



2024 Ontario Economic Summit

Future-Proofing Ontario: Building an Inclusive, Sustainable Economy

November 20-21 | Metro Toronto Convention Centre

OPENING NIGHT | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. **WELCOME REMARKS**

- Daniel Tisch, *President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Chamber of Commerce*
 - Claire Sault, *Chief of the Mississauga's of the Credit (Invited)*
 - Her Worship Olivia Chow, *Mayor of Toronto*
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4:00 - 4:10 p.m. **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

- Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, *Minister of Finance, Government of Ontario*
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4:10 - 4:50 p.m. *Presented by George Brown College*

FIRESIDE CHAT

Leading Growth in Uncertain Times

As inflation and economic volatility challenge businesses, governments, and central banks globally, decision-makers must look beyond immediate issues to plan for the future. This fireside chat will bring together leaders from academia, industry, and civil society to explore how Ontario can navigate ongoing uncertainty and geopolitical shifts. The discussion will focus on strategies to future-proof Ontario's workforce and economy, ensuring long-term growth and resilience in the face of unpredictable challenges.

Speaker:

- Dr. Gervan Fearon, *President, George Brown College*

Moderator:

- Daniel Tisch, *President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Chamber of Commerce*
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4:50 - 5:00 p.m. **SILENT AUCTION - QUILTS FOR SURVIVORS**

Speaker:

- Vanessa Genier, *Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Quilts for Survivors*
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5:00 - 5:45 p.m. *Presented by Bruce Power*

PANEL DISCUSSION

Catalyzing the Bio-Economy – Seizing Ontario’s Life Sciences Advantage

Ontario is home to more than 1,900 life sciences and medical technology companies, collectively contributing more than \$65.2 billion every year to the province’s economy. With world-leading universities, public hospitals, research centres and a diverse population, Ontario continues to be a leading destination for clinical research trials, new discoveries and innovation. This panel will explore how to seize the advantages of Ontario’s life sciences sector to grow the bioeconomy – creating new opportunities and research while generating jobs and growth for our province.

Speakers:

- Dr. Christine Allen, *Professor and Entrepreneur, University of Toronto*
- Alex Wellstead, *Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations, Novartis*
- Peter van der Velden, *Managing General Partner, Lumira Ventures*

Moderator:

- Avis Favaro, *Senior Advisor, Santis Health*
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5:45 – 5:50 p.m. **TRAVEL TIME**

5:50 – 7:00 p.m. **CABINET MINISTER ROUNDTABLES**

Participating delegates will exchange policy ideas with senior government representatives.

7:00 – 9:30 p.m. **NETWORKING RECEPTION - RIPLEY’S AQUARIUM OF CANADA**

This year’s Summit will boast several opportunities for connection and dialogue with industry professionals, thought leaders, and decision-makers. The first-night reception will take place at the world-renowned Ripley’s Aquarium of Canada. Embark on an evening of discovery, exploring over 2000 species of fish while enhancing your personal network.



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8:15 – 9:00 a.m. **NETWORKING BREAKFAST**

9:00 – 9:10 a.m. **WELCOME REMARKS**

- Vasudha Seth, *Chair, Ontario Chamber of Commerce*

9:10 – 9:45 a.m. *Presented by Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd.*

FIRESIDE CHAT

The Canada - U.S. Relationship in a Shifting Political Landscape

This insightful discussion will explore the evolving dynamics between Canada and the United States amidst a rapidly shifting political and economic environment. Over the past few years, both nations have faced unprecedented challenges, including the prolonged pandemic, record-high inflation, supply chain disruptions, and increasing geopolitical tensions.

In this session, Ambassador Cohen will explore the critical importance of continued economic collaboration between the two nations, particularly in the wake of the U.S. election. He will also discuss how Canada and the U.S. can strengthen their partnership to navigate global uncertainties and maintain their influence on the world stage.

Speaker:

- Ambassador David L. Cohen, *U.S. Ambassador to Canada*

9:45 – 10:05 a.m. *Presented by Bruce Power*

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

- Honourable Doug Ford, *Premier of Ontario (Invited)*
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10:05 - 10:50 a.m. *Presented by Hydro One*

PANEL DISCUSSION

Reconciliation as an Economic Imperative: Growing a \$100 Billion Indigenous Economy

For Canada to succeed, meet its labour shortages and catalyze economic growth, we all benefit from a thriving and growing Indigenous economy. Today, Indigenous Peoples make up 5% of Canada's population but the history of Residential Schools, the Sixties Scoop and ongoing impact of colonialism mean that Indigenous Peoples make up a much smaller proportion of the labour force, business owners, and the economy. Building on the OCC and CCIB's Economic Reconciliation Initiative, this session will explore how innovative industry partnerships are catalyzing Indigenous natural resource partnerships, financing the Indigenous economy, supporting employment and training strategies, creating procurement opportunities and growing the economy by building critical infrastructure for Indigenous communities.

Speakers:

- **Clio Staram**, *Head, Indigenous Banking, BMO*
- **Carol Plummer**, *Executive Vice-President, Sustainability, People and Culture, Agnico Eagle Mines Limited*

Moderator:

- **Matthew Foss**, *Vice-President of Research and Public Policy, Canadian Council for Indigenous Business*

10:50 - 11:10 a.m. **NETWORKING BREAK**



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11:10 a.m.
- 12:00 p.m.

Presented by Imperial

PANEL DISCUSSION

From Vision to Reality: Ontario's Path to a Competitive Green Economy

This panel will explore how Ontario can continue to catalyze our clean energy advantages and unlock new technologies to support Ontario's future. Creating a competitive green economy also depends on catalyzing the billions of dollars needed to enable the transition. Hear from experts, energy producers, investors and policymakers about the challenges and opportunities in decarbonizing Ontario's growing economy.

Speakers:

- Vasudha Seth, *Vice-President, Strategy, ArcelorMittal Dofasco*
- Kim Lauritsen, *Senior Vice-President, Enterprise Strategy and Energy Markets, OPG*
- Brian Johnson, *Senior Vice-President Operations, Enbridge Gas*

12:00 - 12:15 p.m. *Presented by Enbridge*

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Canada on the World Stage: Shaping Global Policy in an Era of Change

In this session, Ambassador Rae will provide a deep dive into the risks and opportunities facing Ontario and Canada in the current global climate. He will also share his vision on how inclusive and sustainable development can serve as a competitive advantage for Canada on the world stage, positioning the country as a leader in addressing global challenges and fostering international cooperation.

Speaker:

- Ambassador Bob Rae, *Canadian Ambassador to the United Nations*

12:15 - 1:15 p.m. **NETWORKING LUNCH**

1:15 - 1:20 p.m. **SILENT AUCTION RESULTS**



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1:20 – 2:20 p.m.

Presented by University of Toronto

DEBATE

Be It Resolved: Ontario Is Losing Its Global Competitive Advantage

Ontario has made strides in key industries like electric vehicles (EVs), artificial intelligence, life sciences, and critical minerals, positioning itself as a leader in innovation and growth. Yet, the province faces significant hurdles—slow technology adoption, lagging productivity, a deepening housing crisis, and barriers to immigration. These challenges threaten its ability to maintain a competitive edge on the global stage.

In this debate, experts will tackle the question: Is Ontario equipped to overcome these obstacles and secure its economic future, or is the province losing ground in the global economy? Expect a lively discussion as both sides argue whether Ontario's strengths can offset its growing vulnerabilities in an increasingly competitive world.

Moderator:

- Steve Paikin, *Journalist, TVO*
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2:20 – 3:15 p.m.

Presented by Diversity Institute

PANEL DISCUSSION

AI-Powered Growth: Opportunity for Emerging Technology

This panel will explore the transformative potential of artificial intelligence in driving Ontario's economic growth and innovation. Join us as we delve into the diverse applications of AI across industries, ethical considerations, and its impact on the workforce. Thought leaders from industry and academia will discuss successful AI implementations, strategies for responsible AI deployment, and initiatives to ensure Ontario remains at the forefront of technological advancement. Discover how AI can unlock new opportunities, address workforce challenges, and create a sustainable, competitive future for Ontario.

Speakers:

- Dana O'Born, *Vice-President, Strategy and Advocacy Council of Canadian Innovators*
- Joel Blit, *Associate Professor, University of Waterloo*

Moderator:

- Stephanie Holko, *Director of Project Development, NGen Canada*
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3:15 – 3:30 p.m.

Presented by CPA Ontario

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Economic Outlook

- Douglas Porter, *Chief Economist and Managing Director Economics, BMO*
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3:30 – 3:40 p.m.

CLOSING REMARKS

- Daniel Tisch, *President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Chamber of Commerce*
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