



GREAT LAKES ECONOMIC FORUM

MONTREAL | MAY 3-5, 2018

GREATLAKESECONOMICFORUM.COM

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Thursday, May 3, 2018

Bar George

7:00 p.m. Opening Reception

Friday, May 4, 2018

Hotel Bonaventure

7:00 a.m. Registration

7:30 a.m. Breakfast
Westmount/Outremont Foyer

8:00 a.m. Welcome
Westmount/Outremont

Mark Fisher
President and CEO
Council of the Great Lakes Region

8:10 a.m. **Bruce Heyman (c)**
Honorary Patron and former U.S. Ambassador to Canada
Council of the Great Lakes Region

8:30 a.m. Opening Remarks
Westmount/Outremont

The Honourable André Fortin (c)
Minister of Transport, Sustainable Mobility and Transport Electrification
Province of Québec

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

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

Doug Porter (c)
Chief Economist
BMO Financial Group



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9:40 a.m.

Plenary Panel:
Westmount/Outremont

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

Moderator: David Scanlan (c)
Managing Editor
Bloomberg News

Speakers: Doug Porter (c)
Chief Economist
BMO Financial Group

Jeff Schott (c)
Senior Fellow
Peterson Institute for International Economics

Hubert Bolduc (c)
President and CEO
Montreal International

Paul A. Krepps (c)
Global Business Development - U.S., India and Canada
Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Valentina Isakina (c)
Managing Director
Jobs Ohio

10:40 a.m.

Networking Break
Westmount/Outremont Foyer

10:50 a.m.

Concurrent Strategy Sessions

Panel 1A: [The Great Lakes Auto Sector: Driving the Future of Mobility.](#)
Mont-Royal

Moderator: David Adams (c)
President
Global Automakers of Canada

Speaker: Stephen Beatty (c)
Vice President, Corporate
Toyota Canada



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Ben Stanley (c)
Automotive Research Lead, Institute for Business Value
IBM Services

Bernard Swiecki (c)
Director, Automotive Communities Partnership
Center for Automotive Research

Panel 1B: [Linking Data Generation to Data Science: Establishing Impactful Collaborations in the Great Lakes Region.](#)

Hampstead

Moderator: Dr. Melissa Cragin (c)
Executive Director
Midwest Big Data Hub
National Center for Supercomputing Application

Speaker: Sharon Broude Geva, PhD (c)
Director of Advanced Research Computing (ARC)
University of Michigan

Edward Seidel (c)
Vice President, Economic Development and Innovation
University of Illinois

Allen Lalonde (c)
Senior Innovation
IBM Canada

Jennifer MacLean (c)
Executive Director
SOSCIP R&D Consortium

Panel 1C: [The Third Way: Accelerating Environmental Protection in the Great Lakes Using Venture Capital and Impact Investing.](#)

Côte-St-Luc

Moderator: David Sweetnam (c)
Executive Director
Georgian Bay Forever

Speakers: Todd Appel (c)
Chief Operating Officer
Quantified Ventures



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Sophie Méchin (c)
Solutions Finance Development Manager
The J.W. McConnell Family Foundation

Leigh Whelpton (c)
Program Director
Conservation Finance Network

Andrée-Lise Méthot
Founder and Managing Partner
Cycle Capital Management

11:50 a.m. Lunch: Keynote Discussion and Q&A:
Westmount/Outremont

Trade and Trump

The Honourable Jean Charest
CGLR Honorary Patron
Former Premier of Quebec

1:00 p.m. Concurrent Strategy Sessions:

Panel 2A: [From Enabling Technology to Business Enabler: Why
Blockchain is a Game Changer.](#)

Mont-Royal

Moderator: Michael Urban (c)
Practice Lead for Government Transformation
Mowat Centre for Public Policy Innovation

Speaker: Florence D. Hudson (c)
Editorial Board, Blockchain in Healthcare Today
Special Advisor for Next Generation Internet
Northeast Big Data Innovation Hub
Columbia University

Alexandra Prodromos (c)
Executive Director
Chicago Blockchain Center

Sanjeev Gill (c)
National Industry Executive for Research
IBM Canada Innovation Team



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

Hampstead

Moderator: Dvora Richler
Senior Manager, Government Relations
Hoffmann-La Roche Limited

Speaker: Hassan Jaferi (c)
CEO
Bitnobi Inc.

Marta Bralic (c)
Vice President, Business Development
Flatiron Health

Marc Fiume
CEO and Co-founder
DNAstack

Panel 2C: Natural Capital: Valuing Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Côte-St-Luc

Moderator: Dr. Trevor E. Pitcher, PhD (c)
Executive Director
Great Lakes Institute for Environmental Research
University of Windsor

Speaker: Dr. John H. Hartig, Ph.D. (c)
Fulbright Canada Research Chair in Global Governance
Balsillie School of International Affairs

Dr. Donald A. Jackson (c)
Professor and Chair
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
University of Toronto

Dr. Nicholas E. Mandrak, PhD (c)
Associate Professor
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Toronto



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Dr. David Allan (c)
Professor Emeritus
School for Environment and Sustainability
University of Michigan

2:00 p.m. Networking Break
Westmount/Outremont Foyer

2:05 p.m. Plenary Keynote and Q&A:
Westmount/Outremont

[Transitioning to a Sustainable Energy Future: Key Trends and What They Mean for the Great Lakes Economy.](#)

Edward Stones (c)
Global Director, Energy and Climate Change
The Dow Chemical Company

2:40 p.m. In Conversation with Legislative Organizations
Westmount/Outremont

Moderator: Ted Gruetzner (c)
Chair
Council of the Great Lakes Region

Speaker: Vance Badawey (c)
Member of Parliament (Niagara Centre)
Vice-Chair, Canada-U.S. Interparliamentary Group

Michael Sheehy (c)
Ohio State Representative
Great Lakes Legislative Caucus

John Dickert (c)
President and CEO
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative

3:20 p.m. Plenary Keynote and Q&A:
Westmount/Outremont

[How Lake Levels Can Affect the Great Lakes' Economy](#)



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Gordon Walker (c)
Chair, Canadian Section
International Joint Commission

3:50 p.m.

Concurrent Strategy Sessions:

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

Mont-Royal

Moderator: Sarah Goldfeder (c)
Principal
Earnscliffe Strategy Group

Speaker: Sree Ramaswamy (c)
Partner
McKinsey & Company and McKinsey Global Institute

Emad Rizkalla (c)
Entrepreneur, Innovator and CEO
Bluedrop Performance Learning

Veronique Proulx
President and CEO
Quebec Division of Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters

Panel 3B: [Safe Access: Strengthening Cross-Border Cooperation in the Great Lakes to Combat Falsified Medicines](#)

Hampstead

Moderator: Dr. Anne Snowden (c)
Academic Chair
World Health Innovation Network

Speaker: Jeff Thomson (c)
Anti-Fraud Centre
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Mike Hatfield (c)
Immigration and Customs Enforcement
U.S. Department of Homeland Security



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Dani Peters (c)
Co-Founder
Cross-Border Health Foundation

Alicia Duval (c)
Senior Vice President, Industry Relations
GS1 Canada

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

Côte-St-Luc

Moderator: Pat Whalen
Director
Niagara Global Tourism Institute

Speakers: Bruce Nierenberg (c)
Chairman
Victory Cruise Lines

Will Friedman (c)
President and CEO
Port of Cleveland

His Worship Gord McKay (c)
Mayor of Midland

Robert Drumm (c)
President
Alexander+Roberts

Yves Gilson (c)
Director, Marketing and Cruises
Montreal Port Authority

4:50 p.m.

Plenary Keynote
Westmount/Outremont

[Reading Between the Lines: Making Sense of Today's Headlines, Politics and Business Trends](#)

Steve Schmidt (c)
Vice Chairman
Edelman



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- 5:10 p.m. Day One Program Concludes
- 6:00 p.m. Reception
Westmount/Outremont Foyer
- 7:00 p.m. Great Lakes Leaders Dinner and Keynote Address
Westmount/Outremont

Gift Presentation

Consul General Juan Alsace (c)
United States Consulate (Toronto)

*Keynote Address and discussion with Montreal Bureau Chief for
Bloomberg, Sandrine Rastello*

The Honourable Bardish Chagger (c)
Minister of Small Business and Tourism
Government of Canada

Saturday, May 5, 2018

- 7:00 a.m. Registration
- 7:30 a.m. Breakfast and Overview of Day One
Westmount/Outremont

Ted Gruetzner, Chair
Council of the Great Lakes Region

- 8:00 a.m. Plenary Presentation
Westmount/Outremont

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

Moderator: Chris Smillie
Board Member
Council of the Great Lakes Region

Speaker: Sébastien Turbot (c)
Executive Director
NewCities Foundation



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Jean-Francois Barsoum (c)
Senior Managing Consultant
Smarter Cities, Water and Transportation
IBM Canada

Paul Carlson (c)
IT Specialist
Smart City

8:45 a.m.

Plenary Keynote
Westmount/Outremont

[Ohio's Cooperative Approach Toward a Healthier Lake Erie](#)

The Honourable James Zehringer

Director
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

9:00 a.m.

Concurrent Strategy Sessions:

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

Mont-Royal

Moderator: Christopher Hilkene (c)
Interim President and CEO
Pollution Probe

Speaker: Melanee Short, P.Eng, MBA (c)
Director, Environmental Sustainability, North America HSE
Sanofi

John Coyne (c)
Vice President and Chief Counsel
Unilever

Ron Soreanu (c)
Vice President
The Coca-Cola Company

Dan Zilnik
President
AFARA



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Panel 4B: [Agri-Food: Growing Great Lakes Food Production Responsibly to Meet the Global Food Challenge.](#)

Hampstead

Moderator: Sarah Goldfeder (c)
Principal
Earnscliffe Strategy Group

Speaker: Dr. John Cranfield (c)
Professor & Chair
Department of Food, Agricultural & Resource Economics
University of Guelph

Dr. George Smith (c)
Associate Dean for Research and Associate Director for
AgBioResearch
Colleges of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Michigan State University

Rick Ebert (c)
President
Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Keith Currie
President
Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Panel 4C: [Indigenous Trade and Investment: Supporting and Expanding Aboriginal Business in the Great Lakes Region.](#)

Côte-St-Luc

Moderator: Wayne Garnons-Williams (c)
Chair and President
International Inter-Tribal Trade Organization

Speaker: Nadir Andre
Partner
BLG

10:00 a.m.

Plenary Presentation:
Westmount/Outremont



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Workforce 2020: How Modern Workers and Advanced Economies Can Survive the Next Industrial Revolution

Emad Rizkalla (c)

Entrepreneur, Innovator and CEO
Bluedrop Performance Learning

10:30 a.m. Networking Break
Westmount/Outremont Foyer

10:40 a.m. In Conversation with Business Leaders
Westmount/Outremont

A Great Lakes Perspective

Moderator: David Scanlan (c)
Managing Editor
Bloomberg News Canada

Speaker: Allister Paterson (c)
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
CSL Group

Ryan J. Eickmeier (c)
Vice President, Government Relations & Public Policy
Canadian Franchise Association

Dr. Terry Harvill (c)
President, ITC Grid Development

Sarah Goldfeder (c)
Principal
Earnscliffe Strategy Group

11:30 a.m. Plenary Keynote
Westmount/Outremont

Working and Winning for Wisconsin

The Honourable Mark R. Hogan (c)

Secretary and CEO
Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation



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12:00 p.m.

Lunch: Keynote
Westmount/Outremont

[State of the Canada – United States Relationship: A Consul General's Perspective](#)

Douglas George

Canadian Consul General (Detroit)

1:00 p.m.

Plenary Presentation
Westmount/Outremont

[AquaHacking - How the Rising Generation is Using Technology and Entrepreneurship to Solve North America's Freshwater Issues.](#)

Speaker Jason Deglint (c)
Co-Founder
Blue Lion Labs

Nicolas St-Gelais
Co-Founder
CANN Forecast

1:30 p.m.

Concurrent Strategy Sessions:

[Panel 5A: Digital Agriculture - Prospects and Challenges in the Great Lakes Region.](#)

Mont-Royal

Moderator: Dr. Malcolm Campbell (c)
Vice President, Research and Innovation
University of Guelph

Speaker: Dr. Helen Hambly Odame (c)
Associate Professor
School of Environmental Design and Rural Development
Ontario Agricultural College
University of Guelph

Karen Hand (c)
Director, Research Data Strategy
University of Guelph



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Carolyn Lawrence-Dill (c)
Associate Professor
Chair of Bioinformatics & Computational Biology
Iowa State University

Panel 5B: [Aerospace: Reaching New Heights in the Great Lakes Through Innovation and Collaboration.](#)

Hampstead

Moderator: Sarah Goldfeder (c)
Principal
Earnscliffe Strategy Group

Speaker: Meridith Jaeger
Co-founder
AeroInnovate Wisconsin

Alain Aubertin (c)
Vice President, Business Development & International
Consortium for Aerospace Research and Innovation in
Canada

Panel 5C: [Energy: Leading the Shift to a Low Carbon Economy.](#) Côte-St-Luc

Moderator: Chris Smillie
Board Member
Council of the Great Lakes Region

Speaker: Cara Clairman (c)
President and CEO
Plug'n Drive

Dan Hoornweg, PhD (c)
Richard Marceau Chair
Faculty of Energy Systems and Nuclear Science
University of Ontario Institute of Technology

Steve McCauley (c)
Senior Director, Policy
Pollution Probe



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Pascal Drouin
Junior Partner
Cycle Capital Management

2:30 p.m. Networking Break
Westmount/Outremont Foyer

2:40 p.m. Plenary Presentation

[Great Lakes Hyperloop: Connecting Economies in the Mega Region](#)

Grace Gallucci
Executive Director
Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency

3:15 p.m. Plenary Presentation
Westmount/Outremont

[NexusTrade: Are You Ready for a Revolution in Cross-Border Commerce in the Great Lakes?](#)

Tony Pigott
Partner
Global Microtrade Inc.

3:40 p.m. In Conversation with Chambers of Commerce
Westmount/Outremont

[Trade Matters: Working Together to Protect and Expand Great Lakes Trade.](#)

Moderator: Sarah Goldfeder (c)
Principal
Earnscliffe Strategy Group

Speaker: Garry Douglas (c)
President and CEO
North Country Chamber of Commerce

Rocco Rossi (c)
President and CEO
Ontario Chamber of Commerce



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Ralph Biedermann (c)
Executive Director
U.S. – Mexico Chamber of Commerce Mid-America Chapter

Kevin Courtois
Manager, Great Lakes Region, Congressional and Public
Affairs
U.S. Chambers of Commerce

4:40 p.m. Concluding Remarks
Westmount/Outremont

Mark Fisher
President and CEO
Council of the Great Lakes Region

5:00 p.m. Forum Program Concludes