



## **November 22, 2023**

**8:00 Breakfast**

**8:30 Opening Welcome**

**Emcee: David Muir, Associate Vice-President (Innovation & Strategic Partnerships)**

David Muir was appointed Associate Vice-President (Innovation & Strategic Partnerships), effective February 1, 2022. He holds a PhD in Chemistry from Western, where his doctoral research focused on synthetic organic chemistry. He also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in natural product chemistry at the University of Alberta.

David came to Western from the National Research Council, where he had been Director of Research and Development for the Automotive and Surface Transportation portfolio in London. There, he helped revitalize and grow the facility by increasing supports for the automotive and manufacturing sectors, and by driving partnerships with private and public collaborators in Canada and around the world.

David previously spent 20 years in a series of progressive roles at 3M Canada, including in research and development, and in business management positions in the food and medical sectors.

**Welcome Councillor Trosow, City of London**

**8:45 Innovation, Science, & Economic Development – Ontario Keynote Presentation**

Meet Honourable Andrea Khanjin

Andrea Khanjin is Ontario's newly appointed Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, and the Member of Provincial Parliament for Barrie-Innisfil.

At the age of four, Andrea immigrated to Canada with her grandparents to Barrie. She is proud to be the first female Progressive Conservative Jewish cabinet Minister in Ontario's history.

Andrea is no stranger to the environment portfolio. She formerly served as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks from 2018-2022, and successfully introduced an Act to proclaim the Provincial Day of Action on Litter, which takes place every second Tuesday in May each year.

She is also the longest serving Deputy Government House Leader for the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario since 2019. In addition, she has served as the Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, and Deputy Government Whip.

Andrea lives in Innisfil with her husband Kevin and son Oliver.

## 9:00 Western University – Role in Green & Clean Tech Keynote Presentation

Speaker: **Alan Shepard**, President, Western University

Dr. Alan Shepard is Western's eleventh President & Vice-Chancellor.

A proponent of organic transformational change within public universities, Shepard has led teams creating several entrepreneurially focused incubators, university-to-industry partnerships, and other efforts to broaden the scope of undergraduate and graduate opportunities. Inspired by his own experience as a first-generation student, he is committed to an inclusive model of education and a multidisciplinary approach to research focused on the public good and solving global challenges.

Shepard's senior leadership experience includes terms as provost at Ryerson University (now called Toronto Metropolitan University) and as president at Montreal's Concordia University. He currently chairs the Council of Ontario Universities. He is a past chair of the Canadian Knowledge Resource Network, past vice-chair of the U15 Group of Canadian Research Universities, and has served with numerous organizations devoted to the arts, health care, philanthropy, and business in Montreal, Toronto, London, and the USA.

Shepard has held fellowships in the humanities at the Folger Library and the University of Toronto. He studied at Cambridge as a visiting student, received a bachelor's degree from St. Olaf College where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and holds a doctorate from the University of Virginia.

His research has focused on the relationships among spectacle, national security, history and rhetoric in early modern Europe; on the emergence of a culture of scientific discourse in the early modern world of belles-lettres; and on the challenges facing universities today.

## 9:30 The Entrepreneurial Journey in Cleantech – Panel Discussion

Description: Hear from entrepreneurs as they share their journey of launching innovations within the cleantech industry. They'll share the challenges they have faced; supports they have used and how they have navigated the industry.

Moderator: **Oana Branzei**, Professor, Strategy & Sustainability, Director, Sustainability Certificate Program, Ivey Business School

Oana Branzei is Donald F. Hunter Professor of International Business and Professor of Strategy and Sustainability at the Ivey Business School at Western University in Canada. She is also the founding Director of the HBA Sustainability Certificate program and the Master of Science Graduate Diploma in Sustainability; the founder, convener and host of PhD Sustainability Academy, an annual event of the Alliance for Research on Corporate Sustainability; and co-founder of the recently inaugurated virtual-based and accessible Spring Institute. Ivey's champion for the United Nation's Principles for Responsible Education for a decade (until 2019), Oana has since pioneered the ESG and SDG case curations and global conversations for Ivey Publishing. Oana heads her global Resilience lab, originally formed with funding from her 2010

Early Researcher Award, and currently featuring collaborations with rapid-response research teams tackling grand challenges on five continents.

Professor Branzei, a Western Faculty Scholar (2018-2020) currently cross-appointed with Western University's Centre for Climate Change, Sustainable Livelihoods and Health, vice chairs the Western University Research Board, represents Ivey on Western's Senate, is an Advisory Board member for the Africa Institute, and sits on the Steering Committee for Western's Carbon Solutions Fund. Oana served as adjudicator for the Ontario COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund and has chaired the Social Sciences Panel for the Early Researcher Awards for Ontario's Ministry of Innovation since 2018.

Panelists: **Andrew Lee**, InnoviaGeo:

Andrew is the President and co-founder of Innovia GEO, a company whose mission is to decarbonize the heating and cooling of our buildings and homes. Andrew has dedicated his career to expanding the use of renewable energy around the world with prior experience developing wind, solar, and hydropower projects across North and South America. Andrew is a professional engineer and a proud graduate of the Ivey Business School.

**Sanders Lazier**, Carbonhound

Sanders Lazier is the Co-founder and CEO of Carbonhound, a climate reporting platform that simplifies and automates high credibility climate reporting to empower businesses of all sizes to take authentic action. Sanders began his career at [salesforce.com](https://www.salesforce.com) then transitioned to the University of Oxford where he attended as a student and later taught Digital Transformation as a guest lecturer. He has been working with mid market businesses for over 12 years, building businesses in Fintech (Octopus Investments) and in Property Tech (Goodlord) in the UK. Subsequently, he attended UofT School of Continuing Studies to study GHG reporting and started Carbonhound in 2021

### 10:30 Networking Break

### 10:45 Bio-innovation – Panel Discussion

Description: Listen to founders as they describe their innovative companies using bio innovation to turn waste streams in valuable products.

Moderator: **Sandy Marshall, A.J. (Sandy) Marshall**, Advisor and Project Manager, Bioindustrial Innovation Canada

Sandy was raised on a farm near Blyth Ontario before graduating with Bachelor of Applied Science Degree (BASc) and Masters of Applied Science Degree (MASc) in Chemical Engineering from the University of Waterloo. He started his professional career in 1984 with Polysar Inc., a Canadian rubber manufacturer. Over his 30 year career in the chemical and polymers industry, he worked in research and process, product development and market development before moving into Operations and General Management. Sandy had two international assignments; one in Germany with Bayer AG and a second in Cincinnati USA with LANXESS Corporation and INEOS. Sandy finished his corporate career as President and Managing Director responsible for Canadian Operations of LANXESS Canada.

He is an innovative thinker, recognized for strong leadership, negotiation and

relationship building skills. Experience includes P&L responsibility, R& D scale-up to commercialization, operations, market development and interaction with government at the federal, provincial and local level. Sandy has been recognized as a leader committed to Corporate Social Responsibility and environmental sustainability in Canada with the 2012 Canada Medal for Chemistry from CIC (Chemical Institute of Canada) and as a 2013 Clean50 Honouree for Outstanding Contributions to Clean Capitalism.

Sandy is Advisor and Project Manager with Bioindustrial Innovation Canada (BIC), past-President and CEO of Sustainable Chemistry Alliance, Chairman of the External Advisory Board for the Biorefinery Research Institute (BRI) at Lakehead University, Chairman of the Industry Advisory Board for the NSERC Industrial Research Chair (IRC) for “Thermochemical Conversion of Biomass and Waste to Bioindustrial Resources” at Western University, and member of the Board of Bluewater Power Corporation.

Panelists: **John Wilkinson**, Greenfield Global

Since 2014, John Wilkinson has served on the Board of Directors for Greenfield Global, a powerhouse of the Canadian bioeconomy. He also served as their Senior Vice President, Sustainability from 2016 -2019. John is the President & CEO of Wilkinson Insight Incorporated, providing specialized services for private and public sector clients. Of note, from 2003 – 2011, John was elected as the Member of Provincial Parliament for Perth- Middlesex and then Perth-Wellington. He was called to Executive Council and served first as Minister Research & Innovation, then as Minister of Revenue and finally, as the Minister of the Environment. Beyond Greenfield Global, John currently sits on numerous corporate and not for profit Boards, including the Waterloo Institute for Sustainable Energy, Life Sciences Ontario and the Council of the Great Lakes Region. He is a sought-after Advisor to numerous companies and start-ups, including SilicoLabs, Curious Public, eLeap Power, Cove Neuroscience, Smarter Alloys and BioDiffusion Technologies.

**Alex Ward**, Director, Public and Institutional Partnerships, Origin Materials

Dr. Alex Ward is the President of Origin Materials Canada Research. She has managed multimillion dollar government contribution portfolios; has many years of experience in business development and has created and sustained collaborative and strategic relationships in academia, industry, and government, in Canada and globally. She also manages provincial and federal government relationships and is cross appointed to the product development and Corporate Transactions team within Origin Materials, Inc. Dr. Ward earned her PhD at the University of Windsor in cell biology and has published several academic publications related to molecular mechanism impacting cancer.

**Dexter Hsu**, PhD, General Manager, LCY Biotechnology Holding

Dex completed his Master and PH.D. in Chemical Engineering from the National Taiwan University. In 2013, he joined LCY Chemical Corp., which is headquartered in Taipei, Taiwan. LCY Group is an international leader in the petrochemical industry with division in methanol, solvents, electronic grade chemicals, rubber, performance plastics and energy. Over the next six years Dex held various leadership positions within LCY’s Research and Development Department, specializing in Computational Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Thermodynamics. In 2017, Dex took on the role of Head of Chemical Science and New Product

Development, leading a team of 30 scientists. In 2018, LCY Chemical Corp. decided to add to their existing portfolio and venture into the biochemical industry. An opportunity presented itself for the purchase of an existing Bio-industrial Fermentation Facility in Sarnia, Ontario. A business plan was put in place to launch biobased intermediate and nutrition molecules, and the acquisition was completed. As Dex achieved previous successes with pilot product launches such as Polyimide Monomers, he was selected to head up the newly formed biochemical division and relocated to Canada in 2019

**Brandon Moffatt, Co-Founder, Storm Fisher**

Brandon Moffatt is one of the owners of StormFisher. He is an entrepreneurial and results-oriented leader with a track record of successfully identifying business opportunities and executing the development and construction of low carbon infrastructure including renewable natural gas and green hydrogen projects. Brandon is a professional engineer, who has led the development, design and construction of several complex organics processing and anaerobic digestion sites across North America and has a detailed understanding of the commercial and operational aspects of power to hydrogen and power to gas projects. Brandon is a board member of the Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA), has an MBA from the Odette School of Business and holds a B.A.Sc. in Environmental Engineering from the University of Waterloo.

**11:45 Innovation, Science, & Economic Development – Federal Keynote Presentation (Remote)**

**12:00 Lunch –Posters – Networking**

**1:00 Welcome Emcee**

**Andy Hrymak** is a Professor of Chemical Engineering and has served as Special Advisor to the President on Industry Partnerships, the Green Economy, and Sustainability, Provost & Vice-President, Academic and Dean of Engineering at Western University. He serves as Director of the Fraunhofer Innovation Platform for Composites Research at Western University, and is project leader for Carbon Solutions @ Western working with project teams in addressing carbon mitigation.

**Venture Capital Funding in Cleantech – Panel Discussion**

**Description:** Venture funding is sought after by many early-stage companies. Three active funders will share what they look for in an investment opportunity and trends they are seeing in the cleantech space.

**Moderator:** **Eric Morse**, Executive Director, Morrissette Institute for Entrepreneurship

Eric Morse is the Executive Director of the Western Morrissette Institute for Entrepreneurship Powered by Ivey Business School. Eric is a Professor of Entrepreneurship and holds the Morrissette Chair in Entrepreneurship.

He currently serves as Special Advisor to the President and Director of Entrepreneurship at Western University. In this position, Eric also serves as Chair of the Western Entrepreneurship Steering Team. Dr. Morse is the founder of and the Academic Director for, Ivey and KPMG Enterprise's QuantumShift Program for Exceptional Entrepreneurs. Over its twenty-year

lifetime, the QuantumShift Program has inspired over 600 of Canada's best and brightest entrepreneurs onto even greater success. Eric's work with business leaders has been widely cited by CBC News, The Globe and Mail, Toronto Star, Financial Post Magazine, Vancouver Sun, The South China Morning Post, Chatelaine, and Cosmopolitan (HK).

Panelists: **Marc Faucher**, Managing Partner, ArcTern Ventures

Marc has spent his 25-year career at the intersection of tech and emerging markets, as both an entrepreneur/founder and venture capital investor. Marc is currently a Managing Partner at ArcTern Ventures, a global climate tech venture capital firm obsessed with backing innovative tech companies that are helping to decarbonize our planet. Prior to ArcTern, Marc was co-founder and COO at Unata, a leading enterprise software platform partnering with grocery retailers across North America powering their digital transformation to e-commerce enablement. Unata was successfully acquired by Instacart in 2018. Prior to that, Marc was an investment partner with the BlackBerry Partners Fund and Summerhill Venture Partners, two technology-focused VC funds. He has lived and breathed every stage of the investment lifecycle spanning dozens of direct investments. His other professional experiences include strategy consulting with The McKenna Group, a boutique go-to-market growth strategy firm focused on technology based businesses, and wireless product management roles with Ericsson Communications. Marc has a BSc in Engineering (University of Waterloo) and an MBA (Ivey Business School).

**Alana Green**, Active Impact Investments

Alana joined Active Impact Investments from Bain & Company, where she split her time between helping top PE funds identify the most promising investment opportunities and top companies define and achieve their strategic goals. Before joining Bain, Alana completed her MBA at Ivey Business School and wore a "startup" hat herself, building one of Canada's most respected spine surgery research centers. As a passionate environmentalist, Alana is thrilled to put her business experience to work on the board of directors at our portfolio companies Pantree, ChopValue and Aquacycl. When she's not at work, Alana can usually be found playing in the ocean or the mountains, taking in live music, exploring the world, or laughing with family and friends over dinner (and a board game or two).

## **2:00** Networking Break

## **2:30** The Path Towards Sustainability

Speaker: Terry Bowman, London Plant Director, Canada M&SC Leader, 3M Canada

Terry has been at 3M for almost 32 years, working in several countries, head offices, and multiple manufacturing locations. Starting at the Toronto Sales Branch as a Customer Service Representative, through supply chain planning and leadership roles in most of 3M Canada's manufacturing operations, Terry has developed an appreciation for the synergy of providing high quality products and services to our customers while also providing a safe and respectful workplace for our employees. Returning to 3M Canada in 2019 after 2 years abroad, Terry is now Plant Director of the London, Ontario manufacturing plant and Country Manufacturing and Supply Chain Leader.

### 3:00 Innovation in Mobility (Electric Vehicles) – Panel Discussion

Description: The rapid electrification of mobility is affecting the entire value chain in manufacturing. Hear from industry leaders about the trends and opportunities.

Moderator: **Mona Eghanian**, Assistant Vice-President, Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN)

Mona Eghanian is Assistant Vice-President for the Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network (OVIN), the Government of Ontario's flagship initiative on the future of automotive and mobility. Mona received her Bachelor of Engineering (Chemical Engineering) from Western University, and her M.B.A. from the Richard Ivey School of Business. Mona has an extensive background in strategy development, technology transformation and data insights, and prior to working at OCI, she worked in the financial services and industrial manufacturing sectors. Mona holds a Professional Engineering designation in Ontario.

Panelists: **Brett McQueen**, Director of Innovation, North America, Linamar:

Brett is the Director of Innovation at Linamar's Innovation Hub (iHub) where he is leading Linamar's Vision 2100 pursuits.

The iHub is discovering solutions to global problems by partnering with aspiring entrepreneurial start-ups to create a new future with products that are world leaders in technology, innovation & manufacturing. As part of the Innovation Team, he is identifying new products and technologies to position Linamar to serve key markets such as mobility, infrastructure, agriculture, MedTech, power & water.

Brett has held various roles at Linamar in Program Management & Engineering. He received his Master of Business Administration from Queen's University.

**Christopher May**, Director Advocacy, Electric Mobility Canada - Mobilité Électrique Canada

Christopher is a trusted government affairs strategist and advocacy leader with successful experience supporting effective government interactions including within the electricity sector. He started his career in the Ontario Legislature and the House of Commons where he gained a unique perspective of government operations and public advocacy campaigns. His reputation for relationship building and advocacy resulted in his expertise being sought after by legislators, bureaucrats, and not of profit organizations both within Canada and globally. Based in St. Catharines, Ontario, he is fluent in Canada's official languages.

**Sarah Goldfeder**, Government Relations & Strategic Policy Development, General Motors

Sarah Goldfeder is a government relations and strategic policy professional with experience in both government and private sectors. She joined General Motors Canada in March 2021, and in June 2023 stepped into the leadership role for public policy in Canada.

Over the last fifteen years, Sarah has worked on issues pertaining to the North American trilateral relationship. She has been engaged with the U.S. and Canadian governments to map out a strategic vision for North America as a critical component of foreign and economic policy for the region.



Before joining General Motors, Sarah was part of an elite team of principals at Earncliffe Strategies, one of the oldest consulting firms in Ottawa. From 2012-2015, she was special assistant to two U.S. Ambassadors to Canada. Prior to her arrival in Ottawa, Sarah served in Mexico and Southeast Asia as a U.S. diplomat.

Sarah has made Ottawa her home, but still considers herself primarily from the American West, having studied at the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon, and Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

#### **4:00 Moving Innovation Forward: Supports for Early Stage Entrepreneurs**

**Description:** As a very early-stage entrepreneur, it can be challenging to figure out your first step. Hear from various organizations to learn about the resources and supports available locally and provincially to get you started on your entrepreneurial journey.

**Moderator:** **Justin Leushner**, Partner, Launchit Venture; Manager, BioNext:

Justin Leushner has had an extensive and diverse business career in the life sciences and biotechnology industries. He was responsible for developing a national molecular diagnostics program for LifeLabs., and served as a business analyst and portfolio advisor to one of Canada's largest medical technology VC funds. In 2003, Justin co-founded Sernova Corp. a gene and cellular therapy company currently traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange. In addition, he developed an Islet Transplant Program for the London Health Sciences Centre and served as Director for Health Care Restructuring. His many years in a hospital and laboratory setting has provided him an understanding of the procurement and processes involved in adopting innovations within a patient provider setting. Justin has recently provided strategy consulting services to many of the world's largest pharma, medtech and venture capital companies. Justin is active in the development and commercialization of medical technologies including company formation and financing through Launchit Ventures and managing the Western University MedTech incubator BioNext. He has served on boards and in an advisory capacity for investors, institutions, and industry. An MBA graduate of the University of Western Ontario's Ivey School of Business, Justin also holds a B.Sc. in Cell Physiology/Genetics from the University of British Columbia and numerous technical designations in Forensic Science and Molecular Biology.

**Panelists:** **Jeff van Heumen**, Assistant Vice-President, Business Development, Ontario Centre of Innovation

Jeff is a trained polymer chemist with a PhD specialization in polyurethane chemistry. During his career, Jeff has held several R&D-related positions in the automotive industry. From his PhD and R&D roles, he has five patents and over 15 publications. Later, Jeff was a research consultant in the public accounting sector. In a subsequent role, Jeff provided CFO and VP product support for a small, private, Waterloo-based non-destructive testing company that was later acquired. Jeff has been with Ontario Centre of Innovation (OCI) for that last 7 years providing Business Development Management in the London and surrounding region and more recently Assistant Vice-President, Business Development support to the pan-provincial business development team.

**Deniz Edwards**, Director, Internal, Morrisette Institute for Entrepreneurship



Deniz is a biomedical engineer who, after completing her MBA, has developed a career in supporting entrepreneurs. As an experienced entrepreneur having run a medical device startup, Deniz understands the challenges of entrepreneurship especially in the STEM field. Through the Morrisette Institute for Entrepreneurship, Deniz assists students, alumni, staff and faculty in the Western community navigate their entrepreneurial journey. Recently, Deniz completed her certificate in Design Thinking through IDEO U and has been helping entrepreneurs discover the value of design thinking.

**Larry McKinnon**, Director London Economic Development, London Economic Development Corporation (LEDC)

Larry focuses on attracting new job creating investments to London and supporting high-growth companies within the Life Sciences, Aerospace, and Defence sectors. Larry works closely with all levels of government and partner organizations supporting these sectors.

Larry is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) through the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and is a member of the Board of Governors of Fanshawe College, the Boards of Directors of Fanshawe Global Corporation and Consider Canada City Alliance (CCCA).

**Christina Fox**, CEO, Techalliance:

A vibrant community connector and positive disruptor, Christina Fox is the Chief Executive Officer of TechAlliance of Southwestern Ontario, representing Ontario's most promising startups and fastest-growing technology companies.

**5:00** Closing remarks