MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE GREAT LAKES REGION

The Council of the Great Lakes Region would like to welcome you to Toronto, Ontario, and thank you for participating in the second Great Lakes Economic Forum.

The Council launched the Forum in Chicago in 2015 to create a unique opportunity for decision-makers, senior business executives and industry experts, academia and advocates from the non-profit sector to think strategically about the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region as a bi-national economy, and to recognize and celebrate the many other deep connections we share in this region – historical, cultural and environmental.

Furthermore, the Forum was established in order to create a place where ideas and diverse perspectives could be shared and policies shaped in boosting the region’s competitive edge, ensuring a sustainable balance between economic growth and environmental protection, and securing its long-term success in a borderless global economy.

Lastly, it is the Council’s hope that the Forum will help provide a stage for developing a more unified voice on key issues facing not only the eight states and two Canadian provinces that make up this great region, but also the United States and Canada more broadly. This why your decision to participate in the program over the next couple of days is so vitally important!

I hope your time in Toronto and at the event is enjoyable and engaging.

Mark P. Fisher
President & CEO, Council of the Great Lakes Region
A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER

On behalf of the Government of Ontario, I am delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending the Great Lakes Economic Forum.

This event is a gathering of minds — bringing together industry executives, government leaders, lawmakers and policy makers, leading academics, and members of non-government organizations to exchange ideas and best practices on how to build strong and sustainable growth and improve the quality of life of citizens in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence region.

I thank the Council of the Great Lakes Region for organizing this forum. Events such as this are important because they strengthen our bilateral relationship with the United States and promote a climate of cooperation and growth in the region.

As Premier, I know that Ontario’s trade and investments relationships with the United States are critical to the success of our economy. Our government is committed to finding opportunities for partnerships and co-operation with our neighbour, ally and friend.

Best wishes for an inspiring forum!

Premier Kathleen Wynne
Province of Ontario
MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It is my pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending today’s Economic Forum hosted by the Council of the Great Lakes Region.

The Council of the Great Lakes Region is an independent, non-profit corporation that was created to think strategically about the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Region as a bi-national economic region.

Today’s forum presents a wonderful opportunity for leaders from across the city to share ideas and insights that will help shape economic policy, boost competition and secure long-term success in the global economy.

I wish to welcome everyone to our city and encourage you to enjoy Toronto at this time of year as well as learn about our vibrant neighbourhoods.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, please accept my best wishes for an informative and enjoyable forum.

Mayor John Tory
City of Toronto
PROGRAM
SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016

RECEPTION
6:30 PM

MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2016

DELTA TORONTO HOTEL

STEAM WHISTLE BREWING

7:00 AM - 7:55 AM REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

7:55 AM - 8:00 AM
Mark Fisher, President and Chief Executive Officer, Council of the Great Lakes Region

8:00 AM - 8:20 AM
The Honourable Brad Duguid, Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure, Presenting Sponsor

PLENARY KEYNOTE

8:20 AM - 8:50 AM
North America’s Economic Engine – The State Of The Great Lakes And St. Lawrence Regional Economy
Doug Porter, Chief Economist and Managing Director, BMO Financial Group

PLENARY SESSION

8:50 AM - 9:50 AM
Bi-National Economic Development – A New Paradigm For Promoting the Region, Attracting Global Investment And Facilitating Trade
MODERATOR: Pamela Ritchie, Financial Reporter/TV Anchor, Bloomberg News
PANELISTS: Janet De Silva, President and Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Region Board of Trade
Steve Biegun, Vice President of International Governmental Affairs, Ford Motor Company
Stephen Brooks, President, Chamber of Marine Commerce
Mike Moffat, Chief Economist, Mowat Centre

9:50 AM - 10:00 AM NETWORKING BREAK

PLENARY KEYNOTE

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
Working Together to Grow Our Economies and Create Jobs
Arun M. Kumar, Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service and Assistant Secretary for Global Markets U.S., Department of Commerce International Trade Administration

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM
Modernizing Passenger Rail in the Quebec – Windsor Corridor
Yves Desjardins-Siciliano, President & Chief Executive Officer, VIA Rail Canada
PROGRAM

CONCURRENT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Panel 1A: Taking Advantage of the Cyber Economy – From Online Sales and Marketing to the Future of Customs, Warehousing Shipping and Security
MODERATOR: Nadia Crisan, Senior Vice President, International Government Relations, McGuire Woods Consulting LLC
PANELISTS: Andrea Stairs, Managing Director, eBay Canada
Laurie Tannous, Vice President, Government and Industry Relations, Farrow
John Proctor, Vice President, Global Cyber Security, CGI
Jeremy Depow, Executive Director and Founder, Digital Policy Forum

Panel 1B: Great Lakes Infrastructure Exchange – Capitalizing on the ‘Infrastructure Moment’ in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Region
MODERATOR: Kevin Kelly, Acting President & Chief Financial Officer, Bruce Power
PANELISTS: Michael Fenn, Senior Advisor, Strategy Corp
Judson Greif, Government Affairs Officer, K&L Gates
Dave Senjem, State Senator - 25th District, MN

Panel 1C: The Regional Energy Picture – Today and Tomorrow: Policy Opportunities for Improved Competitiveness and Lower CO2 Emissions
MODERATOR: Sarah Goldfeder, Principle, Earnscliffe Strategy Group
PANELISTS: Robyn Gabel, State Representative - 18th District, IL
Bob Clark, Chief Operating Officer, Leverage Green Energy
James Scongack, Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Bruce Power
Malini Giridhar, Vice President, Business Development, Enbridge Gas

12:00 PM - 1:20 PM  LUNCH & KEYNOTE ADDRESS
INTRODUCTION
Tim Kennedy, Spectra Energy/Unions Gas
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Valerie Brader, Executive Director, Michigan Energy Agency

CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS

1:20 PM - 2:20 PM
Panel 2A: Optimizing Freight System Performance – Devising a New Transportation Vision and Strategy for the Great Lakes
MODERATOR: Christopher Smillie, Senior Advisor, Government Relations and Public Affairs, Canada’s Building Trades Unions
PANELISTS: Nick Mulder, Senior Associate, Global Public Affairs
Bob Armstrong, President, Armstrong Trade & Logistics Advisory Services Inc.
Vijay Gill, CPCS Inc.

Panel 2B: Creating a Robust Great Lakes Cruise Industry – Trends, Opportunities and Legislative Hurdles
MODERATOR: Marion Joppe, Professor, University of Guelph
PANELISTS: Stephen Burnett, Executive Director, Great Lakes Cruising Coalition
Helge H. Grammerstorf, Managing Director, SeaConsult
Rebecca Yackley, International Trade Specialist, Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation
Panel 2C: Putting Universities and Colleges in the Spotlight – Leveraging World-Class Education and Research
MODERATOR: Jim Dickmeyer, North American Competitiveness Fellow, Woodrow Wilson Center
PANELISTS: Dan Patterson, President, Niagara College
   Greg Hanifee, Associate Dean, Northwestern University
   Munro Eagles, Professor, University of Buffalo

2:20 PM - 2:30 PM    NETWORKING BREAK

PLENARY KEYNOTE
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM
His Excellency the Honourable Bruce Heyman, United States Ambassador to Canada

3:00 PM - 3:50 PM
In Conversation with Great Lakes Legislators: Capitol View – Promoting Sustainable Economic Growth
MODERATOR: James Baxter, Editor in Chief/Executive Chairman, iPolitics
PANELISTS: Ken Horn, State Senator, 32nd District, MI
   Marie-France Lalonde, Parliamentary Assistant, Minister of Economic Development, Employment & Infrastructure
   Cory Mason, State Representative, 66th Assembly District, WI

3:50 PM - 4:00 PM    NETWORKING BREAK

CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Panel 3A: New Fuels, New Opportunities – Transforming the Way We Fuel Freight Transportation
MODERATOR: Sarah Goldfeder, Principal, Earnscliffe Strategy Group
PANELISTS: Peter Boag, Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Fuels Association
   Cristina Falcone, Vice President of Public Affairs, UPS
   Bruce Winchester, Executive Director, Canadian Natural Gas Vehicle Alliance

Panel 3B: The Right Employees for the Job – Transitioning Youth from School to Success and Facilitating the Movement of Workers
MODERATOR: Jim Dickmeyer, North American Competitiveness Fellow, Woodrow Wilson Center
PANELISTS: Daniel Ujczo, Attorney, Dickinson Wright
   Stephen Cryne, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Employee Relocation Council
   Phil Jarvis, Director, Career Cruising
   Christopher Smillie, Senior Advisor, Government Relations & Public Affairs, Canada’s Building Trades Union

Panel 3C: Crossing the 49th Parallel; Buying Businesses in Foreign Jurisdictions
MODERATOR: Vaughan MacLellan, Partner, DLA Piper LLP
PANELISTS: Robert Landis, Partner, The Riverside Company
   Glen Silvestri, Partner, Imperial Capital
   Morty White, Managing Director, Wynnchurch Capital
   Alan Sellery, President, Ironbridge Equity Partners
PROGRAM

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM  DAY ONE PROGRAM CONCLUDES

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM  RECEPTION

GREAT LAKES AMBASSADORS’ DINNER AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS

7:00 PM
INTRODUCTION
James Scongack, Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Bruce Power
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario

TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 2016  DELTA TORONTO HOTEL

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM  BREAKFAST

OVERVIEW OF DAY ONE

8:30 AM - 8:35 AM
Mark Fisher, President and Chief Executive Officer, Council of the Great Lakes Region

PLENARY KEYNOTE

8:35 AM - 9:00 AM
David Tsubouchi, Registrar and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario College of Trades

PLENARY KEYNOTE

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
His Excellency the Honourable David MacNaughton, Canada’s Ambassador to the United States

PLENARY SESSION

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
A Conversation with Business Leaders: Competing in a Borderless; Global Economy
MODERATOR:  David Scanlan, Managing Editor, Bloomberg News
PANELISTS:  John Fleming, Retired Executive Vice President, Global Manufacturing & Labor Affairs, Ford Motor Company
Jeff Lyash, President and Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Power Generation
John Soini, President, Energy East, TransCanada
Charles A. Robertson, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, American Cruise Lines, Pearl Seas Cruises and Chesapeake Shipbuilding

10:30 AM - 10:40 AM  NETWORKING BREAK

CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS

10:40 AM - 11:40 AM
Panel 4A: Riding the Wave of Global Tourism – Drawing More Travellers to the Region
MODERATOR:  Paul Pepe, Tourism Manager, Tourism Thunder Bay
PANELISTS:  Andrew Weir, Executive Vice President, Tourism Toronto
Andrew Bond, Managing Partner, Deloitte
Patrick Whalen, Director, Niagara Global Tourism Institute
Panel 4B: Reaching our Full Potential—Supporting Regional Cluster Innovation, Fostering Partnerships and Inspiring Global Deployment
MODERATOR: Jamison Steeve, Executive Director, Institute for Competitiveness and Prosperity
PANELISTS: Dr. Christian Ketels, Member, Harvard Business School
   Bernard Swiecki, Director, Automotive Communities Partnership at the Center for Automotive Research
   Andrew Swart, Partner, Monitor Deloitte.
   Flavio Volpe, President, Automotive Parts Manufacturers Association

Panel 4C: Big Data—Achieving a Seamless and Secure Border
MODERATOR: Sarah Goldfeder, Principal, Earnscliffe Strategy Group
PANELISTS: Ryan Eickmeier, Senior Director, GS1 Canada
   Dr. Bill Anderson, Professor, Cross-Border Institute
   Jennifer Fox, Vice President, Trade and Security, Canadian Trucking Association
   Matt Kuckuk, Cross-Industry Practice Leader, Big Data Analytics, CGI

11:40 PM - 1:00 PM    LUNCH & KEYNOTE ADDRESS

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Speaker to be announced

PLENARY KEYNOTE

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Resilient Trade—Global Economy; Borderless Threats
Ray Boisvert, Senior Associate, Hill and Knowlton Strategies

CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
Panel 5A: Advancing Cross-Border Emergency Management Collaboration—Explaining the History and Benefits; Addressing the Gaps
MODERATOR: Christopher Smillie, Senior Advisor, Government Relations and Public Affairs, Canada’s Building Trades Union
PANELISTS: Michael Chesney, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency
   Barry Owens, Director of Response, OFMEM
   Michael Dube, Executive Director and Founder, Emergency Preparedness and Logistics Consulting

Panel 5B: Protecting Shared Critical Infrastructure—Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
MODERATOR: Sarah Goldfeder, Principal, Earnscliffe Strategy Group
PANELISTS: Glenn Sanders, Advisor, Department of Homeland Security Critical Infrastructure Security
   Patrick Smyth, Vice President, Safety and Engineering, Canadian Energy Pipeline Association
   Paul Nadeau, Vice President, Security and Emergency Services, Ontario Power Generation
   Stan Korosec, Director of Security and Canadian Government Relations, Detroit International Bridge Company
Panel 5C: Multi-Modal Preclearance – Expanding the Business, Travel and Tourism Economy

MODERATOR: Jim Dickmeyer, Fellow, Woodrow Wilson Center
PANELISTS: Geoffrey Wilson, Chief Executive Officer, Ports Toronto
Leah Lawson, Attaché, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Embassy, Ottawa, Canada
Stephen Burnett, Executive Director, Great Lakes Cruising Coalition
Tim Hoefner, Director, Rail Office, Michigan

2:30 PM - 2:40 PM NETWORKING BREAK

CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS

2:40 PM - 3:40 PM
Panel 6A: Growing Together – Forging a Regional Food Economy with Global Reach

MODERATOR: Kelsey Johnson, Reporter, iPolitics
PANELISTS: Paul K. Conibear, President & Chief Executive Officer, Lundin Mining
Dennis J. Donohue, Partner, Warner, Norcross & Judd LLP
Michael Bourassa, Partner, Fasken Martineau
Sarah Powell, Partner, Davies Ward
Peter Anastor, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)
Joe Colyn, Principle Consultant, Originz LLP
Ron Lemaire, President, Canadian Produce Marketing Association
Stewart Leeth, Vice President, Chief Sustainability Officer, Smithfield Foods

Panel 6B: Digging Deeper – The Future of Mining in the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region

MODERATOR: Nadia Crisan, Senior Vice President, International Government Relations, McGuire Woods Consulting LLP
PANELISTS: Paul K. Conibear, President & Chief Executive Officer, Lundin Mining
Dennis J. Donohue, Partner, Warner, Norcross & Judd LLP
Michael Bourassa, Partner, Fasken Martineau
Sarah Powell, Partner, Davies Ward

Panel 6C: Casting Ahead – Key Pressures and Prospects for the Great Lakes Fishery

MODERATOR: Steve Naylor, Specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs
PANELISTS: Bob Lambe, Executive Secretary, Great Lakes Fishery Commission
Dr. Kevin Reid, Assessment Manager, Ontario Commercial Fisheries Association (OCFA)
Susan Cole, Quality Assurance, Cole Munroe
Rob Southwick, President, Southwick Associates

3:40 PM - 3:50 PM NETWORKING BREAK

PLENARY SESSION

3:50 PM - 4:30 PM
A Conversation with Indigenous Leaders – Inclusive and Sustainable Economic Growth

MODERATOR: David Scanlan, Managing Editor, Bloomberg News
PANELISTS: Jean Paul Gladu, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business
Derrick Watchman, Chairman, National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development

CONCLUDING REMARKS

4:30 PM
Mark Fisher, President and Chief Executive Officer, Council of the Great Lakes Region
Kathleen Wynne is Ontario’s 25th Premier.

Since taking office in February 2013, some of Premier Wynne’s accomplishments include the largest infrastructure investment in Ontario’s history and completing the single-largest climate change initiative in North America by eliminating coal-fired electricity generation in the province. She also introduced a ground-breaking plan to stop sexual violence and harassment.

Premier Wynne’s economic plan for Ontario builds on her number-one priority: growing the economy and creating jobs. Her four-part plan invests in talent and skills, including helping more people get and create the jobs of the future by expanding access to high-quality college and university education. In addition to infrastructure investments in roads, bridges, transit, schools and hospitals, her plan is investing in a low-carbon economy driven by innovative, high-growth, export-oriented businesses. The plan is also helping working Ontarians achieve a more secure retirement.

Premier Wynne serves as Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs. During her first year as Premier, she also served as Minister of Agriculture and Food. Prior to becoming Premier, she served as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, Minister of Transportation and Minister of Education.

First elected to the Ontario Legislature in 2003 as the MPP for Don Valley West, Premier Wynne was re-elected in 2007, 2011 and 2014. She became the leader of the Ontario Liberal Party in January 2013. On June 12, 2014 Premier Wynne’s government was re-elected with a majority mandate.

Before becoming an MPP, Premier Wynne served as a trustee on the Toronto District School Board. Prior to that, she led citizens’ groups in a number of grassroots community projects and played a major role as an organizer and facilitator.

Premier Wynne has lived with her partner, Jane, in North Toronto for more than 25 years. She has three children and three grandchildren.
Brad Duguid currently serves as Minister of Economic Development, Employment and Infrastructure and as the Minister responsible for the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act. The Minister’s focus is on creating jobs, promoting Ontario as a smart place to invest, building a culture of entrepreneurship and growing a strong, innovative economy that is inclusive to people of all abilities.

Some of Minister Duguid’s key achievements include ushering in the Attracting Investment and Creating Jobs Act, 2012, which established the Southwestern Ontario Development Fund and made the Eastern Ontario Development Fund permanent; launching Ontario’s first Long-Term Energy Plan, building on Ontario’s commitment to clean energy; and launching PLAY, a program for aboriginal youth using participation in sports and activities to teach life-skills.

Minister Duguid lives in Scarborough with his wife, Crystal, and two sons, Kennedy and Jordan.
Canada’s Ambassador to the United States of America, Mr. David MacNaughton, presented his credentials to President Obama on March 3, 2016.

“I am honoured to have presented my credentials to President Obama and to have shared this special moment with my family. I look forward to advancing our shared priorities and celebrating later this week when Canada’s Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, arrives in Washington, DC for an official visit” said Ambassador MacNaughton.

As a seasoned entrepreneur and political strategist, Mr. MacNaughton brings a unique set of skills and experiences to his new role as Ambassador.

In the 1980s, Mr. MacNaughton transformed the public affairs industry by building an organization that comprised government relations, public opinion research and public relations. After selling his business in 1989, Mr. MacNaughton became President of Canada’s largest government and public relations firm and subsequently North American President of the world’s largest public relations firm. From 1995 until 2003, Mr. MacNaughton was President of Strathshore Financial and was an advisor to one of Canada's leading investment banks.

Mr. MacNaughton’s public sector experience includes work at both the federal and provincial levels, including as advisor to the Minister at the Departments of Transport, Industry and Foreign Affairs. He was principal secretary to the Premier of Ontario from 2003 to 2005 and the Chairman of StrategyCorp from 2005 until his appointment.

Active in community affairs, Mr. MacNaughton has served on the boards of the North York General Hospital, the Stratford Festival, the National Ski Academy, TV Ontario, the Toronto French School and the Toronto International Film Festival.
Bruce Heyman was confirmed as President Obama’s personal representative to Canada on March 12, 2014. He is a 33 year veteran of Goldman Sachs, where he served as the managing director of the Private Wealth Management Group from 1999 until December of 2013.

Mr. Heyman has served as a board member for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and the Northwestern Memorial Hospital Foundation. He also served as an advisor to the Fix the Debt CEO Council of the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget. He has been a member of The Economic Club of Chicago, The Executives’ Club of Chicago, and the Facing History and Ourselves Chicago Advisory Board.

A magna cum laude graduate with both a BA and an MBA from Vanderbilt University, Mr. Heyman continues to maintain close ties to his alma mater. He is past president of the Alumni Board and a former member of the Board of Visitors at the university’s Owen Graduate School of Management.

He is married to the former Vicki Simons of Ashland, Kentucky. They have three grown children, David, Liza, and Caroline, and three grand-children, Emma, Clara, and Brooks.
Arun M. Kumar was confirmed, by the U.S. Senate on March 13, 2014, as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets and Director General of the US and Foreign Commercial Service. In this role, Mr. Kumar leads the trade and investment promotion efforts for the U.S. Government. With offices in over 100 U.S. cities and in 72 world markets, he also serves as the International Trade Administration’s lead official advocating for better market access for U.S. exporters.

Kumar has extensive global experience in the business world. Prior to his nomination by President Obama, he was a partner and member of the Board of Directors at KPMG, LLP. He led the firm’s West Coast Management Consulting practice serving major global clients as well as emerging Silicon Valley ventures while creating thought leadership to advance business practices in finance management. He also founded and led KPMG’s US-India Practice.

Previously, Kumar was a Silicon Valley entrepreneur, as founding CEO and CFO of three technology ventures in Silicon Valley, near his home in California. Over the years, he has been a mentor and advisor to a number of new ventures in Silicon Valley and India.

Kumar served on advisory councils at Stanford University and the University of California, Santa Cruz. An early Charter Member of TiE Silicon Valley, he served on its Board. He also served on the Board of Directors of the US India Business Council.


Kumar received his master’s in management from the Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a bachelor’s degree in physics from the University of Kerala, India. He started his career in India as a member of TAS, the central management cadre of the Tata Group.

Kumar and his wife Poornima have two sons, Ashvin and Vikram.
Valerie Brader is the Executive Director of the Michigan Agency for Energy. Her service with the administration began in 2011 and prior to this role, she served as Deputy Legal Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Snyder, including work on the City of Detroit bankruptcy case. Before her service in state government she was a member (partner) at Bodman PLC, practicing primarily environmental and corporate law (with a specialization in assisting new or expanding businesses, from incorporation to securing permits and tax credits). A Rhodes Scholar and published author in both the legal and scientific presses, Brader previously worked as the career law clerk for the Hon. John Feikens of the Eastern District of Michigan, as an environmental consultant to the EPA and Department of Defense, and for Gov. Phil Batt (R-Idaho) on environmental and natural resource issues. Brader, who was the youngest person in the country to be selected to assist a federal court under the “Special Master” rule, was selected by Crain’s Detroit Business as one of the “40 under 40” in Metro Detroit, by Michigan Lawyer’s Weekly as a “rising star,” and by the Joyce Ivy Foundation as its Leader of the Year. Brader received her AB magna cum laude in government from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges, has two masters degrees from the University of Oxford (an MSc in Environmental Change and Management and an MSt in Historical Studies), and a J.D. magna cum laude from Georgetown Law Center. Brader was the past winner of the Harvard College Women’s Leadership Award and was first-runner up in the Pacific Legal Foundation’s national writing competition. Brader served as an officer of the Women’s Caring Program, Harvard Club of Eastern Michigan and Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.
Mr. Desjardins-Siciliano joined VIA Rail in 2010 and was appointed President and CEO in May 2014. He previously served as the Corporation’s Chief Corporate & Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary. A seasoned executive, Mr. Desjardins-Siciliano leads with passion, respect and transparency. He is known for embracing innovation and encouraging creative ideas. A natural communicator, he is in high demand as keynote speaker at conferences, business events and universities. He prides himself on being an accessible CEO, and values every opportunity to meet and converse with both travellers and employees. Prior to VIA Rail, Mr. Desjardins-Siciliano earlier held senior positions in legal affairs, regulatory and government relations, business and corporate development, marketing communications and finance, in both the private and public sectors. Mr. Desjardins-Siciliano holds a law degree (LL.L.) from l’Université de Montréal and completed Graduate Studies in Law at McGill University. He also has a designation from the Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD.D). Mr. Desjardins-Siciliano is a member of the Barreau du Québec and Past President of the Canadian Bar Association, Quebec Division.
Douglas Porter has over 25 years of experience analyzing global economies and financial markets. As Chief Economist at BMO Financial Group, he oversees the macroeconomic and financial market forecasts and co-authors the firm's weekly flagship publication, Focus. Mr. Porter manages the team that won the prestigious Lawrence Klein award for forecast accuracy of the U.S. economy, and was named by Bloomberg as top Canadian forecaster.

As a respected commentator on economic and financial trends, he is regularly quoted in the national press and often interviewed on radio and television.

Before joining BMO, Mr. Porter held the positions of Economist and Country Risk Analyst with other Canadian financial institutions, and also worked at the Bank of Canada.

Mr. Porter has been a member of C.D. Howe's Monetary Policy Council since 2008 and serves on the Investment Management Committees of the Bank of Montreal's Pension Fund Society and Western's Endowment Fund. He also sits on the Board of Directors of the Toronto Financial Services Alliance.

Mr. Porter has been a Chartered Financial Analyst since 1995 and earned a Masters degree in Economics from the University of Western Ontario.
After almost three decades in national security, Ray now works with a variety of client organizations to help them gain a deeper understanding of intelligence and security matters in a global context, and the impact on their business environments. Ray is also a sought after public speaker on national security issues, including cyber and terrorism.

Currently, as President of I-Sec Integrated Strategies (ISECIS), Ray delivers business intelligence solutions affecting core challenges such as cyber and insider threats, while guiding resilience building around the principles of proactive defence. Ray also works with Hill + Knowlton Strategies, delivering bespoke advise to clients in relation to mergers and acquisitions, and other areas with potential National Security complexities.

After five years in federal policing, Ray joined the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) in 1984 and retired in 2012 as the Assistant Director, Intelligence. During his tenure, Ray was involved in broad facets of security intelligence operations, from leadership of the Counter Terrorism domain, to driving national security priorities pertaining to Operational Risk management, Data Exploitation programs, Human Source management, Foreign Collection framework and all Special Operations efforts.
David Tsubouchi is the Registrar and CEO of the Ontario College of Trades. Mr. Tsubouchi holds a B.A. from York University, a J.D. from Osgoode Hall Law School and LL.D. from Assumption University in Windsor, a D.S.Litt. from Huntington University and C. Dir. from The Directors College.

David Tsubouchi holds the distinction of being the first Japanese Canadian to have been elected to any position in Canada. In 1988, he was elected as a Councillor for the Town of Markham serving for 6 years. In 1995, he became the first Japanese Canadian to be elected to a provincial legislature and also to serve as a Cabinet Minister. David Tsubouchi has served as the MPP for Markham for two terms and has held several cabinet posts in the Ontario Legislature including Minister of Consumer and Commercial Relations, Solicitor General, Chair of Management Board and Minister of Culture. Prior to serving in the Ontario Legislature, Mr. Tsubouchi served as a Councillor for the Town of Markham for two terms.

Mr. Tsubouchi currently sits on the Board of Directors for OMERS Administrative Corporation and the Board of Governors for Seneca College, the largest college in North America. He was appointed as the Honorary Consul General for Mongolia (Toronto). He has served on many boards of directors including the Markham Stouffville Hospital, Hitachi Canada, York University, the Canadian Professional Golf Tour and Teranet Income Trust. He was also appointed as the Co-Chair of the Canada Vietnam Business Council by the Republic of Vietnam.

Mr. Tsubouchi, as the campaign chair, has raised millions of dollars for non-profit organizations and institutions including Seneca College, George Brown College, the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre and the Rising Sun Campaign to assist the victims of the tsunami and earthquake in Japan.

Mr. Tsubouchi has received numerous awards and honors including the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal, the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal, The Bruce Bryden Award (York University), The Award of Merit From the Japanese Canadian Community, the Canadian Horse Racing Industry Award of Recognition and the NAAAP 100 Award from the National American Association of Asian Professionals.

David Tsubouchi has been an international key note speaker in many countries including Dubai, Macau, China, Japan and the United States. He is a frequent lecturer at universities and colleges on a number of topics including equity, the imprisonment of the Japanese Canadians during WWII, politics and business development. His memoir, “Gambatte” was recently published by ECW Press and was nominated for the Speaker’s Book Award.
Mark Fisher has been an elected school board trustee with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board since 2009 and was appointed President and CEO of the Council of the Great Lakes Region by the Council’s board in 2014.

He is a seasoned professional with extensive knowledge of the public policy making process, board governance, strategic business planning, corporate communications, stakeholder engagement, advocacy, and issues management.

Mark has a wealth of experience in international affairs with a focus on advancing the United States-Canada relationship in the areas of trade, security, natural resource development and environmental protection.

He also has extensive experience providing advice to key decision-makers and influencers, including the Prime Minister of Canada, provincial premiers and ministers, parliamentarians, and C-level executives from the private and not-profit sectors.

Mark is the recipient of the Royal Canadian Legion Cadet Medal of Excellence.

He lives in Ottawa with his wife Claire and three children – Andrew, Caroline and Fiona.
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