



Conference Agenda

The environment is only one of many challenges that Canada is facing. This year's Conference will explore systemic, contemporary issues that must be meaningfully addressed alongside environmental issues:

- **Indigenous reconciliation** (e.g., TRC, self-determination and self-government, treaties and agreements, meaningful engagement, fiscal relationships, duty to consult)
- **Economic stressors** (e.g., supply chain constraints and global trade, geopolitical instability and conflict, energy crisis, national and regional debt, recession risk, COVID-19)
- **Social change and equity** (e.g., inflation/cost of living, racial and environmental justice, growing divide between rich and poor, economic equity, high cost of low-carbon tech, etc.)
- **Disinformation and polarization** (e.g., polarization of mass media, "freedom"/libertarian/populist movements, greenwashing, politicization of non-partisan issues)

Following a keynote address and expert panel discussion, a breakout session will be held to solicit ideas from all participants. This session will be interactive and involve having individuals and groups build physical manifestations of policy frameworks that can address environmental challenges simultaneously with other challenges (trust us, it will be fun!).

Date: Tuesday, November 22, 2022

Conference Location: Beeton Hall, Toronto Reference Library (789 Yonge Street, Toronto, M4W 2G8)

Agenda

Registration and Check-in	1:30 pm
Welcome and Opening Remarks	2:00 pm
Conference Presenting Sponsor	2:05 pm
Keynote Speaker: Cynthia Leach	2:10 pm
Panel Speeches, Discussion and Q&A <i>Panelists: Anita Li, Julius Lindsay, Elizabeth McIsaac, Paul-Emile McNab</i>	2:20 pm
Break <i>Refreshments provided</i>	3:10 pm
Breakout Sessions	3:20 pm
Wrap Up	4:25 pm

Keynote Speaker

Cynthia Leach

Senior Director of Economic Thought Leadership of RBC

Cynthia is the Assistant Chief Economist, Thought Leadership at RBC. She helps shape the narratives and research agenda around the team's forward-looking economic and policy analysis, covering topics such as the future of work, innovation, and net-zero transition.

Previously, Cynthia was an executive at Finance Canada, most recently heading a team responsible for housing finance policy. Cynthia holds an M.A. Economics degree from the University of Toronto.



Panelists

Anita Li

Founder and Editor-in-Chief of The Green Line

Anita Li is a longtime journalist, news entrepreneur, media consultant and educator with over a decade of full-time experience as a multi-platform journalist at outlets across North America. Currently, she is the founder, CEO and editor-in-chief of The Green Line, a local Toronto-based news outlet. Anita is also a journalism instructor at Toronto Metropolitan University, the City University of New York and Centennial College. Her areas of expertise include community-driven journalism, audience engagement, journalism entrepreneurship, consumer revenue business models, newsroom diversity, media ethics and journalism innovation. Anita co-founded Canadian Journalists of Colour in 2018, and is also a member of the board of directors for the Online News Association and LION (Local Independent Online News) Publishers. To keep up with Anita, subscribe to The Other Wave, her journalism innovation newsletter about challenging the status quo in Canadian media



Julius Lindsay

Director of Sustainable Communities of the David Suzuki Foundation and Co-founder, Black Environmentalists Alliance

Julius is currently the Director, Sustainable Communities at the David Suzuki Foundation. He leads the Foundation's work to accelerate and raise the ambition of climate action in cities across the place now known as Canada. He is also a co-founder of the Black Environmentalist Alliance, an organization that seeks to champion black people in the environmental profession, provide a safe space for peer-to-peer engagement to have real conversations and share experiences, and to advocate for environmental justice for Black Canadians now and in the future. Prior to these two roles, he was the catalyst for and led the development of climate change plans, programs, and policies at two of the biggest cities, Mississauga and Richmond Hill, in Ontario, Canada.



Panelists

Elizabeth McIsaac

President of Maytree

Elizabeth is the president of Maytree, a private charitable foundation focused on poverty and human rights in Canada. She is a dedicated builder and champion for the non-profit sector, with extensive experience in research, teaching and direct service provision. Elizabeth has a deep history with Maytree; she previously served as the Director of Policy and was the executive director of one of Maytree's signature ideas: the Toronto Region Immigrant Employment Council (TRIEC). More recently, Elizabeth established and led Mowat NFP (Not-for-Profit Policy) at the Mowat Centre, where she conducted and directed research analyzing the challenges facing the non-profit sector today.

Paul-Emile McNab

VP, Business Development & Membership Experience Business Development & Membership Experience of Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business

Paul-Emile has been active in the field of Research, Consulting, Fundraising and Business Development for the past fifteen years. In 2007, he completed his honours degree in History, Political Science and Canadian Studies at the University of Toronto. In 2010, he completed his Masters in Environmental Studies at York University, with a focus on Indigenous knowledge and a major research paper titled: The Traditional Rights of Ways on the Walpole Island First Nation.

He has served as a member of the Research Advisory Committee with Canadian Energy Research Institute, the Chair of the National Advisory Committee with ORIGIN Inc. and the current Vice-President of the Board of Directors for Aboriginal Legal Services. He currently resides in Toronto and is an avid follower of sports and business.

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