



RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW:

Readiness for a Clean Economy

The 2023 Pollution Probe
Conference & Gala



Canada has started making progress on issues such as climate change, clean energy, transportation decarbonization, and plastic pollution. Governments across Canada are setting and supporting aggressive greenhouse gas reduction targets, electric vehicle adoption targets, preventative plastic pollution policies, as well as cleanup initiatives.

While progress is being made, significant challenges remain, and current efforts are insufficient to meet our targets. Additionally, the policies and investments needed require community support, must contribute to reconciliation, and the benefits and costs should be equitably distributed.

The purpose of Pollution Probe's 2023 "Right Here, Right Now" Conference and Gala is to **explore how Canada can address the challenges we face with decarbonization and in creating a cleaner economy while seizing the opportunities presented.**

Following a keynote address and expert panel discussion, a breakout session will be held to solicit ideas from all participants.

Date: Thursday, November 23, 2023

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

Conference Agenda

Registration & Check-in	1:30 PM
Welcome and Opening Remarks from Christopher Hilkene (CEO, Pollution Probe)	2:00 PM
Remarks from Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy , M.P.P (Ontario Minister of Finance)	2:05 PM
Keynote Speaker: Melanie Debassige , MBA, ICD.D (Executive Director, Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation)	2:20 PM
Panel Discussion and Q&A Pat Dalzell (Exec. Director of Corporate Affairs, Bruce Power) Bob Masterson (President and CEO, Chemistry Industry Association of Canada) Céline Vaneeckhaute (Associate Professor, Université Laval; Director of BioEngine Research Team, BioEngine; Canada Research Chair) Andrew Van Iterson (Manager, Green Budget Coalition hosted by Nature Canada) Moderator: Cedric Smith (Director, Transportation, Pollution Probe)	2:35 PM
Break <i>Refreshments provided</i>	3:25 PM
Breakout Activity	3:35 PM
Wrap Up	4:30 PM



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Delivering Remarks



The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, M.P.P.

Ontario Minister of Finance, Member of Provincial Parliament, Pickering-Uxbridge

Peter Bethlenfalvy is Ontario's Minister of Finance. He was elected as MPP for Pickering—Uxbridge in 2018 and was re-elected in 2022. As Minister of Finance, he is responsible for the management of the province's finances and building the environment for long-term economic prosperity. Throughout COVID-19, Minister Bethlenfalvy provided the supports Ontario families, workers, and businesses needed through the pandemic. Now, with Premier Ford, he is working to Get It Done for our health care system, communities, and economy to ensure they are stronger than ever before. Prior to entering public service, Minister Bethlenfalvy served in senior leadership roles for several financial institutions including as President and Chief Operating Officer of TD Securities (USA) and Co-President of DBRS. He has served on the Board of Directors for many charitable organizations. In 2014, he joined the True Patriot Love Expedition to the magnetic North Pole in support of Canadian military families. He holds both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Business Administration from McGill University which included a year at the HEC School of Management, Paris, and a Master of Arts in Political Science from the University of Toronto.

Keynote Speaker



Melanie Debassige, MBA, ICD.D

Exec. Director, Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation

Melanie Debassige, MBA, ICD.D is an Anishinabek Kwe from the M'Chigeeng First Nation. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation. Melanie was appointed to the Ontario Clean Water Agency Board of Directors in October 2013 where she serves as a Board Director and Chair of the First Nations Committee. In March 2018, she was appointed to the Board of Reconciliation Canada where she holds the position of Director/Treasurer. Melanie completed the Director's Education Program at the Rotman School of Management and is a certified corporate director which complements her Master's in Business Administration. Melanie was recognized in 2015 by the Canadian Board Diversity Council in the Diversity 50 which is a list of highly-qualified board candidates. In 2018, Melanie undertook the role as strategic advisor to the National Energy Board of Canada on Indigenous issues. In August 2019, she was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Canada Energy Regulator on August 22, 2023 she was appointed to the role of Vice Chair. In 2019, she was recognized in Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100. She also served on the Ontario Provincial Sectoral Audit Committee, Community Services. Most recently she was appointed in January 2023 to the Legal Aid Ontario Board of Directors.



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Panelists



Pat Dalzell

Exec. Director of Corporate Affairs, Bruce Power

Pat Dalzell is the Executive Director of Corporate Affairs at Bruce Power, a role primarily focused on the development and growth of the corporate identity through government and stakeholder engagement; corporate and community communications; and promoting areas of energy innovation and the use of nuclear isotopes in the fight against cancer. Previous to this, he held the role of Director of Government and Stakeholder relations coordinating partnerships with all levels of government along with key member associations, economic development groups, the electricity system operator and labour representatives. Pat currently serves on the board of directors of the Canadian Nuclear Association and is the Chair of the Association of Power Producers of Ontario (APPrO).



Bob Masterson

President and CEO, Chemistry Industry Association of Canada

Bob Masterson is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Chemistry Industry Association of Canada (CIAC). He is the chief spokesperson and leading advocate for Canada's chemistry and plastics industry, the country's third largest manufacturing sector.

In this role, Bob is focused on three priorities: Improving Canada's investment and regulatory environment to have the chemistry and plastics sector recognized as a leader in (or driver of) the emerging circular and net zero carbon economy; ensuring the activities of the industry are aligned with societal expectations through Responsible Care®, the made in Canada and now global ESG initiative for the industry; and building a diverse, trusted and healthy workplace while sustaining CIAC as a Great Place to Work Canada® Certified™.

Bob holds an engineering degree from Queen's University, and Masters Public Administration from Carleton University. He is a Chartered Director through the McMaster DeGroote School of Business and recently joined the Board of Directors of Women Building Futures™ an organization focused on creating opportunities for women in the skilled trades.



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Céline Vaneekhaute

Associate Professor, Université Laval; Director of BioEngine Research Team, BioEngine; Canada Research Chair

Céline Vaneekhaute is associate professor at Université Laval in Quebec, Canada, director of the BioEngine Research Team on Green Process Engineering and Biorefineries (BioEngine), and Canada Research Chair in resource recovery and bioproducts engineering. Her main research field concerns the recovery of nutrients, energy and water from waste and wastewater sources. Her innovative work has led to the achievement of numerous prestigious research awards such as the Young Leadership award (International Water Association, IWA), the Prix du Québec Relève Scientifique (Quebec Government) and the Prix Honoris Genius Relève (Quebec Order of Engineers). She is steering board member of the IWA resource recovery from water cluster, director of the Water Research Center at Université Laval, and president of the waste management division at the Canadian Space Agency (Food production topical team), to name a few.



Andrew Van Iterson

Manager, Green Budget Coalition hosted by Nature Canada

Andrew Van Iterson manages the Green Budget Coalition (GBC), which uniquely brings together 22 of Canada's leading environmental organizations, collectively with over one million members and supporters, to develop and promote recommendations for the federal budget. Senior Finance officials have repeatedly called the GBC the best stakeholder to Finance, and one called the GBC the "most effective advocacy group in Canada."

The Green Budget Coalition's budget recommendations address a comprehensive set of issues across climate adaptation and mitigation, nature and biodiversity, agriculture, human health, and environmental justice. The GBC operates on an annual cycle that informs and precedes the government's budget cycle, and meets at senior federal levels including the Deputy Prime Minister, and broadly across over fifteen departments and agencies.

Conference Sponsor

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