
Participant's Guide **2017**

The Quebec City Conference
Quebec City | 25-26 april 2017



Tech Innovation Platform (TIP)
**Ecosystem
Building Forum**

Dear TIP Participant,

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to this second edition of the TIP Ecosystem Building Forum (“EBF”).

Building on the experience of two platforms created by the Quebec City Conference: the Public Policy Forum on Venture Capital and Innovation (“PPF”) and the Institutional Investors Roundtable (“IIR”), the Tech Innovation Platform (“TIP”) aims to bring together leading stakeholders of tech innovation ecosystems (corporations, universities, investors, governments and ecosystem leadership) in order to foster collaboration and accelerate the development of these ecosystems.

The TIP is not a conference, it is a platform. Its objective goes beyond sharing information and best practices: it is to address the lingering productivity and innovation gaps and enhance the innovation agenda across the country.

Such an ambitious objective can only be achieved by joining forces and engaging the leaders of the main groups of stakeholders of the tech innovation ecosystems in structured conversations designed to lead to tangible results beyond the TIP meeting itself.

The TIP has two components:

- The TIP Leadership Roundtable (“LR”), a roundtable designed for senior decision-makers focusing on strategic issues;
- The Ecosystem Building Forum (“EBF”) positioned at the operational level and focussing on tangible ways: (i) to enhance the effectiveness of organizations and initiatives that are the building blocks of tech innovation ecosystems, and (ii) to foster synergies among them.

This year, the EBF will focus on initiatives and best practices to accelerate the development of stronger ecosystems around Datascience/AI. International best practices and most Canadian initiatives to build a strong deal-flow around Canadian assets in research will be reviewed and investors specialized in this field will be present.

As we all know, Canada is a hotspot for research in AI with the teams of Yoshua Bengio in Montreal, Geoffrey Hinton in Toronto and the team in the University of Alberta, and there is strong will on the part of governments, corporations and universities to leverage these assets to produce economic and commercial value. They are looking for best avenues to reach this goal. The most significant initiatives developed at present in Canada (in Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and BC) will be represented at the Forum as well as many policy designers, academic leaders and investors. The TIP will be a great opportunity to learn from one another and from international experiences and to foster collaboration.



We would like to thank all those who contributed to this forum: our Advisory Committee, as well as the directors of the Quebec City Conference who have enthusiastically supported this initiative.

In closing, we would like to underline the contribution of the Governments of Quebec, Ontario, Canada and British Columbia which partnered with the Quebec City Conference to develop this platform and have provided considerable financial support.

We hope that together we shall make this second edition promising and stimulating.

We wish you a very pleasant stay in Quebec City.



Gilles Duruflé
President
TIP Ecosystem Building Forum



Christian Racicot
Co-Founder & President
The Quebec City Conference

Executive Summary

The challenge

- Canada is distinguishing itself from most other post-industrial countries by its inability to adapt to a world whose wealth is increasingly driven by innovation (“Innovation Gap”). This is a serious and important national challenge that needs to be addressed.
- A key when addressing this challenge is to recognize that any vibrant tech innovation ecosystem requires a structured and continued form of collaboration among and between the following four main groups of stakeholders impacting all tech ecosystems, as shown in the diagram attached to this document as **Appendix 1**:
 - Group 1: Large corporations impacted by tech innovation;
 - Group 2: Public policy makers (governments);
 - Group 3: Leading universities and research centers;
 - Group 4: Leading investors: large scale, long-term capital (institutional investors) and “smart money” (specialized VC’s and business angels).
- Such collaboration is present in successful tech innovation ecosystems such as Silicon Valley, where a critical mass of start-ups, investors and global tech corporations are concentrated and where a culture of innovation within large corporations and a wide circulation of talent among all stakeholders already exist.
- Weak interaction in Canada among the leaders of the four groups of stakeholders impacting tech innovation both from the private and public sides, compounded by geographic constraints and a decentralized structure of government, make this type of collaboration very difficult in our country.
- As a result, Canada’s approach to the opportunities and challenges from tech innovation has been so far fragmented and predominantly regionally focussed, either by province or by metropolitan area.

Proposed solution: The Tech Innovation Platform (TIP)

- It is recognized that structured and continued interaction within and among the leaders of the four main groups of stakeholders of the tech innovation ecosystems Canada is needed but that, for the reasons noted above the path for a solution needs to be deliberately provoked through coordinated action and leadership.
- The solution is to provoke a structured interaction among the leaders of the four main groups of stakeholders of Canadian tech innovation ecosystems, both from the public and private sides, by creating a national platform (the “Platform”) to address the priority initiatives around tech innovation that are essential to the development of the Canadian economy. This will create continuing and result-driven discussions, through a nationwide “ecosystem/cluster strategy”.
- An explanation of the need for a nationwide “ecosystem/cluster strategy” and how a Tech Innovation Platform can address this need is included in Deloitte’s white paper: “Future of Canada - A blueprint for Growth”.
- **The Tech Innovation Platform (TIP)** has for objective to meet this need. Its mission is foster collaboration on a continued basis among the leaders of the four groups of stakeholders of the Canadian tech innovation ecosystem (corporations impacted by tech innovation, leading universities, investors, policy designers and ecosystem builders)

to address the most important opportunities and challenges of this ecosystem by way of structured, continued and result-driven discussions.

- The TIP has two components:
 - The **TIP Leadership Roundtable**, a roundtable designed for senior decision-makers focusing on strategic issues;
 - Customized forums positioned at the operational level and focussing on tangible ways: (i) to enhance the effectiveness of organizations and initiatives that are the building blocks of tech innovation ecosystems, and (ii) to foster synergies among them. The first such forum is the **TIP Ecosystem Building Forum**.

The TIP Ecosystem Building Forum

The **Ecosystem Building Forum** is by-invitation only and brings together operators and stakeholders of leading regional tech ecosystems to exchange views on best practices and explore ways to collaborate in a mutually beneficial way. International best practices will also be invited when relevant for the topics that have been selected. Initiatives under consideration include:

- (i) helping start-ups to interface more efficiently with large corporations,
- (ii) helping all stakeholder groups to take advantage of organized tech hubs,
- (iii) initiatives to foster entrepreneurship within universities and accelerate tech transfers,
- (iv) helping tech start-ups understand better the financing chain and access more efficiently suitable sources of capital;
- (v) considering innovative models to address gaps in the regional or national tech ecosystems; and
- (vi) generally, exploring how these regional ecosystems may collaborate on tangible proposals to achieve these objectives.

The choice of themes and initiatives under consideration for any year will be informed by pre-meeting interviews conducted by the Secretariat. As the Leadership Roundtable develops, there will some convergence between topics debated at the Leadership roundtable and initiatives discussed at the Ecosystem Building Forum

2017 focus: Datascience/Artificial Intelligence

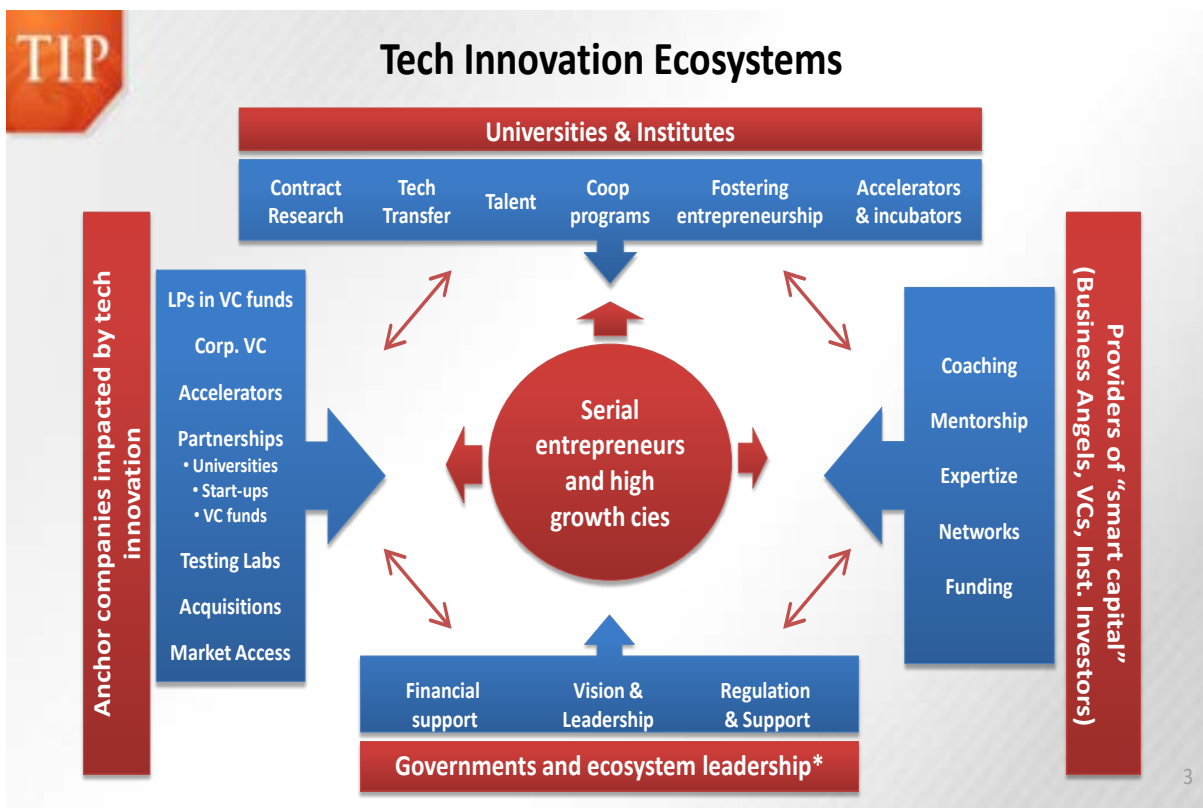
As over the last couple of years AI was becoming a hot topic, Canada discovered that it is home to some of the strongest research teams in this domain and series of initiatives were started across the country to build clusters around these research assets. Artificial intelligence is just one part of the broader field of Datascience where there are very strong research teams all across Canada.

The objective of this year's forum will be to bring together the most significant of these initiatives, their promoters as well as the leading stakeholders (investors, companies, universities) that are involved with them, in order to share information, highlight their models, learn from their success and failures, and stimulate collaboration among them to build a stronger Canadian ecosystem. International best practices will also be brought in order to feed the debate.

Beyond learning from best practices and exchanges, one of the main objectives of the Forum will be to point out ways to foster a more efficient collaboration among initiatives and accelerate the development of buoyant Canadian clusters that can thrive and compete internationally.

APPENDIX 1:

The four main groups of stakeholders impacting any tech innovation ecosystem



Useful information

About Quebec City

Quebec City is the birthplace of French civilization in North America and is the only fortified city on the continent. In 1985, it was proclaimed “World Heritage Site” by UNESCO. As the Château Frontenac is in the heart of the old town, several activities are at your fingertips. With Spring starting to blossom, Quebec City is yours to discover.

For more information about Historic Quebec City or for activities and attractions ideas, please visit <http://www.quebecregion.com/en>.

We hope you’ll enjoy your stay in our beautiful National Capital.

TIP Check-in and Registration – Main Lobby

TIP Registration will take place in the main lobby on April 25th and 26th.

You will receive your badge and agenda. All participants are required to wear their badge at all times.

Internet access, computers and printers

Internet access is available in guestrooms and in all meeting rooms of the hotel. Access codes are available on demand. Please refer to the information/registration desk.

The Business Center: work stations with high speed internet access, photocopy and fax services are available 24/7. Present yourself at the Front Desk for details.

Luggage storage

Should you require a secured place to store your luggage throughout the day, please see the hotel concierge for assistance.

Medical assistance

A doctor is available 24/7 at the Château Frontenac. If you need any medical assistance, you can use a hotel phone and dial 0 or go to the Front desk. If possible, please also contact us at the information/registration desk.

Questions and Information

If you have any questions or concerns, or if you need any information about the program, the agenda, your hotel reservation, nearby restaurants, etc., please refer to our information/registration desk.

TIP Ecosystem Building Forum Advisory Committee



JF Gauthier
CEO
Startup Genome



Alan Lysne
Managing Director
Ryerson Futures Inc



Craig Haney
Head, Corporate Innovation
Communitech



Alan MacIntosh
General Partner
Real Ventures

MEETING AGENDA

TIP ECOSYSTEM BUILDING FORUM – APRIL 25-26, 2017

Venue & Accommodation: Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, 1 Rue des Carrières, Quebec City, G1R 4P5

Attire: business casual


The **Ecosystem Building Forum** is by-invitation only and brings together operators and stakeholders of leading regional tech ecosystems to exchange views on best practices and explore ways to collaborate in a mutually beneficial way. International best practices are also presented and discussed when relevant for the topics that have been selected.

The 2017 edition is focusing mainly on initiatives and best practices to accelerate the development of stronger ecosystems around Datascience/AI. International best practices and most Canadian initiatives to build a strong deal-flow around Canadian assets in research will be reviewed.




As we all know, Canada is a hotspot for research in AI with the teams of Yoshua Bengio in Montreal, Geoffrey Hinton in Toronto and the team in the University of Alberta, and there is strong will on the part of governments, corporations and universities to leverage these assets to produce economic and commercial value. They are looking for best avenues to reach this goal. The most significant initiatives developed at present in Canada (in Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and BC) will be represented at the Forum as well as many policy designers, academic leaders and investors. The TIP will be an excellent opportunity to learn from one another and from international experiences and to foster collaboration.

The second part of the Forum is dedicated to panels and discussions that will follow up on the discussions of last year's TIP on models to stimulate the development of start-up ecosystems and to link corporations with these ecosystems: What have we learnt? What progress have we made? What are the next steps?









TUESDAY, APRIL 25 – WELCOME DINNER

Time	Event	Venue
ALL DAY	TIP Guests Arrivals	Fairmont Le Château Frontenac
6:00 pm	TIP PRIVATE COCKTAIL	Salon Rose – 2 nd floor
7:00 pm	TIP PRIVATE DINNER Welcome Remarks:  Gilles Duruflé <i>Executive Vice President, Quebec City Conference President, TIP Ecosystem Building Forum</i>	Jacques-Cartier Room - Lobby Level









WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 – TIP ECOSYSTEM BUILDING FORUM

Time	Event	Venue
7:00 am – 8:30 am	BREAKFAST – Buffet-style breakfast available	Champlain Restaurant – Lobby Level
8:30 am	INTRODUCTION TO THE QCC AND 2017 TIP ECOSYSTEM BUILDING FORUM  Gilles Duruflé <i>Executive Vice President, Quebec City Conference President, TIP Ecosystem Building Forum</i>	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
8:40 am	THE AI CHALLENGE AND OPPORTUNITY  Sharad Sachdev <i>Managing Director Artificial Intelligence Lead – North America Accenture</i>	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
9:20 am	BUILDING AI SUPERCLUSTERS: FROM PLATFORMS TO ECOSYSTEMS - AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE  JF Gauthier CEO Startup Genome	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
10:00 am	NETWORKING BREAK	Foyer, Ballroom – 2 nd floor





WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 – TIP ECOSYSTEM BUILDING FORUM

Time	Event	Venue
10:20 am	INTRODUCTION TO THE CANADIAN AI INITIATIVES	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
10:25 am	GETTING INVOLVED WITH AI TECH INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS: A BANK’S PERSPECTIVE Panelists  <p>John Stackhouse Senior Vice President, Office of the CEO Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)</p>  <p>Gabriel Woo Vice President, Innovation Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)</p> Moderator  <p>Salim Teja Executive Vice President MaRS Discovery District</p>	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
11:05 am	TRANSITIONING FROM SCIENCE PROJECTS TO HIGH GROWTH COMPANIES: CREATIVE DESTRUCTION LAB AND NEXT.AI Panelists  <p>Jesse Rodgers CEO, Volta Labs Former Founding Director, Creative Destruction Lab</p>  <p>Jon French Director of Marketing and Communications NEXT Canada</p>  <p>Moe Kermani Managing Partner Vanedga Capital</p>  <p>Michael Helander CEO OTI Lumionics Inc.</p> Moderator  <p>Janet Bannister General Partner Real Ventures</p>	Ballroom – 2 nd floor

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 – TIP ECOSYSTEM BUILDING FORUM

Time	Event	Venue
12:00 pm	<p>NETWORKING LUNCH: AI, UNIVERSITIES AND THE NEW SOCIAL COMPACT</p> <p>Keynote speaker:</p>  <p>Alan Shepard <i>President & Vice-Chancellor</i> Concordia University</p>	Le Cellier Room – Lobby level
1:30 pm	AFTERNOON INTRODUCTION	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
1:35 pm	<p>GUIDING NEW-YORK CITY TO BECOME THE AI CENTER OF EXCELLENCE: AI NEXUSLAB</p> <p>Panelists</p>  <p>John Frankel <i>Founding Partner</i> ff Venture Capital</p>  <p>Steven Kuyan <i>Managing Director</i> AI NexusLab and Future Lab</p> <p>Moderator</p>  <p>Alan MacIntosh <i>General Partner</i> Real Ventures</p>	
2:15 pm	<p>BUILDING LINKS BETWEEN ACADEMIC EXPERTISE AND BUSINESS NEEDS, FROM START-UPS TO MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS</p> <p>Panelists</p>  <p>Jean-Marc Rousseau <i>Director, Tech Transfer</i> IVADO</p>  <p>Cameron Schuler <i>Executive Director</i> Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii)</p>  <p>Alexandre Le Bouthillier <i>Co Founder & Chief Operating Officer</i> Imagia</p> <p>Moderator</p>  <p>Angelique Manella <i>Associate Vice-Principal, Innovation and Partnerships</i> McGill University</p>	Ballroom – 2 nd floor

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 – TIP ECOSYSTEM BUILDING FORUM

Time	Event	Venue
3:00 pm	<p>ENABLING AI-FIRST BUSINESSES: ELEMENT.AI</p> <p>Panelists</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Omar Dhalla <i>VP Corporate Innovation</i> Element AI</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Sebastien Paquet <i>Lead Applied Research Scientist</i> Element AI</p> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Sylvain Carle <i>Partner</i> Real Ventures</p> </div> </div> <p>Moderator</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Jason Brenier <i>Director- Conversational Business</i> Georgian Partners</p> </div> </div>	

MEETING AGENDA

QUEBEC CITY CONFERENCE – APRIL 27, 2017








Venue & Accommodation: Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, 1 Rue des Carrières, Quebec City, G1R 4P5

Attire: business casual








WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26 – OPENING RECEPTION

Time	Event	Venue
6:00 pm	<p>OPENING COCKTAIL RECEPTION</p> <p>Opening word:</p>  <p>Mr. Christian Racicot <i>President</i> Quebec City Conference</p> <p>Welcome address:</p>  <p>Mr. Reza Moridi Ontario Ministry of Research, Innovation and Science</p>  <p>Mr. Carlos Leitão Quebec Minister of Finance</p>	<p>Verchères – 2nd floor (please make your way through the <u>Lobby</u>)</p>
7:30 pm	PRIVATE DINNERS	<p>Further information will be given upon your arrival/registration at the Fairmont</p>


THURSDAY, APRIL 27 – QUEBEC CITY CONFERENCE

Time	Event	Venue
7:00 am – 8:45 am	BREAKFAST – Buffet-style breakfast available	Frontenac Room – 2 nd floor
9:00 am	PRESIDENT TRUMP’S ECONOMIC PROGRAM: U.S., EUROPE AND PRIVATE EQUITY Speaker	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
	 <p>John W. Snow Chairman – Cerberus Capital Management 73rd U.S. Secretary of the Treasury (2003 to 2006)</p>	
9:50 am	PRIVATE EQUITY ADAPTING TO A CHANGING ENVIRONMENT Speaker	
	 <p>Tagar C. Olson Head of the Financial Services industry team, Member of the Investment Committee of Americas Private Equity Platform Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. (KKR)</p>	
10:30 am	NETWORKING BREAK	Verchères – 2 nd floor
10:45 am	REVIEW OF THE CURRENT CREDIT LANDSCAPE – ANOMALIES, OBSERVATIONS, AND INVESTMENT IDEAS Speaker	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
	 <p>Michael Fox Partner Apollo Global Management</p>	
11:30 am	WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED WITH LONGER-TERM CAPITAL; AND WHAT STRUCTURES ARE AVAILABLE TO INVESTORS WHO WANT TO DO SO?™ Panelists	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
	 <p>Michael Lee Deputy Director, Head of Investment Origination & Co-Investment Partnerships Ireland Strategic Investment Fund</p>	 <p>Andrew Sheiner Managing Partner Atlas Partners</p>
	 <p>Paul Bishop Investment Director Railpen Investment Management</p>	 <p>Paul Manias Managing Director OMERS Platform Investments</p>

THURSDAY, APRIL 27 – QUEBEC CITY CONFERENCE

Time	Event	Venue
12:15 pm	NETWORKING LUNCH	Frontenac Room – 2 nd floor
1:45 pm	A WORLD RUNNING BACKWARD: HOW TO NAVIGATE WHEN THE "RULES" OF THE LAST 40 YEARS APPLY LESS AND LESS	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
	Speaker	
	 <p>Nelson W. Cunningham <i>President and Co-founder - McLarty Associates</i> <i>Former member - U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry's Foreign Affairs Policy Board, the Department of State's Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy</i> <i>Past Chairman - Export-Import Bank Advisory Committee</i></p>	
2:15 pm	HOW ARE INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS PREPARING FOR A POLITICAL "NEW NORMAL"?	
	Panelists	
	 <p>Michel Noel <i>Head of Investment Funds, Finance & Markets Global Practice</i> World Bank</p>	 <p>Stephane Marguier <i>Managing Director, Head of EMEA Business Development</i> TIAA</p>
	 <p>Jordan Berger <i>Managing Director, Strategic Relationships & Portfolio Intelligence</i> OPTrust</p>	 <p>Chris Rule <i>CIO</i> Local Pensions Partnership</p>
3:00 pm	NETWORKING BREAK	Verchères – 2 nd floor
3:20 pm	HOW TECH INNOVATION IS DISRUPTING INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT	Ballroom – 2 nd floor
	Speaker	
	 <p>Terry Stuart <i>Chief Innovation Officer</i> Deloitte</p>	
	Special Guest	
	 <p>Sebastien Gendron <i>Co-Founder & CEO</i> TransPod, Inc.</p>	

THURSDAY, APRIL 27 – QUEBEC CITY CONFERENCE

Time	Event	Venue
4:10 pm	ONE VERY BIG IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME Speaker  Matthew Bishop <i>Senior Editor</i> The Economist	
5:00 pm	CLOSING COCKTAIL	<i>Frontenac Room – 2nd floor</i>



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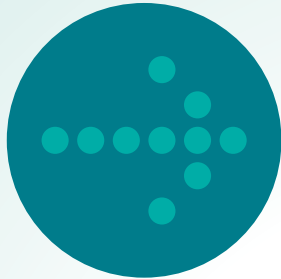


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(KPMG Competitive Alternatives, 2016)

#2 in the «**Top Canadian Metros**» ranking to establish a business
(Site Selection Magazine, 2013)

IN THE TOP 10 of «**American Cities of the Future 2017-2018**»
(FDI Magazine, 2017)

#2 overall in Canada, 5th overall in North America

#1 for economic potential in Canada, 7th in North America

#1 for human capital and lifestyle in Canada, 4th in North America

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of the 2017 Quebec City Conference**

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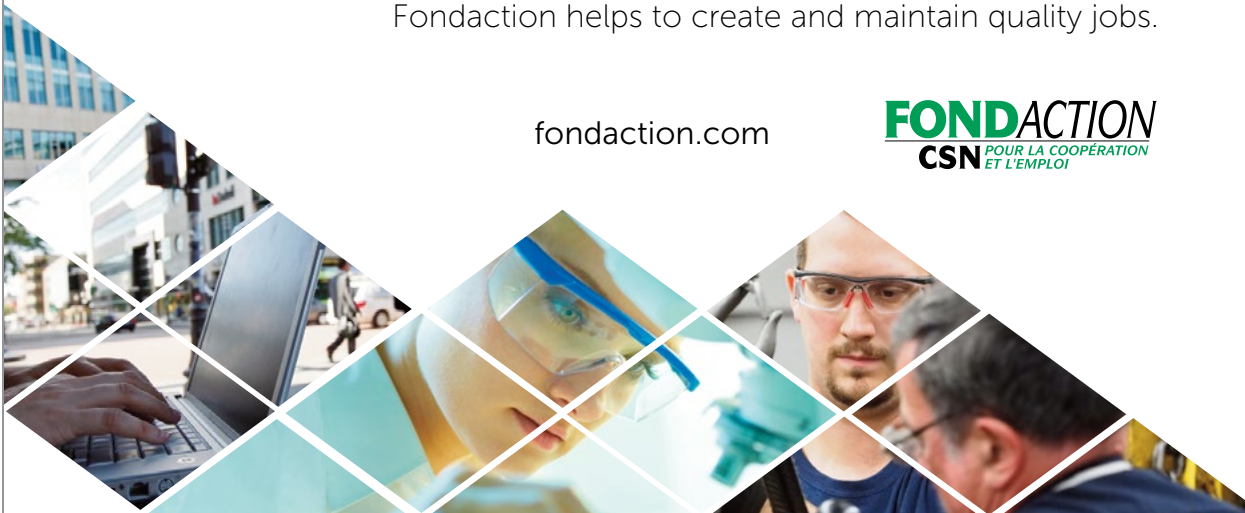
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Participants



Bahan, David

Assistant Deputy Minister Corporate Tax Policy, Economic Development and Government Corporations

Quebec Ministry of Finance



Canada

David Bahan currently holds the position of Assistant Deputy Minister Corporate Tax Policy, Economic Development and Government Corporations at the ministère des Finances du Québec. His responsibilities include the coordination of policies relating to venture capital. M. Bahan has 15 years of experience in the public sector and holds a MA in economics from the University of Montréal.



Bannister, Janet

General Partner

Real Ventures



Canada

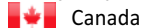
Janet is passionate about helping entrepreneurs and their businesses reach their full potential. Her background is a combination of founding and building successful entrepreneurial ventures and making an impact at leading companies such as Procter & Gamble, McKinsey & Co., and eBay. Janet is a General Partner at Real Ventures, Canada's largest and most active early-stage venture capital firm. Janet has led investments in a dozen companies and works actively with Real's portfolio companies to help them accelerate growth and create meaningful impact. Janet launched Kijiji.ca and grew it to become one of the most visited websites in Canada. Subsequently, she led the Kijiji Global business, accelerating growth in North America, Europe, and Asia. Prior to launching Kijiji, Janet was at eBay in Silicon Valley where she led multiple "non-collectibles" categories and helped transform eBay from a collectibles to a mainstream marketplace. She also founded and built a successful consulting business and was CEO at a Toronto-based start-up in the online content and commerce space. Janet was a varsity long-distance runner and competed internationally in triathlons. Today she balances her active lifestyle with being a wife and mother to her eleven-year old son.



Bernier, Jacques

Managing Partner

Teralys Capital




Canada

Mr. Bernier is Managing Partner and Founder of Teralys Capital, a fund of funds whose limited partners are Québec Gouvernement, Caisse de Dépôt et de Placement and Solidarity Fund QFL. With the Solidarity Fund QFL since 2004, Jacques Bernier has been Senior Vice-President, Information Technologies, Telecommunications and Industrial Innovations until May 31st 2008 and has act as the gatekeeper for the fund of funds activity. An engineering graduate from École polytechnique in 1979, Mr. Bernier is behind the creation of the Industrial Innovation Center of Montréal. He was also co-founder and CEO of BGH Planning, a software developer, and co-founder and Vice-President of OMVPE Technologies, a manufacturer of semi-conductors. Mr. Bernier helped found Téléport de Montréal, a Québec beacon in the telecommunications sector, and served as its President from 1987 to 2002. Before joining the Solidarity Fund QFL, he was President of Mégapoint, a holding company in the high-tech sector, and Chairman of the Board of LxSix Photonics, a leader in new production processes in fibre-optic communications and optical sensors. Over the past 29 years, Mr. Bernier has demonstrated his expertise—both in Canada and the U.S.—in launching businesses, financial engineering, business development, growing investments, scouting for new markets and defining innovative business strategies. Mr. Bernier is also a member of the Board of Director and executive committee of the CVCA.



Boisjoly, Sebastian
Director, Venture Capital and Investment Funds

Investissement Québec
 Canada

Mr. Sebastian Boisjoly joined the Investissement Québec team in 2003. In addition to holding the position of Director, Venture Capital and Investment Funds, he has also served as Chief Executive Officer of FIER Partners since 2010 and of the Relève Québec Fund since its creation in November 2011. His primary responsibility is managing the team that negotiates and sets up venture capital investments and various investment funds on behalf of Investissement Québec. Since his appointment, Mr. Boisjoly has played an active role in establishing several large investment funds as well as venture capital investments in a variety of industries. Mr. Boisjoly is a lawyer and holds a bachelor's degree in Economics and Financial Management as well as a master's degree in Taxation from HEC Montréal. His past experience includes positions with national public accounting firms and at the Ministère des Finances du Québec.



Bordeleau, Richard
President

Fonds Innovexport
 Canada

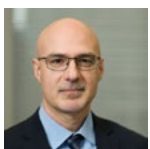
Richard Bordeleau is president of Innovexport, an investment fund supporting Quebec-based innovative start-up companies targeting international markets. His career was focused on growing and helping grow innovative companies on a worldwide basis. He started as a consultant in marketing and corporate strategy for high-tech companies before investing and taking executive positions successively in Aeterna Laboratories, Atrium Innovations and BioCad Medical. He is shareholders of a number of emerging companies in various sectors and is currently Executive Chairman of the Board of Icentia, a medical device company. He is playing an active role on few Board of Directors but prefers being on the front lines on management committees or advisory boards, working closely with young entrepreneurs. He offers consulting services in corporate strategy and is always available to help on economic development issues. He holds a Bachelor degree from Laval University and a diploma from HEC Paris in Corporate Strategy for Executives.




Brenier, Jason
Director of Conversational Business and member of the Impact Team

Georgian Partners
 Canada

Jason Brenier is the Director of Conversational Business and a member of the Impact Team at Georgian Partners. He leads the development of conversational business investment thesis and works closely with portfolio companies to integrate natural language processing, machine learning and artificial intelligence into messaging products and conversational interfaces. Jason has more than 15 years of experience applying advanced analytics, computational linguistics and machine learning to business problems in the financial services, pharmaceutical and legal domains. Prior to joining Georgian Partners, Jason held business analytics and technology leadership positions in management consulting, enterprise software and start-ups. Throughout his career, he has served as CTO at an early stage machine learning startup, led Ernst & Young's forensic data science team, and held advisory positions with a number of artificial intelligence and analytics companies.



Cadete, George
Director

Ontario Provincial Government - Ministry of Research, Innovation and Science & Ministry of Economic
 Canada



Carle, Sylvain
Partner

Real Ventures
 Canada

Sylvain Carle lives and breathes emerging technologies. For the last 20 years, he has thrived with marvel and fun at the confluence of media, technology and networks. Serial entrepreneur for 15 years, as CTO and co-founder at Messagia, Interstructure, Praized and Needium. Before joining Real Ventures he was Senior Developer Advocate at Twitter in San Francisco. He is convinced that technology will change the world for the best in this era of the networked society.



Cegelski, Mike
Managing Partner

500 Startups Canada
 Canada

Mike Cegelski is a Managing Partner for 500's Canada fund. From successful entrepreneur to angel investor and mentor, it's all about passion! Mike gets involved where it counts and where he can bring value. An entrepreneur with Beltron from 1984 to 2000 and iBwave from 2003 to 2015, and an investor and mentor in over 30 companies in the past 10 years. Mike is visibly involved in the angel investing community through Anges Quebec and many other initiatives. Nurturing entrepreneurship is his gift!




Chenette, Madeleine
Office Managing Director, Montreal

Accenture
 Canada

Prior to her role at Accenture, Madeleine Chenette was Head of Strategy Service line in KPMG Canada, Chair of the Board of SECOR Group, an international strategy and management consulting firm and Board Member of Transat A.T. inc. an integrated tour operator. Instrumental in the growth of Secor Group, an international strategy and management consulting firm, where she has been Quebec managing partner and Global Lead of all intellectual capital enhancement and development for the Group, prior of being the Chair. She is a respected and engaging speaker for international conferences on trends and new best practices. Madeleine's compelling views of business challenges are based on extensive global research and twenty years of experience in diversified sectors such as retail, natural resources, energy and finance. Under her leadership, a unique team of savvy business people, creative strategists and executives of top organizations wake up everyday to push back frontiers and win the new market race. National and international clients from TSX listed, Fortune 500 and crown corporations look to her teams to develop their innovation and leadership capabilities. Madeleine holds a Master of Science in Administration from the École des Hautes Études Commerciales in Montreal and Certified Corporate Director 2011 - Institute of Corporate Directors. An eclectic sportswoman, Madeleine also values business and community involvement. She has been president of Fundraising of Herstreet Montreal, president of the Board of Directors of the Montreal Canadian Club, and led pro bono strategic reflection, for the Orchestre Symphonique des jeunes de Montréal, the Women in Finance, the YWCA and, sponsored the fundraising events of Foundation of Greater Montreal and Les filles électriques. At the Gala for "Les Talentueuses", the Association of Quebec Women in Finance awarded its Inspiration price in 2011 and in 2013, the Great Mentor award. She is one of Canada's most powerful top 100 women.




Chénier, Richard
General manager

Centech - powered by ÉTS
 Canada

Richard Chenier is Centech's General manager, Quebec leading incubator for start-ups companies dedicated to hardware and advance technologies. Centech was created in 1996 by École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS), the 2nd largest engineering school in Canada. Mr. Chenier is also the entrepreneurship and innovation director at ÉTS. Mr. Chenier holds a BA in social psychology and a Master in organizational communication. During his career, Mr. Chenier was shareholder in two businesses, one of which he co-founded. He was also the leader of the largest multidisciplinary team of trainers dedicated to professional development within Quebec industry. He also trained more than 10,000 managers around human management skills. He is still one of the speakers of the Management Leadership Institute in the province of Quebec.



Cloutier, Richard
Managing Partner & Co Founder

Ecofuel Accelerator & Fund
 Canada



Convey, Steven
Managing Director

Accenture Technology
 Canada

Steve is a Managing Director and leads Accenture's Technology practice in Canada. Steve also leads the Accenture and SAP Business Solutions Group globally.



Couture, Béatrice
Directrice générale

InnoCité
 Canada

Beatrice is the General Manager of InnoCité MTL, the 1st smart city startup accelerator in Canada. Prior to InnoCité, she gained a solid experience with municipal sales and infrastructure project management as a team member of BIXI business development team managing the bike share system implementation in major Canadian and American cities.



Daniels, Marcus
Founding Partner

Highline Beta
 Canada

Marcus Daniels is a digital product entrepreneur, pre-seed venture capitalist and corporate accelerator expert that is passionate about transforming industries. Founding Partner of Highline BETA, a startup co-creation company launching new ventures with leading corporations. Co-Founder of HIGHLINE, a pre-seed vc & pan-Canadian accelerator that helps digital startups raise institutional follow-on capital. Based in Toronto & Toronto, HIGHLINE has 35 active portfolio companies, \$210M of follow-on capital and eight meaningful exits. Formerly Managing Director of Extreme Startups and COO of Trend Hunter, the world's #1 trendspotting website & an innovation partner to Fortune 500 brands. Marcus holds an MBA from Smith School of Business at Queen's University, BA from McGill University and completed the VC Executive Program from UC Berkeley.




Darveau, André
Doyen

Université Laval
 Canada

A graduate from Université Laval, Institut-Armand-Frappier and McGill University, Dr. Darveau has pursued postdoctoral studies at University of California San Francisco and Centre de recherche de la Croix-Rouge canadienne before joining the Department of biochemistry and microbiology, Université Laval as an assistant professor in 1994. As a molecular immunologist, he published more than 50 papers in peer-reviewed journals and presented close to 100 abstracts in various scientific meetings. From 1994 to 2011, he supervised and co-supervised the work of 70 students. After being promoted at the rank of full professor in 2003, he was named chairman of the Department of biochemistry and microbiology in 2003, Vice-Dean research of the Faculty of sciences and engineering in 2007 and Dean of the same Faculty in 2011. As a Dean he played an important role in the creation of new research centers, including the Université Laval Big Data Research Center. He received numerous teaching awards, including the prestigious "Prix de l'excellence en enseignement" from Université Laval in 2004.



Denis, Alain
Senior Vice-President - Innovation

Fonds de solidarité FTQ
 Canada

Alain Denis joined the Fonds de solidarité FTQ in 2009 as Investment Director of the Information Technologies and Telecommunications sector. An entrepreneur and manager with over 20 years of experience in business and investment, Mr. Denis has held various management positions in leading companies, playing a significant role in their development. Over his career, Alain Denis was, among other things, involved in the launch of a national wireless telecom firm and helped secure financing for and further the development of various companies funded through venture capital in Europe and Asia. More recently, he participated in developing the business of two companies he co-founded, one in health technologies and the other in asset-based lending. A graduate of Université Laval and York University, Mr. Denis holds an MBA and a Bachelor of Business Administration with a Finance concentration. Very involved in the business community, he is a board member of several companies and organizations in Montréal.



Desmarais, Helene
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Centre d'entreprises et d'innovations de Montréal (CEIM)
 Canada

Ms. Hélène Desmarais holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in finance from HEC Montréal. She is Founder, CEO and Chair of the Board of Administration of the Centre d'entreprises et d'innovation de Montréal (CEIM) (since 1996). CEIM is a business incubator, with an emphasis on startups as well as the development of innovative IT, multimedia, industrial technology and biotech companies. Since its foundation, CEIM became a leading incubator in Québec and the most important of its kind in Canada. Ms. Desmarais was appointed first female President of HEC's Board of Administration (in 2003), for which she is a member (since 1999); is Co-Founder and Co-Chair of the International Advisory Board of HEC Montréal (since 1990); is Chair of the University of Montreal's Faculty of Medicine Advisory Committee (since 2006); is President of the Steering Committee and member of the Board of Governors of the International Economic Forum of the Americas (Conference of Montreal, Toronto, Miami and Paris) (since 1995); is Chair of the Board of Administration of The Montreal Economic Institute (since 2007) where she has held a seat (since 2002); is Founder and Chair of the Board of Administration and of the Entrepreneurial Development Committee of the Société de développement économique Ville-Marie (SDEV) (since 1998) which became PME-Mtl centre-ville in 2015; is Chair of the Société d'Investissement Jeunesse (SIJ) (since 1999); was Chair of the Board of Directors of the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal (2007-2008), sits on its Board (since 2002) and was a member of its audit committee (2004-2007); and, is Deputy Chair of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra (since 2004) and Chair and Founder of its Foundation (since 2008). She chaired a commission on the health care industry for the government of Quebec and the city of Montréal (in 1997). Ms. Desmarais sits and also sat on the following Boards of administration : Christian Dior SE (parent publicly traded holding of LVMH and Christian Dior Couture) (since 2012) and also presides its Compensation and Nomination Committee (since 2015); Garda World Security Corporation and its audit committee (since 2006); C.D. Howe Institute (since 2005) for which she was Chair of its Canadian regional committees (2006-2012); the Institute for Governance of Private and Public Organizations (since 2005); the IRCM - The Institut de recherches cliniques de Montréal (since 2005); Génome Québec (since 2002); VAL-CHUM - Société de valorisation des recherches du CHUM (2004-2008); the Conseil des partenaires de l'innovation (CIP), which falls under the aegis of Quebec's Ministry of Développement économique, Innovation et Exportation (2006-2008); the City of Montreal Economic Orientation Committee (2005-2012); the advisory board of Biotechnology Research Institute, National Research Council of Canada (2002-2006); and, the Investment Committee, Hydro-Quebec CapiTech - Innovation Fund (2001-2004). Recipient, Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee Medals in 2002 and in 2012; Order of Merit, Université de Montréal in 2007; Medal of Honour, Faculty of Medicine of the Université de Montréal in 2009; Doctor of Laws honoris causa, St. Francis Xavier University in 2009; Doctor honoris causa, Université de Lyon in France in 2009; Order of Canada, Chancellery of Honours in 2009; Prix entrepreneurship of Conseil du Patronat du Québec in 2010; Grande Montréalaise (economic sector), Académie des grands montréalais and la Chambre de commerce du Montréal métropolitain in 2010 (the Académie turned into Ordre de Montréal in 2016); Officer of the National Order of Québec in 2013; and, Commander of the Ordre de Montréal in 2016.



Dhalla, Omar
SVP corporate innovation

Element AI
 Canada

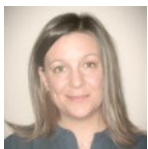
Omar was the first person on the ground in Ontario for both Element AI and Real Ventures. In his role with Element AI, he is focused on bringing AI-first solutions to corporate partners. Omar started his career with Accenture and McKinsey, then co-founded and operated early-stage ventures in both the packaged goods and media industries. He holds an MBA from the Richard Ivey School of Business at Western Ontario and teaches in University of British Columbia's EMBA program.




Douville, Elizabeth
General Partner

AmorChem Financial Inc.
 Canada

Dr. Douville joined GeneChem in 1997 as a Manager of the Technologies Fund and was promoted to Vice President in 2001 with the raising of their Therapeutics Fund. In 2006, Dr. Douville became General Partner with the raising of their third fund, AgeChem. As of January 2011, Dr. Douville is co-managing the fourth and latest venture fund, AmorChem. Dr. Douville is an active board member of Alethia Biotherapeutics and she was an active member of the boards of directors of Cytochroma Inc., Ambit Biosciences Inc., LymphoSign Inc. and Chronogen Inc. and was also a board member of Idun Pharmaceuticals Inc. before its sale to Pfizer in 2005. Elizabeth obtained her Ph.D. in biochemistry at the University of Ottawa (1994), studying the role of protein tyrosine kinases in oncogenesis. She then received postdoctoral training at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London (U.K.) from 1994 to 1997 where she studied oncogenes and their signal transduction pathways. In 2008, Elizabeth obtained a business certificate degree as part of the "Programme de perfectionnement des cadres supérieurs" (an Executive management and training program) offered by CIREM in collaboration with HEC/University of Montreal.



Dubé, Mélanie
Economic Policies and Venture Capital Advisor

Quebec Ministry of Economy, Science and Innovation
 Canada

Mélanie Dubé has been working as a Policy Advisor at the Government of Québec since 2002. During these years, her responsibilities mainly referred to corporate financing, either relating to the interventions of the Government in the capitalization of investment funds, or by different government corporations, or through measures of support for the capitalization of corporations. She also took part in the elaboration of government policies, as well as in various special mandates. She now works for the Ministère de l'Économie, de la Science et de l'Innovation du Québec, where her role is primarily to participate in the elaboration of policies, strategies and action plans in economic development to foster the start-up and growth of innovative companies in Quebec. She is the official representative for venture capital at the ministry and she contributes to the implementation of investment funds involving the Government and its different partners. She also takes part in special mandates, as well as various analysis and recommendations to the high authorities in economic development, such as venture capital and the funding of technological innovations.




Duruflé, Gilles
President

QCC Tech Innovation Platform
 Canada

Dr Gilles Duruflé is an independent consultant advising venture capital and private equity funds, institutional investors and governments. He is also Executive Vice-President of the Quebec City Conference and President of its Tech Innovation Platform (formerly Public Policy Forum on Venture Capital and Innovation). He was until 2004 Senior Partner at CDP Capital Technology Ventures, the venture capital subsidiary of the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, in charge of the Funds of Funds portfolio, investing in North American and European VC funds. He was previously Head of strategic studies at the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec. From 1979 to 1991, he worked as Senior Partner in strategic consulting firms in the CDC Group (Caisse des dépôts et consignations, Paris) in Africa, Europe and North America. He sits on the Board of the Quebec City Conference. Dr Duruflé obtained his Masters in Philosophy from the CERP (Paris), his Ph.D. in Mathematics from the Paris VI University and the Diploma of the Centre d'Études des Programme Économiques (Ministry of Finance, Paris). He is a CFA and has published numerous books and articles on various subjects related to economics and finance.



Flanagan, Kara
Venture Capital Funds Initiative Manager

British Columbia Ministry of International Trade
 Canada

Ms. Flanagan has a Master's Degree in Economics from the University of Victoria and in 2013 was recognized as one of 50 alumni who have made a difference as part of the university's 50th anniversary celebration. Ms. Flanagan works for the BC Government in the Ministry of International Trade as the Venture Capital Funds Initiative Manager with key mandates including the \$100 million BC Tech Fund. Ms. Flanagan has worked with the Bank of Canada and investment firms with up to \$100 billion in assets. Ms. Flanagan has extensive experience providing investment due diligence to prospective investors on large scale private and public investments. While working in asset management, she co-managed over \$1 billion in accounts. She has worked on a variety of financial deals, particularly in the media sector, where she has assisted clients in media transactions in public and private financial markets. Her experience in financial and credit analysis as well as investment due diligence provides her with a solid foundation as to how to ascertain the value and risk of investments. As a consultant, she adds value in helping companies recognize opportunities for growth and how to develop new business lines for businesses in industries such as finance, film and education.



Frankel, John
Founding Partner

ff Venture Capital
 USA

John Frankel is the founding partner of ff Venture Capital. He founded the firm in 2008 and has been a seed- and early-stage investor since late 1999. John focuses on advising and growing technology and technology-enabled companies across emerging industries, including artificial intelligence, cyber security, drones, enterprise software, crowdfunding, and data analytics, among others. He has served on the boards of more than 35 companies and has led investments in more than 80 companies, including Cornerstone OnDemand (CSOD), Indiegogo, Ionic Security, Unikey, Skycatch, Plated, 500px, Distil Networks, Pebblepost, and Owlet. John also sits on The NYU Tandon School of Engineering's Board of Overseers. Prior to founding ffVC, John worked at Goldman Sachs for 21 years in a variety of roles that involved technology development, reengineering and capital markets. At Goldman Sachs, he worked closely with some of the world's leading hedge fund managers and developed a keen understanding of emerging technologies and portfolio risk/return management. John started his business career in London with Arthur Andersen having earned a Master of Arts from New College, Oxford, where he studied Mathematics, Philosophy and Logic. He is a Fellow Chartered Accountant of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.



French, Jon
Director of Marketing and Communications

NEXT Canada
 Canada

Jon joined The Next 36 (now NEXT Canada) in April 2011 and is responsible for marketing, communications and recruitment with an emphasis on attracting high potential entrepreneurs to the organization's three programs. Jon manages relationships with prospective applicants, student organizations, national partners, university representatives and members of the start-up community. Prior to joining NEXT Canada, Jon was Associate Director, Career Information with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario (ICAO) where he spent almost ten years promoting the CA designation to students across Ontario. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Association of Career Educators & Employers and is on the Advisory Boards for Venture for Canada and the MLSE Foundation: 3TO6 Team. Jon has an MBA from the Schulich School of Business at York University, a BBA from Wilfrid Laurier University and an International Business Diploma from Vaxjo University in Sweden.



Gaudet, Isabelle
Economic Policy Advisor

Quebec Ministry of Finance
 Canada

Isabelle Gaudet completes her MBA degree at Dalian University of Technology in China after obtaining her BAA Degree at HEC Montreal in collaboration with the Helsinki School of Economic and Business Administration in Finland. She joined the Quebec Ministry of Economy Development, Innovation and Export trade in 2008 as an Economic Policy Advisor. Now working at the Quebec Ministry of Finance, she is mainly involved in the analysis and recommendation to the ministry authorities on different subjects such as venture capital and financing of innovation and technology.



Gauthier, JF
CEO

Startup Genome
 USA

JF Gauthier is CEO of Startup Genome, an organization that works with local leaders and governments all over the world to accelerate the growth of their startup ecosystems through evidence-based policymaking. Based on the voice of 10,000+ entrepreneurs, 300 local partner organizations and with more than 40 member cities, Startup Genome has built the largest multi-year research on what fuels the growth of startup ecosystems. JF has authored the recent Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2017 and authored Compass' startup ecosystem reports. Based in Silicon Valley for 20 years JF has led companies active in the Tech, Life Sciences and Cleantech sectors. Most recently he was COO for Compass (recently acquired by Sage), the leading benchmarking solution for ecommerce merchants.



Giguère, Luc
Senior Lecturer and Entrepreneur in Residence

ETS
 Canada

I am a Serial-Entrepreneur & Lecturer with a focus on new business development and “turn-around” with 25 years experience in Technology, Consulting, and Investments. I'm currently Senior Lecturer at École de Technologie Supérieure where I'm also in charge of the Start-Up Accelerator. Previously at OMsignal, I was VP Corporate Development, where I worked on Go To Market strategies and negotiations with the clothing industry major players. OMsignal has developed bio-sensing clothing that connects seamlessly with mobile devices. I did the restructuring of Biocognisafe, a company developing methods and devices to detect fatigue & sleepiness of drivers and workers in situations where their safety or the safety of a population is at stake. Previously, I did technology consulting at Grant Thornton. In 2003, I completed the Trium Executive MBA, a joint program between the LSE, NYU Stern and Paris HEC, rank #1 in the World by the Financial Times. After finishing my MBA, I started Oh! Airlines, the forerunner of the business-class-only-airline. From 2000, I worked for Schlumberger where I integrated telweb operations, first in London and then in Paris in the Telecom Division. Telweb was my first business, started in 1991, just out of university without any cash at hand. We developed PC-based credit card validation software. In 1994, we obtained VC financing from Technocap and Innovatech and started supplying “multimedia pay phone” to telecom companies worldwide. In 1998, we launched the world's first webpayphone. After successful deals with major telcos around the World, telweb was acquired by Schlumberger in January 2000. With proceeds of the transaction, I founded Planet 31 Investments an angel fund with successful exits such as Lyppo Systems, sold to Transcontinental; and Yotta-Yotta sold to EMC. I have given conferences and lectures at McGill University, The LSE and at École de Technologie Supérieure and I am involved in my MBA alumni activities



Godbout, Martin
President and CEO

HODRAN, inc.
 Canada

Dr. Godbout was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Genome Canada from April 2000 to October 2009, and before that he was Senior Vice President at BioCapital and President and General Manager of Société Innovatech Québec. Between 1996 and 2004, he was a member of the Board of the “Conseil de la Science et de la Technologie du Québec” and he has been an Advisory member of several Canadian biopharmaceutical venture firms such as SGF Santé, Société Innovatech du Grand Montréal and Royal Bank Ventures Inc. In 2005, Dr. Godbout was appointed Officer of the Order of Canada. He was also awarded the Grand Prix de Recherche from the Québec Foundation for Mental Disorders for his previous work on Alzheimer’s disease in 1991 and the “Prix Summa” in 1994 from the Faculty of Science and Engineering of Université Laval. In 1994, he also founded BioContact Québec which has become one of the most important biopharmaceutical symposiums in North America. He holds a B.Sc. in Biochemistry and a Ph.D. in Physiology and Molecular Endocrinology from Université Laval. In March 2006, Dr. Godbout was shortlisted by the editors of Nature Biotechnology, as one of twenty nominees who have made the most remarkable and influential contribution to biotech in the past ten years in the category “Biobusiness in the rest of the world.”



Haney, Craig
Head, Corporate Innovation

Communtech
 Canada

I am currently the Director or Corporate Innovation for Communtech. My role here is to help make our large Enterprise Companies more innovative and productive by connecting them to productive ecosystems. Prior to Communtech, I ran the Canadian Tire Innovations team at the Communtech Hub.




Hazelden, Mark
Senior Director, Partnerships and Projects

Brookfield Institute for Entrepreneurship + Innovation
 Canada

Mark Hazelden is the Senior Director of the Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, a new institute dedicated to studying and strengthening the country’s innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. Mark spent the last decade working with senior decision makers across the private, not-for-profit, and government sectors to develop and implement innovation policy. Prior to joining the Brookfield Institute, Mark worked within the Government of Ontario, most recently as the Director of Economic Policy for the Premier of Ontario. He also spent time at Communtech, which convinced him of the need to focus efforts locally, provincially, and nationally on supporting the vibrancy of Canada’s entrepreneurship ecosystems. Mark has a Bachelor of Science in Biology from McMaster University.



Helander, Michael
CEO

OTI Lumionics Inc.
 Canada

Michael received a B.A.Sc. degree in Engineering Science and Ph.D. degree in Materials Science & Engineering from the University of Toronto. He has published 104 peer reviewed publications, 8 patents and 2 book chapters. He is a Visiting Scientist at the Xerox Research Centre of Canada and is a Governor General Gold Medal winner, Vanier Canada Graduate Scholar, and Chorafas Prize winner. Michael is currently Co-founder and President of OTI Lumionics Inc., an advanced materials start-up company working on low cost manufacturing solutions for organic LED (OLED) lighting and displays.




Hervé, Xavier-Henri
Director & Founder

District 3 Innovation Center
 Canada

Xavier-Henri Hervé is a senior leader and mentor with 25 years track record for transforming B2B strategic plans for innovations into sales and execution on an international scale. Hervé enjoys a worldwide network built in over fifty countries in Europe, Middle-East and Africa (EMEA), the Americas at large, and the Asian markets, with notably great success in China. An engineer, Hervé leverages 20 years of experience in several technology and engineering intensive domains such as aviation, information systems, simulation and greentech, at Mechtronix, Oracle Corporation, CAE Electronics and Bombardier.



Hogan, Brenda
Senior Investment Manager

Ontario Capital Growth Corporation
 Canada

Brenda M. Hogan is the Senior Investment Manager with the Ontario Capital Growth Corporation (OCGC). OCGC is a limited partner in the \$205 million Ontario Venture Capital Fund and the Northleaf Venture Catalyst Fund, a \$300 million fund of funds. OCGC manages and operates the Ontario Emerging Technologies Fund (OETF), a portfolio of 20 high-potential tech companies. Previously, Brenda was in corporate development, finance, and strategic investing with Bell Aliant, EY, the Business Development Bank of Canada, and a software start-up. Brenda Co-Chair of Canadian Women in Private Equity (CWPE), served on the Board of Women in Capital Markets, and is a founding member of the Royal Ontario Museum Young Patrons Circle (YPC). Brenda holds an MBA in finance, is a graduate of the Rotman School of Business SME Board Effectiveness Program, and has received leadership training from the Ivey School of Business.



Holzbaur, Inès
General Partner

AmorChem Financial Inc.
 Canada

Inès Holzbaur is a general partner at AmorChem, a life sciences venture capital fund. In 2011, she participated in the origination and establishment of AmorChem's disruptive model for financing very early-stage drug development projects. As part of the fund's activities, she played an important role in the closing of a strategic alliance with the pharmaceutical company Roche and the sale of a portfolio asset to Vertex Pharmaceuticals. She is also the chairman of the board of NuChem Therapeutics inc., a medicinal chemistry CRO founded by AmorChem. She began her career in 1999 as a manager and then vice-president of the GeneChem and AgeChem venture capital funds. During this period, she financed several companies in Canada, the US and Europe. As a result, she has held positions on the board of a number of companies, including BioVex inc., which was sold to Amgen for \$1B and Argos Therapeutics inc., which recently obtained a NASDAQ listing. She received a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Concordia University and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Cambridge University in the UK in 1998.



Hunter, Wally
Managing Director

EnerTech Capital
 Canada

Wally has been investing in Energy Technology for over 15 years. He runs EnerTech's Canadian operations from Toronto. His specific areas of focus include opportunities in Energy Management and Building Automation & Control, Oil & Gas Technologies (including Digital Oil Fields), Power electronics, Advanced materials, Water treatment Technologies in Energy, Software & Internet of things (IoT). Prior to EnerTech, Wally was a Managing Director with RBC Capital Partners where he was responsible for the bank's Venture Capital fund (Energy Technology and Advanced Technology Fund) which was part of RBC's Investment Banking Division (RBC Capital Markets). He has an extensive background in the Venture Capital business which includes a series of successful IPO's, M&A and turnaround transactions throughout his 20 year career in the finance business. In addition to Wally's extensive finance background, he previously produced and hosted the weekly financial television show "Money Week" which featured over 200 guest interviews from Canadian and U.S. money managers over a 14 year period. He was also involved in politics and sat as a local Councillor in the Town of Milton (three terms) and on the Board of the Ontario College of Pharmacists (Chair of finance). Wally was past Chairman of the Banff Venture Forum Cleantech Stream and Chairman of the 2014 Canadian Venture Capital Association conference in Ottawa in May of 2014. He sits on the board of the Canadian Venture Capital Association (CVCA), Venture Capital Association of Alberta (VCAA), Sustainable Development Technology Canada Governing Board (SDTC) as well as EnerTech portfolio companies FilterBoxx, N-Dimension Solutions, HPC Energy Services and Western Oilfield Equipment Ltd. Wally was previously an observer on the Board of Distech Controls prior to the sale of the company to Acuity Brands for \$318 Million CDN. Wally received a BA from the University of Western Ontario and has completed a number of securities-related courses and programs including the Canadian Securities Institute (CSC program) and Canadian Investment Finance (CIF I, II & III).



Johns, Brad
Partner

Yaletown Partners
 Canada

Brad brings 27 years of operating, business development, private equity and venture capital experience in the Information Technology and Energy sectors to Yaletown. He currently has responsibility for five Yaletown portfolio companies, serving as a Director at Chaordix, and as a board observer at Showbie, nFluids, Pretio and LoginRadius. He also led the Fund's realized investment in Monexa which was acquired by Netsuite in 2015, and co-manages the recently launched Accelerate Fund which focuses on early stage technology companies in Alberta. Previously he was Vice President of Business Development for Moneta Energy Services, a private natural gas storage and marketing company, Brad also worked in private equity, as a Partner with Moneta Capital Partners where he managed IT and Oil and Gas Technology investments, and as Vice President with Launchworks where he managed IT investments. Brad's career experience includes manufacturing operations, product management, business development, private equity and venture capital in both the IT and Energy sectors. As the Senior Partner at Moneta Capital Partners, he was responsible for investments in IT and Oil and Gas Technology companies. As Vice President at Launchworks, an IT-focused venture capital firm based in Calgary, he was a key contributor to the investment performance of the fund. Brad's operating experience includes a decade as an engineer and manager with Nortel, and then as an executive with two technology start-ups. Brad has a Bachelor of Science Degree from Queen's University, a Masters in Engineering from McMaster University and an MBA from INSEAD, consistently ranked among the top ten business schools globally.



Keefe, Patrick
Partner

Build Ventures
 Canada

Patrick has over 15 years of investment and entrepreneurial experience. As vice president of investment at Innovacorp, Patrick oversaw the organization's seed and early-stage venture capital activities. Previously, Patrick held senior positions with Boston-based venture capital firm Atlas Venture and the Boston Consulting Group, which provides strategic advisory services for leading companies around the world. Patrick holds an M.Phil from Oxford University and an MBA (Distinction) from Harvard Business School.




Kerami, Moe
Managing Partner

Vanedge Capital
 Canada

Moe focuses on investments in the areas of cloud computing, machine intelligence, analytics, and cybersecurity. Moe was a Vice President of NetApp, a leading provider of enterprise data storage solutions. Prior to that, Moe was President and CEO of Bycast Inc., a leader in storage virtualization software for cloud and object storage. During his tenure at Bycast, Moe led the company from a seed stage startup to a profitable market leader with a global customer base. Bycast was successfully acquired by NetApp in the spring of 2010. Moe has extensive experience working with entrepreneurial companies and taking to market leading-edge technology products. Moe is a recipient of Business in Vancouver's "Forty Under 40" and British Columbia Technology Industries Association Person of the Year award for 2011. Moe holds a M.Sc. and a Ph.D. in physics from the University of British Columbia and holds several US Patents for his past technical work.



Kondo, Kenya
Director of Industry Development

Alberta Enterprise Corporation
 Canada

Kenya Kondo has over ten years of experience in international marketing and strategic planning focused on initiatives for Canadian based interests in a number of countries in the Middle East, Africa, and South East Asia. He has worked with several startups including the crowd sourced problem solving platform Hive Wise, led the development of the marketplace platform Get Neighbour and most recently, co-founded the spin off venture MatchWork, a SaaS platform for the not for profit sector. He currently is the co-founder of Edmonton's Founders' Friday, which brings together some of the most innovative tech entrepreneurs in the city, to create a collaborative forum for start-up success. Kenya attained his MBA degree from Cornell University in 2015 and his undergraduate degree in Mathematics & Physics from the University of Alberta in 2005.



Kuyan, Steven
Managing Director

Future Labs at NYU Tandon / AI NexusLab
 USA

Steven Kuyan is Managing Director of the Future Labs at the NYU Tandon School of Engineering. The program has a mission to provide early stage NYC startups with the highest likelihood of success and to date the unique process has graduated 68 companies, 13 as acquisitions totaling more \$300M, and a combined valuation of graduates exceeding \$1B. Steven co-founded the Future Labs – formerly the NYU Polytechnic Incubators, NYC first incubator program – and is responsible for managing the DataFuture Lab, Digital Future Lab, Veterans Future Lab, and the AI NexusLab, NYC’s first program designed specifically for early stage Artificial Intelligence startups in partnership with ff Venture Capital. The Future Labs are a network of programs supporting entrepreneurs in technology specific verticals such as; Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Data at the Data Future Lab; and Augmented/Virtual Reality, Video, Virtual Machines at the Digital Future Lab. The graduate portfolio includes 68 companies, 13 graduating through acquisitions with industry leading startups like CB Insights, Clarifai, Geometric Intelligence, Tap Commerce among many others. Steven is an adjunct professor of Entrepreneurship at NYU and leads entrepreneurship curriculum across the Engineering School; including the development of new courses, the InnoVention hardware prototyping competition, fellowship programs, entrepreneurship clubs, and entrepreneurship education programs such as the Veteran Entrepreneurship Training (VET) Program. Steven holds a bachelor’s and a master’s from the NYU.



Le Bouthillier, Alexandre
Le Bouthillier

Imagia Cybernetics
 Canada

Alexandre Le Bouthillier holds a PhD in Operations Research from the University of Montreal and completed a post doctorate program at the University of Geneva. He is the co-founder of Planora (previously Omega Optimization). Alexandre was VP Science & Technology at RedPrairie (now JDA Software) following the acquisition of Planora. Financial angel, he invests talent and capital in technological ventures. He has received scholarships and other academic awards from government research funding agencies, corporations and professional associations. His research and work interests include operations research, machine learning, brain, finance, big data and cloud infrastructure. He is founder of Imagia, an artificial intelligence company in the fight against cancer.



LeBlanc, Nicole
Strategic Investments

BDC Capital
 Canada

Nicole LeBlanc joined BDC Capital in 2014, where she actively manages the BDC seed investment program of 100+ technology startups. She has over 15 years experience as a financial and investment professional, with a focus on early stage financing opportunities and business community building.




Lee, V. Paul
Managing Partner

Vanedge Capital
 Canada

Paul Lee is the Managing Partner of Vanedge Capital Partners Ltd. Vanedge is a venture capital fund focused on making investments in Cloud Infrastructure software, Cyber Security, Machine Intelligence, Big Data, SaaS and Digital Media. Lee is the former President of Electronic Arts, Inc. (EA), and was responsible for its Worldwide Studios group. In 1996 Lee was awarded the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award from the University of British Columbia (UBC). Lee was awarded the British Columbia Technology Industries Association Person of the Year Award in 2002. In 2005 he was recognized as an Honorary Fellow of the University of British Columbia's Sauder School of Business. Lee currently serves as a member of the Premier's Technology Council and is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council for the Sauder School of Business at UBC. He served as one of three Canadian representatives to Asia Pacific Economic Council's Business Advisory Council and currently serves as a member of the G20's B20 SME Taskforce. Lee also Chairs D-Wave Systems and is a board member or observer Vendasta, Pacific BioEnergy, Control Mobile and Gamerizon. Lee was also an investor in ALI Technologies (sold to McKesson), Blast Radius (sold to WPP), Bycast (sold to NetApp) and Active State (sold to Sophos). Vanedge Capital was the largest shareholder in Recon Instruments, sold to Intel; Wurldtech, sold to General Electric; Metafor, sold to Splunk; and Mediacoore, sold to Workday.



Lubik, Sarah
Director of Entrepreneurship

Simon Fraser University
 Canada

Dr. Sarah Lubik is Simon Fraser University (SFU)'s first Director of Entrepreneurship, promoting the power of, and need for, interdisciplinary teams and commercialization of research to solve wicked global problems. She is co-Champion of the Technology Entrepreneurship@SFU program, a lecturer in Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Beedie School of Business and a researcher in university entrepreneurship, including incubation, spin-outs, commercialization and innovation ecosystems. Her work has been featured in journals such as Long Range Planning, R&D Management and Innovation Management: Policy and Practice. She has experience coordinating pan-European startup support programs focusing on key areas such as coaching, funding and clusters, is a certified expert business coach and is the co-founder and marketing director of a high-tech startup: Lungfish Dive Systems. Sarah has been named one of Business in Vancouver's Top 40 under 40 and an Innovation Leader by the Government of Canada. This year, she has been noted in BC Business magazine's Women of Influence issue and been named a finalist for the 2017 YWCA Women of Distinction in Education, Training & Development. Sarah holds a BBA (honours) from SFU and a masters and PhD from the University of Cambridge.



Lysne, Alan
Managing Director

Ryerson Futures Inc.
 Canada

Alan has been a co-founder, CEO, CTO, and COO of a number of technology businesses, and has been working with startups for well over a decade. Currently, Alan is Managing Director of Ryerson Futures operating a seed fund and accelerator program in Toronto and India. Alan was the CEO of a venture-backed mobile company that was acquired by Grapple Mobile, now Monitise PLC. After the acquisition, he served as COO and led the Toronto office, with a focus on business development and the technology platform. Prior to that, Alan was co-founder and CTO of Davinci Technologies that was acquired by CSG Systems (now Comverse Technology) where Alan served as an Executive Director and led a global team in the U.S., Canada, France, India and China. Alan has an undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering from Queen's University.



MacIntosh, Alan
General Partner

Real Ventures
 Canada

Since the mid-90s, Alan MacIntosh has been helping build, operate and invest in entrepreneur-led technology businesses at the intersection of mobile and the Internet. Earlier in his career, he worked for innovative international companies in oilfield exploration with Schlumberger, product management with Hewlett Packard and mobile communications with the Telesystem group. As a venture investor, Alan co-founded GSM Capital, the first global wireless venture fund, with notable investments including Saraïde (acquired by Infospace) and Paypal. As a founding partner in Acta Wireless, he chaired OZ Communications (acquired by Nokia), co-founded Millennial Media (NYSE: MM, acquired by Verizon AOL) as well as Real Ventures, Canada's largest and most active seed fund. Alan contributes to the community as President of the OSMO Foundation (Notman House), a Trustee of the McCord Museum, board member of Montréal's Quartier de l'Innovation (QI) and founding sponsor of the Mobile Giving Foundation. A native of Scotland, keen cyclist and lifelong skier, Alan holds a BSc (Hons) in Offshore Engineering from Heriot-Watt University and an MBA from INSEAD.



Manella, Angelique
Associate Vice-Principal, Innovation and Partnerships

McGill University
 Canada

Angelique Mannella is McGill's first Associate Vice-Principal of Innovation and Partnerships. In this role, Ms. Mannella has a mandate to promote and expand McGill's innovation agenda by creating new partnership and entrepreneurship opportunities for McGill researchers. Her team, which currently encompasses the groups Invention Development & Entrepreneurship Assistance (IDEA), McGill University Business Engagement Centre (MUBEC), and Innovation in Practice, works to create a bridge between research and application, by providing opportunities for both students and researchers to orient their work toward engaging with social or market challenges outside the academy. Before taking on the role of AVP in June 2016, Ms. Mannella advised corporate clients and venture capital firms on R&D commercialization, investments, and joint ventures. Previously, she was the founder and CEO of Decode Global, a social enterprise that developed mobile games. She has 15 years of experience in technology product design and business development, and has worked for companies such as Cisco Systems and Nokia in North America, Europe and Asia. Ms. Mannella is a professional engineer, and has degrees from McGill University (BEng), the London School of Economics (MSc), and INSEAD (MBA). She is also an Entrepreneur-in-Residence with the Digital Entrepreneurship Program at the World Bank Group in Washington D.C.




Marcoux, Jean-Francois
Partner

White Star Capital
 Canada

Jean-Francois ("JF") Marcoux has 16 years of experience in managing start-ups and investment projects. He was the co-founder of Ludia, a leading digital videogame publisher, and managed all non-product related operations including Finance, Legal, Strategy and HR. JF gained extensive operational experience with his role at Ludia which grew from a startup in 2007 to a highly profitable 220 employee company today. Ludia was acquired in late 2010 by FremantleMedia, a leading global TV producer. Prior to co-founding Ludia, JF held senior positions in mergers and acquisitions, financing and venture capital in the media and technology sectors, with a large publicly-traded media and printing company, a leading Canadian Investment Bank and one of the largest institutional fund managers in Canada. JF graduated from HEC Montreal, holds an M. Sc. in Finance from the University of Sherbrooke, and is a Chartered Financial Analyst. He divides his time between New York and Montreal.



Martineau-Fortin, Eric
Founder & Managing Partner

White Star Capital
 USA

Eric has over 18 years of investment banking and VC experience. He was a founding member and Partner of Messier & Associés, a leading transatlantic boutique firm in the media and technology space and has been directly involved in more than 50 transactions valued in excess of \$10 billion. Eric also previously worked in mergers and acquisitions at Merrill Lynch in New York and London as well as at ABN AMRO in corporate finance and private equity in Paris, London and Amsterdam. Eric has been doing early-stage investments with White Star Capital since 2007 and has led multiple investments including Ludia, Betaworks, Science and Execution Labs. Eric was born in Canada, is married to a French national and has two American daughters. He and his family divide their time between New York and Western Europe.



Mawson, Janice
Consulting Director

Global Corporate Venturing
 USA

In Mid-January Janice joined Global Corporate Venturing as Consulting Director for the Leadership Society and International Corporate Venture Capital Association. She previously worked as a contractor for Security Innovation Network (a Cyber Security super connector) to assist with Business Development. For 14+ years, Janice was Vice President for the National Venture Capital Association (NVCA). Her role in overseeing membership, business development, meetings, benefits and services is a great asset to GCV. She created their Corporate Venture Capital member subgroup, as well as similar groups for Growth Equity investors and Strategic Marketing and Communications professionals.



Maynard, André
Vice President, Business Opportunities

Quebecor Media
 Canada



Morency, Stephan
Morency

FondAction CSN
 Canada



Paquet, Sébastien
Lead Applied Research Scientist

Element AI
 Canada

Sébastien Paquet is Lead Applied Research Scientist in the Element AI laboratory. Prior to joining Element AI, he occupied positions in scientific research and teaching (National Research Council Canada, Université du Québec à Montréal) and was involved in several technology startups. Sébastien Paquet received a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Université de Montréal.



Pongo, Mawana

Director of economic policies and analysis

Quebec Ministry of Economy, Science and Innovation



Mawana Pongo est directeur des politiques et de l'analyse économiques au ministère de l'Économie, de la Science et de l'Innovation du Québec. Au cours des dernières années il a été impliqué dans le montage de fonds de capital de risque et de développement mis sur pieds par le gouvernement. Il détient un baccalauréat en économie de l'Université Laval et une maîtrise en administration publique de l'École nationale d'administration publique.



Quirion, Rémi

Chief Scientist Officer

Government of Quebec



On September 1, 2011, Rémi Quirion, OC, PhD, CQ, FRSC, became Québec's first chief scientist. As such, he chairs the boards of directors of the three Fonds de recherche du Québec and advises the Minister of Education, Higher Education and Research on research and scientific development issues. Until his appointment as chief scientist, Rémi Quirion was the vice-dean for science and strategic initiatives in the faculty of medicine at McGill University and senior university advisor on health sciences research. He was the scientific director of the Douglas Mental Health University Institute Research Centre, a full professor in the department of psychiatry at McGill University and the executive director of the International Collaborative Research Strategy for Alzheimer's Disease of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Professor Quirion was the first scientific director of the Institute of Neurosciences, Mental Health and Addiction (INMHA), one of Canada's 13 health research institutes. His work helped to elucidate the roles of the cholinergic system in Alzheimer's disease, of neuropeptide Y in depression and memory and of the calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) in pain and opiate tolerance. Rémi Quirion earned his PhD in pharmacology from Université de Sherbrooke in 1980 and carried out his postdoctoral training at the National Institute of Mental Health in the United States in 1983. He has over 650 publications in prominent scientific journals and is one of the most extensively cited neuroscientists in the world. He has received several awards and honours, including the Ordre national du Québec (Chevalier du Québec, CQ) in 2003, the Prix Wilder-Penfield (Prix du Québec) in 2004 and the Order of Canada (OC) in 2007. Mr. Quirion is also a member of the Royal Society of Canada.



Rainville, Stéphane

Chief Technology Officer

Lune Rouge



Co-founder of one of the first independent game studios in Quebec and of an accelerator for Montreal companies, Stéphane Rainville has nearly 25 years of experience in emerging technologies, including video games, artificial intelligence, interactive marketing and fintech. A natural entrepreneur, he has been a coach for Montreal start-ups and has supported numerous young companies through their first financing campaigns. Founder of Lune Rouge 360, Stéphane Rainville is also the Chief Technology Officer of Lune Rouge.



Reckziegel, Karl
Vice-President, Funds and Co-Investments

BDC (Business Development Bank of Canada)
 Canada

Karl Reckziegel is Vice President, Funds and Co-investments, BDC Capital. Karl Reckziegel was appointed Vice President, Funds and Co-Investments in 2017. In this role, he manages the development of BDC Capital's Fund Investments and Co Investments initiatives. BDC Capital's Fund Investments team is Canada's largest venture fund investor, with investments in close to 60 funds. The Co-Investments team works with general partners to support high-growth, world class and innovation-based companies, while also managing the legacy investments of the Diversified Portfolio and of GO Capital, a Quebec based sidecar fund. An engineer with over to two decades of corporate finance experience, Karl is familiar with all aspects of debt and equity structures. He joined BDC's Venture Capital team in 1992. Prior to assuming his current responsibilities, Karl was Vice President, Operations & Strategy, BDC Capital, where he was responsible for all aspects of operational management and strategic planning for BDC Capital. He also served as Vice President, Operations and Performance Management, Venture Capital; Managing Director, BDC's Special Situations team; and, Vice President, Virtual Banking. He also worked as Vice President, Financing and Consulting, Vancouver. Before joining BDC, he held positions in engineering, technical sales and industrial marketing in the oil industry, and later served as a senior executive in an international trading company. Karl holds a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from the University of New Brunswick and an MBA with a major in Finance from Concordia University.



Redler, Noah
Founder

Arche Innovation
 Canada

Noah Redler is the the founder of Arche Innovation and former Campus Director at Montreal's Notman House. A Montreal based entrepreneur he founded NR Project Development and is the co-founder of Publikit.ca; Noah has been involved in the startup community for years by volunteering as the MTL Community Manager for StartUp Canada, the founder of the MTL Entrepreneurial Mashup event bringing startups and big business together, he is the co-founder of La Tournée des Entrepreneurs and was formerly a member of the Bureau de Direction of the Regroupement des Jeunes Chambres de Commerce du Quebec. In 2015 Noah was named one of the "25 leaders qui feront bouger le Québec" by Les Affaires magazine. Noah speaks at conferences on subjects such as Open Innovation and the creation of Entrepreneurial Ecosystems. He has been invited as a speaker at StartUp Canada Day on the Hill, PROCOLUMBIA conference, TIC Technocentre Colloque in Gaspé, l'Entretien Jacques-Cartier delegation in Lyon and the Africa Web Festival in Abidjan.



Rodgers, Jesse
CEO

Volta Labs Inc.
 Canada

Jesse Rodgers is the CEO of Volta Labs, Halifax's Tech Super Hub. Jesse has worked within the education and startup world for over fifteen years. He has extensive startup support experience from his roles as the Founding Director and Director of Student Innovation of VeloCity at the University of Waterloo and later as the Founding Director of Creative Destructive Lab for the Rotman School of Management at the University of Toronto. Jesse also has startup founding experience as the co-founder of TribeHR, an HR SaaS company acquired by NetSuite. Most recently, Jesse has worked as the Vice President of Business Development for Boltmade, a web and mobile design and development shop based in his hometown of Waterloo.



Rousseau, Jean-Marc
Director, Tech Transfer

IVADO
 Canada

Jean-Marc Rousseau, after a B.Sc. in mathematic and a M.Sc. in computer science at University of Montreal obtained a Ph.D. in Operations Research at MIT in 1973. He is currently the Director of Tech Transfer at IVADO a University of Montreal Campus institution for the valorisation of data. He also acts as an independent consultant and board member for SME such as GIRO inc., where he's the chairman of the board, and small start-up companies where he either sits on the board of director or advising committee. He is a member of Anges Québec. Jean-Marc Rousseau was the CEO of CIRANO (Center for Interuniversity Research and Analysis of Organizations) from December 2002 to September 2005. He co-founded and was Vice-President of Research and Business Development of GIRO inc from 1979 to 2000, director of the CRT (Centre for Research on Transportation) of the University of Montréal from 1979 to 1987, as well as a faculty member at the Department of Computer Science and Operations Research at U. of M. from 1973 to 1992. He authored more than 80 scientific papers and received 13 prizes and distinction throughout his academic and professional career.




Sachdev, Sharad
Managing Director Artificial Intelligence Lead - North America

Accenture
 USA

Sharad Sachdev leads the AI Practice for Accenture in North America. As the lead, he focuses on bringing innovative capabilities to the clients, including machine learning, unstructured data analytics, multi-media analytics, virtual agents, cognitive process automation, etc. Sharad brings significant experience in Financial Services, with extensive work across key functional domains, incl. customer-facing analytics, pricing analytics, marketing analytics, operating model design and implementation, technology-focused analytics, strategic cost reduction, and he has helped clients build superior operating models and analytics capabilities. He has co-authored articles in Harvard Business Review and InformationWeek, and co-authored thought leadership on numerous topics, such as spatial risk diffusion. Sharad has completed his undergraduate in Electronics Engineering, followed by MBA in finance and is also a recipient of the CFA charter.



Sawchuk, Bindi
Executive Director of the Investment Capital Branch

British Columbia Ministry of International Trade
 Canada

Bindi Sawchuk, a Certified Management Accountant, 48, graduated with honours from Royal Roads University majoring in entrepreneurial management. The last eleven years of Ms. Sawchuk's career have been with the BC provincial government in a variety of financial and policy roles focused on the health, labour market and immigration sectors. Ms. Sawchuk served as a strategic advisor to BC's Treasury Board from 2009 - 2011 and has been the Executive Director for Investment Capital programs for the last three years during which time she championed the launch of the BC Tech Fund. Ms. Sawchuk is also the CEO of the BC Renaissance Capital Fund (BCRCF).



Schuler, Cameron
Executive Director

Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii)
 Canada

Cameron Schuler is the Executive Director of Amii (amii.ca Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute formerly the Alberta Innovates Centre for Machine Learning) as well as Co-Founder and CEO of VibeDx Diagnostic Corp. (vibedx.com). Cameron's multifaceted career has covered finance, business & product development, consumer products, IT and general management from start-ups to mature companies. His industry experience includes Alternative Energy, Banking, Consumer Products, Information Technology (Consumer and Enterprise), Investment Sales and Trading, Life Sciences, Manufacturing, Medical Devices, Oil & Gas, and Oil & Gas Services. Roles have included COO, CFO, President and CEO and he was COO & CFO of a food manufacturer whose products lead to sales of over 200 million units. He has founded numerous start-ups companies (including medical device as well as computer software & hardware) and raised over \$50 million of debt and equity in both Canada and the U.S. Cameron was the Managing Director & Co-Founder of Schuler Law Group, a boutique tax planning law firm and spent 8 years in investment sales & trading. In addition to being an A100 Member (thea100.org), he attained an MBA from Queen's University and is a Certified Investment Manager and Fellow of the Canadian Securities Institute.



Shepard, Alan
President & Vice-Chancellor

Concordia University
 Canada

Professor Alan Shepard is president of Concordia University in Montréal. Concordia is one of Canada's largest and most innovative urban universities. Its founding institutions, Loyola College (1896) and Sir George Williams University (1926), gave rise in 1974 to the modern Concordia, now home to 46,000 students. Alan joined Concordia in 2012 from Toronto, where he had served as provost of Ryerson University. There he led teams developing entrepreneur-based experiential learning, including the Digital Media Zone (DMZ) and the Centre for Urban Energy. Alan has also held leadership roles in Virginia and Texas and at the University of Guelph. He studied at St Olaf College and the University of Virginia (PhD 1990), and was a visiting student at Cambridge. He has held senior fellowships at University of Toronto. His past and present public service includes Canadian Research Knowledge Network, Montréal Board of Trade, Stratford Festival of Canada, Montréal's Quartier d'innovation, Fondation Montréal Inc., Montréal Science Centre Foundation, and Aéro Montréal.



Simoneau, Jacques
President & CEO

Univalor
 Canada

Jacques Simoneau is the CEO of Univalor, a limited partnership responsible for the commercialization and transfer of technologies and inventions created at Université de Montréal, its affiliated schools Polytechnique Montreal (engineering) and HEC (business), and its hospitals and health research centers. Dr. Simoneau has 35 years of experience and leadership in technology and investments. He managed portfolios of venture capital, private equity and unsecured debt valued at more than one billion dollars invested in a wide range of technologies, including life sciences, information technology, telecom and cleantech. Prior to that, he held positions in research and in business development, after several years as professor in an engineering school. He is a director of two publicly traded company: Transat A.T., a \$3.5 billion international holiday travel company, Azimut Exploration, a Canadian mineral exploration company. He is also director of Génome Canada. Dr. Simoneau is a mechanical engineer, with a M.Sc. from Laval University and a Ph.D. from Queen's University. He is a member of the Ordre des ingénieurs du Québec and of Professional Engineers Ontario. He is certified ICD.D by the Institute of Corporate Directors.



Sinai, Dan
Senior Executive - Innovation

IBM Canada
 Canada

Dan Sinai is currently a Senior Executive at IBM Canada where he works with the Canadian start-up community and manages the company's innovation and incubation initiatives. Prior to joining IBM, Dan served as Western University's Associate Vice-President (Research). In this capacity, Dan set the strategic direction for, and led, a team of research administration professionals at one of Canada's leading research-intensive universities. A graduate of the University of Waterloo, Dan has held various key research administration positions with both the Government of Ontario and the Government of Canada. He also has extensive R&D program and policy experience, and has worked for several high technology companies, including Nortel and EK3 Technologies.. Dan and his family have lived in London, Ontario, Canada for more than 15 years, where he has served on various local Boards of Directors.



Stackhouse, John
Senior Vice-President, Office of the CEO

Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
 Canada

As Senior Vice President, Office of the CEO at RBC, John is responsible for interpreting trends for the executive leadership team and Board of Directors with insights on how these are affecting RBC, its clients and society at large. Prior to this, John was editor-in-chief of The Globe and Mail (2009-14), editor of Report on Business, and from 1992-1999, a foreign correspondent based in New Delhi, India. He has authored three books: Out of Poverty, Timbit Nation, and, most recently, Mass Disruption: Thirty Years on the Front Lines of a Media Revolution. John is a Senior Fellow at the C.D. Howe Institute and the University of Toronto's Munk School of Global Affairs.



Stokes, John
Partner

Real Ventures
 Canada

Having spent much of his working life as an entrepreneur in the mobile, internet and media sectors, in markets as South Africa, Japan, Hong Kong, New Zealand and Malaysia, John has gained strong insight into how entrepreneurialism is developed and supported throughout the world. He has more than 15 years of experience, both as a founder and an investor, in start-ups and growth companies. He is a Partner at Real Ventures (which began life as "Montreal Start Up"), a seed stage venture capital firm that invests in internet, software, mobile, digital media, social and casual gaming startups. Prior to Montreal Startup, John founded Piermont Ventures, a Hong Kong based boutique investment and advisory business with a focus on media, technology and financial services. Earlier in his career, John held pivotal roles within the Wireless Industry such as Aethos Systems (acquired by Logica CMG (LSE: LOG)) (India, Taiwan, China, SEA) and Brightpoint Inc. (NASDAQ: CELL) and was Chief Operating Officer for Livedoor Group Inc., Japan's first free Internet Service Provider. John received his BSc. (Hons) from MMU (Manchester, UK) is a citizen of the UK and New Zealand and a Permanent Resident of Quebec, Canada.




Stuart, Terry
Chief Innovation Officer

Deloitte
 Canada

When some of the world's leading brands need to discuss innovation strategies or figure out how to get ready for disruption, Terry Stuart often gets the call. As Deloitte Canada's Chief Innovation Officer, Terry's job is to be a "constructive disruptor", helping both the firm and clients thrive in a world where exponential change is in the driver's seat and is not obeying the speed limit. A creative thinker with an idea every nanosecond, a meeting with Terry leaves people itching to jump out of the present and bounce into the future. Animated and passionate, Terry speaks to audiences across the country and abroad. Terry is a master connector and finds value in meeting with everyone in the innovation ecosystem—he finds inspiration everywhere. Whether Terry is experimenting with his latest Kickstarter purchase, watching a TED video on his deck with his family or attending Singularity University's Innovation Partnership Program in Silicon Valley, he leaves ready to take action and finds others who will join him on his journey. The word innovation can sometimes be used in a cavalier way, but in Terry's mind it matters. Canada's productivity is on the line and innovation is what will propel the country forward to help future generations be successful.




Switzman, Robert
Vice President, Innovation

Rogers Communications
 Canada

Rob has a 16 year history with Rogers Communications and is currently the Vice President, Innovation. Rob's role is to discover and attract innovative companies from around the world, and find suitable opportunities for them across Rogers that deliver on company priorities. He is in constant exploration and discussions with companies that are seeking to transform our products, platforms, customer experience and how Rogers operates, across our Consumer, Enterprise and Media business units. Rob's previous areas of expertise at Rogers include Planning & Development, Emerging Business, Product Strategy, and Wireless Data. Rob has an MBA from The Ivey Business School at Western University and a BBA from Wilfrid Laurier University.



Sylvestre, Charles
Investment Director - Information, Telecommunications and Environmental Technologies

Fonds de solidarité FTQ
 Canada

Charles Sylvestre has worked in the business transfer and venture capital fields for over a decade. In 2009 he co-founded Adix Conseil, a firm specializing in buying and selling businesses in the Montréal and Estrie regions. Before that, Mr. Sylvestre spent four years as a manager and legal counsel at Novacap, where he was directly involved in buying, selling and taking equity stakes in IT and other firms. While at Novacap, he was also responsible for the due diligence and closing of several private equity deals that often entailed bank financing. Between 1997 and 2003, Charles Sylvestre was, in turn, an analyst at Argo Global Capital ("GSM Capital") and Microcell Telecom ("Fido"). Mr. Sylvestre began his career as a lawyer with a Montréal legal firm in 1994, the year he became a member of the Barreau du Québec. He holds a Bachelor in Social Science (economics) from Université d'Ottawa, a law degree from Université de Montréal and a Diploma in Management (Treasury - Finance) from McGill University. He has been a member of the Club Fusions & Acquisitions de Montréal since 2010.




Tanguay, Sébastien
Director - Technology Entrepreneurship

Québec International
 Canada

Sébastien has worked in the technology entrepreneurship sector for nearly 15 years. He is the co-founder of MyFoodPhone Inc., which uses mobile technology to provide remote nutritional advice. He is also a member of the management team of Myca Santé Inc., which markets web-based and mobile applications aimed at facilitating doctor/patient interactions. He formerly served as Copernic's product marketing director. Sébastien holds a degree in business administration/marketing from Laval University. He co-authored Mobile Persuasion published by Stanford University Press in California.



Teja, Salim
Executive Vice President

MaRS Discovery District
 Canada

Salim Teja is the Executive Vice President, Ventures for MaRS, where he leads the overall strategic direction of MaRS' four venture services areas: Health, Energy & Environment, Finance & Commerce and Work & Learning. He also leads all corporate partnerships, investor relations and talent initiatives. Salim is an experienced entrepreneur and active early-stage technology investor, with deep industry expertise in software and digital media.



Tremblay, Miville
Director, Financial Markets

Bank of Canada
 Canada

Miville Tremblay was appointed Director of the Montréal Regional Office (Financial Markets) of the Bank of Canada in April 2002. In this capacity, Mr. Tremblay contributes to the Bank's objectives of conducting monetary policy to achieve low, stable, and predictable inflation, and of promoting well-functioning financial markets. He leads a team that is responsible for building on the Bank's strong relationship with the Montréal financial community. His team contributes to the Bank's analysis on the evolution of financial markets, institutions, products, and regulations. Mr. Tremblay is a member of the Bank's Monetary Policy Review Committee and Financial System Review Committee. A native of Chicoutimi, Quebec, Mr. Tremblay has an Executive MBA from the Université du Québec à Montréal, a master's degree in Public Policy Analysis from the Université Laval, and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from McGill University. He also holds the designation of Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and is the current President of the Montréal CFA Society. Mr. Tremblay joined the Bank from the Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec in Montréal, where he was Director of Strategic Intelligence. He also worked for several years as a financial journalist, particularly for the daily newspaper La Presse, reporting on economic policies and financial markets. At the start of his career, he taught Canadian politics at the State University of New York. Mr. Tremblay is the author of two books on finance and business and has received numerous distinctions, including the Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy and the Prix du livre d'affaires PricewaterhouseCoopers.



Viel, Carl
President and CEO

Québec International
 Canada

Originally from Quebec City, Carl Viel received his bachelor's degree in economics and a corporate governance certificate from Laval University. He also completed training programs in entrepreneurship (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), leadership (NTL Institute) and coaching (Niagara Institute). After nearly 20 years in the private sector, he held managerial positions with various economic organizations, including as vice-president of Montreal International and general manager of Montreal InVivo, prior to joining Quebec International as CEO in 2008.



Woo, Gabriel
Vice President, Innovation

Royal Bank of Canada (RBC)
 Canada

Gabriel is Vice President of Innovation at RBC, driving RBC's innovation agenda through R&D, partnerships and engagement in the broader technology and startup communities. Gabriel was previously Vice President of Solution Acceleration and Managing Director of RBC's Enterprise Strategy group. Prior to joining RBC, Gabriel was a management consultant with McKinsey and Company in Toronto and Hong Kong, advising clients across Canada, US, UK, Greater China and southeast Asia. Gabriel has also worked at UBS Investment Bank, leading strategic change management across Asia Pacific. Gabriel holds a M.Sc. in Management Science and Engineering from Stanford University, and a B.A.Sc. in Engineering Science from University of Toronto.



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