

## Speakers in Order of Appearance



### Daniel Tisch

*President and Chief Executive Officer  
Ontario Chamber of Commerce*

Daniel is a business, public policy, and community leader, having held executive roles in government and the corporate sector, and senior governance roles at public institutions and non-profit associations. He is known globally as an expert in corporate communications, public policy, community engagement, crisis and reputation management.

From 2003 to 2023, Daniel was the CEO, majority owner and entrepreneurial force in building Argyle Communications into Canada's largest management-owned engagement, communication and reputation advisory firm growing to \$38M in revenue, 155 employees and ten North American offices. Earlier in his career, Daniel held senior communications roles in the Canadian government, including serving as Senior Policy Advisor and Acting Chief of Staff to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs. In the latter role, he was a member of the Canadian delegation to the G7 Economic Summit.

Daniel has spoken to business audiences on every continent, lectured at Queen's University's Smith School of Business since 1996, and contributed to leading public relations and marketing textbooks. He appears regularly in print and broadcast media, including weekly commentary on CBC Radio and Global News during the 2019 and 2021 Canadian federal elections. In 2021, Daniel was named one of the world's "top 100" social media influencers on public relations.

Born in Spain to a Latin American family and raised in Toronto, Daniel speaks English, French and Spanish. He holds two degrees from Queen's University — a Bachelor of Arts in Political Studies and a Master of Business Administration. He is also a certified corporate director, with an ICD.D designation in corporate governance from the University of Toronto. Daniel has served as vice chair of the Queen's University Board of Trustees, a leader in the international Scouting movement and a board member of Social Venture Partners International.



**Timothy Chan, PhD**

*Associate Vice-President and Vice-Provost, Strategic Initiatives  
University of Toronto*

Timothy Chan is the Associate Vice-President and Vice-Provost, Strategic Initiatives at the University of Toronto, the Canada Research Chair in Novel Optimization and Analytics in Health, a Professor in the department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, and a Senior Fellow of Massey College. He was previously Director of the Centre for Healthcare Engineering, Director of the Centre for Analytics and AI Engineering, and Associate Director, Research and Thematic Programming, of the Data Sciences Institute. His primary research interests are in operations research, optimization, and applied machine learning, with applications in healthcare, medicine, sustainability, and sports.



**Hon. Navdeep Bains**

*Chief Corporate Affairs Officer  
Rogers*

The Honourable Navdeep Bains was appointed Chief Corporate Affairs Officer for Rogers Communications on May 15, 2023. In this role, Navdeep leads the Public Policy and Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) efforts for the company, drawing on his deep expertise in policy matters to advance critical issues, including the digital divide and Canada’s digital economy.

Prior to joining Rogers, Navdeep served as Vice-Chair in Global Investment Banking for CIBC, where he was responsible for strengthening all Capital Markets and Commercial Banking with a particular focus on Innovation, Sustainability, and Industrial sectors. He joined CIBC after serving as one of the longest serving federal Ministers of Innovation, Science and Industry, where he introduced the most comprehensive innovation and skills plan for Canada in over three decades.

Previously, Navdeep was a distinguished visiting professor at Toronto Metropolitan University’s Ted Rogers School of Management, an adjunct lecturer at the Master of Public Service program at the University of Waterloo, and worked for several years in accounting and finance for the Ford Motor Company of Canada.

He holds a Fellow Chartered Professional Accountant designation, and has a Master of Business Administration from the University of Windsor and a Bachelor of Commerce from York University.



## Robyn Gray

*Vice-President, Clean Infrastructure  
Sussex Strategy Group*

As Vice President of Clean Infrastructure, Robyn works with clients undertaking decarbonization projects that will contribute to the low-carbon economy. Using her extensive experience in climate and carbon policy, sustainability, and responsible green infrastructure project development, Robyn guides clients through the complex policy and regulatory arenas on all levels of government to ensure successful project execution.

Most recently, Robyn was Vice President - Advisory, for a prominent carbon market consultancy that works with large emitters, project developers, and financial institutions to navigate the complexities of carbon markets across the globe. Robyn led a team of experts who provided clients with guidance regarding the most cost-effective and strategic pathways to meet compliance requirements or voluntary targets.

During her 11-year tenure at Sussex, Robyn focused on environment and energy work, leading the country's first standalone Environment Practice at a public affairs firm.

Prior to joining Sussex, Robyn was a senior consultant at a leading public affairs firm in Australia, providing strategic counsel to a number of domestic and international clients.

Previously, Robyn worked at Queen's Park for the Minister of Government Services, Minister of Consumer Services, and Minister of the Environment. She has also worked as Deputy Manager, Strategic Research and Policy in the Liberal Caucus Services Bureau. On the federal level of government, Robyn worked for the Secretary of State for Rural Development and FedNor, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, and for the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

Robyn has a Master's Degree in Environmental Studies from York University, where she specialized in climate change policy. She also holds an Honours BA in Political Science and Peace & Conflict Studies from the University of Toronto and a Certificate from RMIT University (Australia) for speechwriting.

Robyn has been CSA-certified as a GHG Inventory Quantifier and earned her GHG Inventory, Accounting and Reporting certificate from the University of Toronto. She currently sits on the Board of the Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA) and is a founding member of Nature Canada's Women for Nature initiative.

Outside of work Robyn loves to travel, especially to her second home of Australia, and enjoys living in the city and being anywhere near a body of water, in equal measure.



## Lisa Pierce

*Vice-President, Global Sales and Air Canada Vacations  
Air Canada*

Lisa is an influential airline industry leader with a passion and proven track record inspiring and developing high performing teams. She is energetic with an extensive background in sales, operations, negotiations, purchasing, planning and project management.

Born in New York City, Lisa attended Montclair State University and earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Fine Art. She began to pursue her dream of working for an airline in 1987 when she joined Air Canada as a call center agent in New York City. Over the years she held various positions in airports before her appointment as Senior Director Olympics Airport Interface with responsibility for ensuring Air Canada's participation in the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games was a success for employees, customers, and athletes. She transitioned to the commercial branch in 2010 when she was appointed Senior Director Regional Airlines, managing the commercial, operational, and business relationships with Air Canada's regional airline partners. Lisa transitioned to sales with her appointment to Senior Director USA Sales in 2013 and subsequently to Managing Director Canada & USA Sales in 2018, Vice President Canada & USA Sales in 2020 and to Vice President Global Sales and Air Canada Vacations in 2023.

Based in Toronto, she is responsible for defining and implementing strategies and tactics to expand Air Canada and Air Canada Vacations market share and revenue performance globally.

Throughout Lisa's career it is her involvement in various community and industry organizations that has provided the most rewarding experiences. Lisa is past Chairperson for the New York and New Jersey Council for Airport Opportunity, sat on the Board of the Aviation Development Council and currently represents Air Canada on the Board of the Airlines Reporting Corporation "ARC".

Lisa is extremely proud of her sons Andrew and Tim, who were very supportive of her as she completed a Master of Science Degree in Project Management from Boston University in 2012 and more recently her NACD Directorship Certification in June of 2022.



**Jake Brockman**

*Senior Manager, Public Policy  
Uber Canada*

Jake currently serves as Senior Manager, Public Policy for Uber based in their Toronto office. At Uber, Jake is responsible for supporting our Mobility and Delivery businesses through a range of regulatory challenges and opportunities. In particular, Jake has worked closely on the labour relations file including Uber Canada’s first-of-its-kind partnership with United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Canada.

Jake previously worked in management consulting for KPMG and Deloitte as well as in the Government of Ontario as a policy advisor. Jake has an educational background in public policy and international relations, and has served as an advisor to senior government and business officials across Canada, the United Kingdom and the Middle East. Jake is a graduate of the University of Toronto and the University of Oxford.



**Cheryl Stone**

*Director, Strategic Priorities and Public Affairs  
Nieuport Aviation*

Cheryl Stone is responsible for the organization’s strategic priorities and public affairs program. This sees her build relationships and work closely with internal and external stakeholders, government, and community organizations as well as oversight of communication activities and strategies.

Prior to joining Nieuport Aviation, Cheryl spent six years with the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA). In her time at Canada’s largest airport, Cheryl managed public affairs and government relations activities with national and international industry organizations including the Canadian Airports Council and Airports Council International and played a lead role in the corporation’s engagement with industry, business, and academic organizations at the local, regional, and national level.

Cheryl holds a Master’s Degree from Sir Wilfrid Laurier University and an Honours Bachelor Degree from King’s University College.



## Cindy Bailey

*Corporate Sustainability Officer  
Purolator*

As Purolator's Corporate Sustainability Officer, Cindy is responsible for leading the development of Purolator's environmental sustainability strategy, advancing policies and standards, managing environmental risks and opportunities, and improving Purolator's performance, disclosures, and reputation related to the environment and climate change. Currently Cindy is leading the development of Purolator's emissions reduction goals and roadmap, which includes electrifying 60% of Purolator's last-mile delivery vehicles by 2030. Cindy has 20+ years working as an environmental sustainability professional in a variety of industries including automotive manufacturing, financial services, and transportation and logistics.



## Shatha Qaqish-Clavering

*Executive Director  
Climate Positive Energy at  
the University of Toronto*

Shatha is a strategic leader who brings over a decade of experience working in the clean technology, sustainability, and innovation eco-systems. She has experience managing large scale projects including an \$85 million government grant program to drive innovative climate change related technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. She has led multidisciplinary teams and executed many commercialization plans and technology development strategies. She is also a mentor at various start-up incubators and accelerators including Cherie Blair Foundation, and Futurepreneur. She is an active panelist and speaker at industry events. Shatha is fluent in English, French and Arabic and has a PhD in Chemistry.



## Guillaume Paradis

*Chief Operating Officer, Distribution and Generation  
Hydro Ottawa*

As Chief Operating Officer, Guillaume is responsible for the Planning, Design, Operation, Construction and Maintenance of the Nation's Capital electrical power distribution system. In his role, Guillaume leads a team directly accountable for ensuring the safe, efficient, and reliable delivery of electricity to Hydro Ottawa customers. His current work involves supporting the transition to a decentralized energy system and empowering customers to redefine their use of energy in meeting financial and carbon neutrality objectives. Guillaume also leads Portage Power, an energy production company with a portfolio of renewable generation assets located in Eastern Ontario and in New York State.

Guillaume has close to two decades of industry experience in various leadership roles, is a registered Professional Engineer in Ontario (P.Eng.), and holds a degree in Applied Sciences – Electrical Engineering from the University of British Columbia.



## Andrew Thiele

*Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives  
Bruce Power*

Andrew is Director of Policy and Special Projects at Bruce Power. In his role Andrew directly supports the Vice President of Corporate Affairs and Chief Operating Officer on initiatives specifically focused on ensuring the ongoing support and long-term safe operation of our nuclear facilities in Ontario.

Andrew also serves as the Executive Director of the Canadian Nuclear Isotope Council an independent not for profit organization consisting of over 100 members within the Canadian health sector, nuclear industry, and research bodies, convened specifically to advocate for our country's role in the production of the world's isotope supply.

Andrew is also a graduate of the Munk school of Global Affairs the University of Toronto and prior to becoming a Director Andrew spent 10 years in various roles with Bruce Power the Ontario Chamber of Commerce and Ontario government.



## Mike Voll

*Global Sector Leader, Smart Technologies  
Stantec*

Mike Voll is the Global Sector Leader for Stantec's Smart Technology services. He has almost 40 years of experience with both industrial and power clients serving positions with equipment suppliers, manufacturers, system integrators and the last 21 years with Stantec. In the last 15 years, Mike has driven North American grid rehabilitation and energy transition efforts through Stantec's involvement in gigawatts of solar PV and battery storage projects as well as thousands of megawatts of electric vehicle and fleet charging infrastructure.

Mike is an active member of the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), American Clean Power (ACP) as well as Energy Storage Canada (ESC) and has supported both utilities and iconic developers in the roll-out of their grid modernization, smart city, and vehicle electrification programs.



## Ali Hooshyar

*Associate Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering  
University of Toronto*

Ali Hooshyar joined the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Toronto in 2018. He was a Postdoctoral Fellow with the Centre for Applied Power Electronics, University of Toronto, in 2015. He was an Assistant Professor at the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department, York University, Toronto, from 2015 to 2018. His research interests include protection and control of renewable energy systems and smart grids. Dr. Hooshyar is an Editor of the IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid and the IEEE Transactions on Power Delivery. He is also the Guest Editor-in-Chief of the Special Issue of the IEEE Transactions on Power Delivery on Resilience-Oriented Protection, Control, and Monitoring Systems for Power Grids. Dr. Hooshyar is an Associate Editor of the Wiley Encyclopedia of Electrical and Electronics Engineering.





## Hon. Sam Oosterhoff

*Associate Minister of Energy-Intensive Industries  
Government of Ontario*

Hon. Sam Oosterhoff is currently Member of Provincial Parliament for Niagara West and Associate Minister of Energy – Intensive Industries.

A lifelong resident of Niagara, Sam has always had a deep appreciation for faith, family and service to community. Since his first election in 2016, Sam has been working hard to represent the interests, priorities and concerns of the working families and job creators of Niagara West.

Sam has taken leadership on a number of issues, including anti-human trafficking policy, French-language education, student transportation, rural economic development and reducing the regulatory burden of government, as well as championing the redevelopment of West Lincoln Memorial Hospital in Grimsby.

Sam's first Private Member's Bill became law in December 2020. The Compassionate Care Act mandates the creation of a palliative care framework in Ontario.

Sam is proud to fight for the people of Niagara West, and is blessed, along with wife, Keri, and children, Sullivan and Florence, to call this part of the province home.



## David Sinton

*Academic Director, Climate Positive Energy, and Professor  
University of Toronto*

David Sinton is a Professor and Canada Research Chair in the Department of Mechanical & Industrial Engineering at the University of Toronto. He is the Academic Director of the Climate Positive Energy Initiative. Prior to joining the University of Toronto, Dr. Sinton was an Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair at the University of Victoria, and a Visiting Associate Professor at Cornell University. He received a BAsC from the University of Toronto, MEng from McGill University and his PhD from the University of Toronto. The Sinton group develops fluid systems for applications in energy. The group is application-driven and is currently developing fluid systems for CO2 capture and conversion and to develop energy efficient industrial working fluids. The group previously developed a library of industrial fluid testing systems to improve the environmental and economic performance of energy operations, now commercialized through the startup Interface Fluidics Ltd. Dr. Sinton was selected to be an NSERC E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellow in 2016. He is also a Fellow of the Canadian Society for Mechanical Engineering, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Engineering Institute of Canada, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Canadian Academy of Engineering, and Royal Society of Canada.



## Damien Steel

*Chief Executive Officer  
Deep Sky*

Damien Steel joined Deep Sky as CEO in 2023, bringing with him a wealth of experience in technology and market development. With over 15 years in venture capital, Damien previously served as the Global Head of OMERS Ventures, one of Canada's largest venture capital funds, where he managed over \$2 billion in assets and played a pivotal role in nurturing early-stage technology businesses.

His entrepreneurial spirit and deep understanding of technology markets have positioned him as a key leader in the climate sector. At Deep Sky, Damien is dedicated to leveraging innovative carbon removal solutions to address the pressing challenges of climate change, driving the company's mission to create a sustainable future.