation of Hodson Manor, a shared cultural hub for four Vancouver-based non-profits.

Appointed CEO of the Victoria Symphony in October 2020 during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, Matthew quickly guided the organization through an ambitious digital transformation—launching a Virtual Season that kept musicians connected with audiences and donors throughout the shutdown. In the years since, he has led the Symphony to record-breaking results: under his management, the operating budget has grown from \$5 million to \$7 million, and the assets of the Victoria Symphony Foundation have nearly doubled—from \$11 million in 2020 to just under \$20 million in 2025.

Alongside this financial growth, Matthew has overseen a major resurgence in attendance, a strengthened community presence, and elevated artistic standards. Widely recognized for his vision, collaborative spirit, and deep understanding of both the artistic and operational dimensions of orchestral leadership, he continues to shape the future of classical music in British Columbia and beyond.