

Agenda

OCTOBER 11, 2023

7:00 to 8:30 am BREAKFAST BALLROOM B**8:30 am OPENING REMARKS, Prayer BALLROOM B****9:00 to 9:30 am PLENARY: Toward a Solutions Focused Economy (Gary Merasty) BALLROOM B**

Complex issues such as food security; climate change; diversity and inclusion; digital access and adoption; healthcare; and workforce development all continue to affect communities, nations, private and non-governmental organizations—and these issues cannot be addressed in isolation. Our opening plenary will illustrate the need for a solutions-based economic approach in Saskatchewan to support inclusive and equitable prosperity.

9:30 am NETWORK BREAK**9:45 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS****Collaboration is Our Superpower: Panel #1 BALLROOM B**

Working on behalf of their community or groups of communities/nations, development corporations continue to successfully illustrate the efficacy of this model. Learn more about the impact of this model with our guest panel.

Geoff Gay, [Athabasca Basin Development](#)

Tyler Morin, [Sakitawak Development Corporation](#)

Ashley Charles, [Muskoday Economic Development Corporation](#)

Social Enterprise and Sustainable Tourism BALLROOM C

In 2022, Tourism Vancouver Island announced it will forge a new path forward coming out of the pandemic by transitioning from a destination management organization (a traditional business model in the tourism industry) to a social enterprise. Called 4VI, the business was created to ensure that travel is a force for good for Vancouver Island—forever. Learn more about how 4VI is walking the talk on sustainable tourism.

Brian Cant, [4VI](#)

10:45 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS**Strengthening Regional Supply Chains BALLROOM C**

It seems everyone learned the term “supply chain” in 2020, but the instability of supply chain fulfillment remains a real concern. Learn how a commitment to Indigenous procurement can add resilience to our regional supply chains while bringing the intent of reconciliation to life in our communities.

Carl Macdonald, [Kinetic GPO](#)

Thomas Benjoe

Panel: The Housing Conundrum BALLROOM B

Panelists representing various stakeholders in the housing continuum will discuss potential approaches to short- and long-term housing shortages.

Chris Sicotte, [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation](#)

Alex Miller, [Big Block Construction](#)

Jason Mercredi, [Métis Nation Saskatchewan](#)

Taylor Pardy, [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation](#)

11:45 am LUNCHEON SEDA Award Presentations BALLROOM B**1:00 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS****Tipping Point: Decentralized Energy Solutions BALLROOM B**

The regulatory and economic environment is evolving to facilitate deployment of locally available renewable energy resources as well as expanded access to clean energy in remote communities. Learn how municipalities and nations can move this agenda forward with our guest panel.

Moderator: Alicia Couto, [Innovate Calgary](#)

Nadine Goldstone, [SaskPower](#)

Dr. Martin J Boucher, [Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy](#)

Supporting Your Story with Data BALLROOM C

Figuring out what you have to offer is both a science and an art. To understand you need both data and a compelling story built on it. But what if the data isn't there? Or isn't specific to your community and its vision? Engage with Colin Savage in this workshop to delve into the data and how to use it to showcase your community's advantages.

Colin Savage, [Economic Development Regina](#)

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2:00 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Sustainable Solutions: The Circular Economy BALLROOM C

The circular economy is a potential solution in multiple areas of industry and society. Remanufacturing, redesigning, reducing—to create new economic opportunities and a more sustainable and resilient economy are examples of circular strategies.

Andrew Telfer, [Smart Cities Office at City of Guelph](#)

Outcomes-Based Financing for Outdoor Recreation (Livestream) BALLROOM B

Quantified Ventures is committed to nurturing sustainable economic development solutions. This session will profile their outcomes-based economic development work with an emphasis on outdoor recreation financing models.

Risa Hiser, [Quantified Ventures](#)

3:00 pm NETWORK BREAK

3:15 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

**Creating a “Virtual” Settlement Office in Rural and Remote Communities
COURTYARD ROOM**

This session will focus on how your community can set up your own low-cost, sustainable, “virtual” settlement office without government funding. You will go from feeling uncertain if your community can provide these services to knowing that this can not only be done but beyond what you imagined, efficiently and effectively.

Lindsay Rubeniuk, [100th Meridian Immigration](#)

Is Your Community Ready for Next? BALLROOM B

Imagine whole communities engaged in the process of successful business ownership transitions, to sustain and grow prosperity for all. Learn more from the Ready for Next team and potential scalable business retention, preparedness, and transition programming.

Cindy Reid-Shelton, [Ready for Next Cities](#)

5:00 to 7:30 pm NETWORKING SOCIAL BALLROOM B AND C (cash bar and appetizers) featuring The SKoop Podcast

October 12, 2022

7:00 to 8:30 am BREAKFAST BALLROOM B

8:30 am Opening Remarks

8:45 am PLENARY: Leading with Purpose (Lisa Helps) BALLROOM B

Moving through this current decade of change requires public and private organizations to collaborate in new ways. The former two-term mayor of Victoria, British Columbia is currently working as Housing Solutions Advisor to Premier Eby for the start-up of BC Builds. As mayor Lisa worked hard to create deep collaboration across the community to get Victoria ready for the future, and across the province as co-chair of the BC Urban Mayors Caucus to advance shared priorities for cities.

9:30 am NETWORK BREAK

9:45 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Collaboration is Our Superpower: Panel #2 BALLROOM B

Our second panel will share stories of their community-driven collaboration.

Colleen Christopherson-Cote, [Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership](#)

Tammy MacDonald, [Town of Esterhazy](#)

Lindsay Alliban, [Three Points Economic Partnership](#)

Tourism Development: Offering Peace of Mind BALLROOM C

Combining various tourism services into one all-inclusive experience for the visitor takes the guesswork out of their travel planning. Offering simplicity and peace of mind in a turbulent world is a strategic advantage. This session will provide steps for communities and businesses to build effective product packaging.

Todd Brandt, [Destinate Group](#)

Kyla Bouvier, [Back2Nature Wellness and Adventures](#)

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10:45 am CONCURRENT SESSIONS

The Case for Non-Traditional Housing Solutions BALLROOM C

Rapid housing solutions are now a priority in many Saskatchewan communities. Learn more on the opportunity for modular builds and discuss what developers are looking for in this session.

Bryan McCrea, *3twenty*
Nick Sackville, *Big Block Construction*

Workforce Development: Collaborative Solutions (Livestream) BALLROOM B

Creating new systems approaches to workforce development is required in this decade of change. This session will profile successful workforce development programming that bring together middle school, high school, post-secondary, and adult learners together into independent workforce pipelines.

Kirsten Lindsay, *Francis Tuttle Technology Centre, Oklahoma City*

11:45 am LUNCHEON BALLROOM B

12:30 pm PLENARY: Present Day Pioneering (*Sarah Calhoun*) BALLROOM B

This is an unlikely story. It is a story about pants and small-town Montana. It is a story about music, chainsaws, and possibilities. It is about entrepreneurship, working hard, and establishing a rural Foundation. It is about people, the land, and how we need each other. It is a reminder that we can do big things in small towns.

1:30 to 2:30 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Resident Attraction and Retention: Childcare Solutions BALLROOM B

The need for childcare and enhanced early learning solutions helps working parents enter and remain in the workforce, while also developing the workforce of tomorrow. Meeting this need is a priority for economic developers and community leaders. Learn how to mobilize and ensure you are in a position to attract and retain residents.

Cathy Edwards, *Cooperatives First*
Sue Delaney, *Child Care Now*
Gillian LaBoucane, *Town of Maple Creek*
Samantha Ecarnot, *Ministry of Education*
Andrea Van Vliet, *Ministry of Education*

Crafting the Perfect Pitch to Site Selectors, Businesses and Talent BALLROOM C

Join Localintel's Vice President, Steve Kirby, as he reveals the potential of combining local knowledge, AI, and data visualizations to create a compelling pitch for your community. Discover how this innovative approach can make your community stand out to site selectors, businesses, and top talent, as well as how to effectively utilize this pitch across your website, social media platforms, and other marketing channels.

Steve Kirby, *Localintel*

2:30 to 3:30 pm CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Meeting the Next Wicked Challenge: Farm Succession BALLROOM B

An estimated 40 per cent of Canadian farmers plan to retire by the early 2030s. Join Saskatchewan's Farmland Legacies, a land trust operating since 1996, and farm succession specialists in discussing how we can stave off this looming agricultural crisis.

Duane Guina, *Farmland Legacies*
Cindy Reid-Shelton, *Ready for Next Cities*

Rurban Investment Attraction Project BALLROOM C

Learn about the successful pilot project implemented within Alberta's Battle River Alliance region. It is now being replicated across Alberta, bridging the gap between investors and communities.

Cathy Goulet, *Killick Leadership Group*