



# GREAT LAKES ECONOMIC FORUM

MONTREAL | MAY 3-5, 2018

GREATLAKESECONOMICFORUM.COM

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAM AT A GLANCE (as of January 10, 2018)

**Thursday, May 3, 2018**

**Bar George**

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7:00 p.m.            Opening Reception

**Friday, May 4, 2018**

**Hotel Bonaventure**

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7:00 a.m.            Registration

7:30                    Breakfast and Welcome

**Ted Gruetzner**

*Chair, Council of the Great Lakes Region*

8:30 a.m.            Opening Remarks

**The Honourable Philippe Couillard (Invited)**

*Premier of Quebec*

9:00 a.m.            Plenary Keynote and Q&A:

[North America's Economic Engine – the State of the Great Lakes Economy](#)

**Doug Porter**

*Chief Economist, BMO Financial Group*

9:40 a.m.            Plenary Panel:

[Trade and Investment Outlook: Tailwinds, Headwinds and Turbulence](#)

10:40 a.m.           Networking Break



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10:50 a.m.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions

Panel 1A: The Great Lakes Auto Sector: Driving the Future of Mobility.

Panel 1B: Aerospace: Reaching New Heights Through Innovation and Collaboration.

Panel 1C: Agri-Food: Growing Great Lakes Food Production Responsibly to Meet the Global Food Challenge.

11:50 a.m.

Lunch and Keynote Discussion:

Optimizing Shared Transportation Systems and Modes in the Great Lakes Region

1:00 a.m.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions:

Panel 2A: Clean-Tech: Leading the Shift to Low Carbon Economy.

Panel 2B: Life Sciences: Reimagining Health and Health Care in the Great Lakes Region.

Panel 2C: Great Lakes Fin-Tech: Disrupting the Delivery of Global Financial Systems and Services.

2:00 p.m.

Networking Break

2:05 p.m.

Plenary Keynote and Q&A:

**Her Excellency the Honourable Kelly Craft (Invited)**  
*United States Ambassador to Canada*

2:40 p.m.

In Conversation with Legislators



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3:20 p.m.

Plenary Keynote and Q&A:

[Recalibrating Globalization: Leading a Progressive Trade Agenda that Benefits Companies, Consumers and Workers.](#)

**The Honourable François-Philippe Champagne (Invited)**  
*Minister of International Trade*

3:50 p.m.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions:

[Panel 3A: Industry 4.0: Pressure Points and Opportunities in the Great Lakes Manufacturing Sector.](#)

[Panel 3B: Indigenous Trade: Supporting and Expanding Aboriginal Business and Mobility.](#)

[Panel 3C: Tourism: Making the Great Lakes a Global Destination.](#)

4:50 p.m.

Plenary Keynote and Q&A

5:30 p.m.

Day One Program Concludes

6:00 p.m.

Reception

7:00 p.m.

Great Lakes Leaders Dinner and Keynote Address

## **Saturday, May 5, 2018**

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7:00 a.m.

Registration

7:30 a.m.

Breakfast and Overview of Day One

**Mark Fisher, President and CEO**  
*Council of the Great Lakes Region*

8:00 a.m.

Plenary Keynote and Q&A



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8:30 a.m.

Plenary Presentation:

[Accelerating Urban Innovation: Designing and Investing in Smart Cities in the Great Lakes.](#)

9:00 a.m.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions:

[Panel 4A: Water Stewardship: Protecting Water, Valuing Economic Growth.](#)

[Panel 4B: The Third Way: Accelerating Environmental Protection Using Venture Capital and Impact Investing.](#)

[Panel 4C: The Regenerative Economy: Extracting Maximum Value from Natural Resources and Supply Chains.](#)

10:00 a.m.

Plenary Presentation:

[Global Energy Transitions: Key Trends and What They Mean for the Great Lakes Economy.](#)

10:30 a.m.

In Conversation with Business Leaders

[Managing Risk, Market Uncertainty and Corporate Sustainability – A Great Lakes Perspective.](#)

11:30 a.m.

Plenary Keynote and Q&A

**Her Worship Valerie Plante (Invited)  
Mayor of Montreal**

12:00 p.m.

Lunch and Keynote:

1:00 p.m.

Plenary Presentation

[Thinking and Winning in the Cognitive Era: Winning Strategies and Technologies for Business and Government.](#)



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1:30 p.m.

Concurrent Breakout Sessions:

Panel 5A: Data Residence, Mobility and Security: Building the Rules and Infrastructure for the Digital Economy.

Panel 5B: Linking Data Generation to Data Science: Establishing Impactful Collaborations in the Great Lakes Region.

Panel 5C: From Enabling Technology to Business Enabler: Why Blockchain is a Game Changer.

2:30 p.m.

Plenary Keynote and Q&A

Europe and the Great Lakes: Taking Advantage of New Commercial Routes and Investment Opportunities.

3:10 p.m.

Plenary Presentation

Discover. Connect. Trade: Are you ready for a revolution in cross-border commerce in the Great Lakes?

3:40 p.m.

In Conversation with Chambers of Commerce

Trade Matters: Working Together to Expand Great Lakes Commerce and Expedite Cross-Border Trade and Mobility.

4:40 p.m.

Concluding Remarks

**Mark Fisher, President and CEO**  
*Council of the Great Lakes Region*

5:00 p.m.

Forum Program Concludes