

MaRS CLIMATE IMPACT

NOV 29 & 30, 2023

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THIS EVENT IS



Funded by:
Federal Economic Development
Agency for Southern Ontario



Program

November 29

November 30

8:30

Registration and networking

Get your badge and join attendees for pre-conference networking and coffee.

9:00

Opening remarks

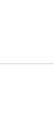
Welcome to MaRS Climate Impact and what to expect.



Yang Wu
MaRS Discovery
District



Tyler Hamilton
MaRS Discovery
District



Sid Paquette
RBCX

9:10

Confronting the ghost of climate's past

We've released more than 800 gigatons of CO2 into the atmosphere over the past 150 years. Those emissions have been haunting Hopper co-founder and CTO Joost Ouwerkerk. In this fireside chat, Ouwerkerk explains why he went from co-running an online travel unicorn to launching Deep Sky Climate, a Canadian carbon-removal project developer with the goal of eliminating gigatons of CO2 from the atmosphere.



Joost Ouwerkerk
Deep Sky



Manjula Selvarajah
Journalist,
producer and
syndicated tech
columnist

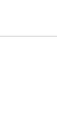
9:30

Debate: Controversy at sea

Can we alter the chemistry of the oceans to save the climate? Our oceans offer a way to absorb carbon from the atmosphere, permanently storing emissions. But are we tempting fate by interfering with such a rich and complex ecosystem? Panelists debate the pros and cons.



Anya Waite
Ocean Frontier
Institute and
Dalhousie
University



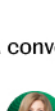
Gwensaelle Chailhou
UQAR ISMER



Luke Connell
CarbonRun



Mike Kalland
Planetary



Na'im Merchant
Carbon Removal
Canada

10:05

Venture spotlight: Blue economy

Amelie Desrochers, executive director of Novarium, an organization dedicated to accelerating the blue economy through startups, industrial R&D, as well as scientific and business collaboration, will introduce these exciting cleantech ventures:

Oneka Technologies: Water scarcity is among the greatest challenges of the 21st century. Oneka's mission is to make oceans a sustainable and affordable source of freshwater by offering wave-powered desalination systems to coastal populations and industries.

Blue Lion: Uses AI and image capture to automatically detect water quality issues in real-time.



Jason Deglnt
Blue Lion Labs



Alain-Olivier Desbois
Oneka
Technologies



Amelie Desrochers
Novarium

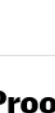
10:20

Networking break

10:35

The climate capitalism shift

A conversation on investing in Canada's future.



Andrea Barraek
e-SVB



Kate Allen
Toronto Star

10:55

Filling the climate funding gap in Canada

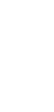
Our climate reality has never been more vivid, and while there has never been more capital directed at the climate fight, experts estimate an additional \$2 trillion in private hardtech investment will be needed to effectively reduce GHG emissions to manageable levels. In this session, hardtech investors will discuss the gaps in climate capital and why they have chosen to address them, both for impact and financial return.



Nathaniel Lowbeer-Lewis
Spring Lane
Capital



Ryan Taylor
Azolla Ventures



Seth Bastin
GSF Investment
Management



Rebecca Slinger
Ontario Green
Partners



Leah Perry
MaRS Discovery
District

11:30

Are we ready for the sprint to electrification?

Getting to net-zero means electrifying as much of the economy as we can, particularly vehicles, buildings, and emission-free electricity. What's a realistic path for Canada to get there?



Nicole Butcher
Ontario Power
Generation



Cara-Lynne Wade
Enbridge Gas



Audrey Schulman
HEET



Emily Chung
CBC News

12:00

Lunch

12:35

Communicating the Anthropocene

A conversation between Soren Brothers, curator of climate change at the Royal Ontario Museum and Jennifer Baichwal, documentary filmmaker and director of the anthropocene trilogy, on presenting a record of how humans have impacted the planet.



Soren Brothers
Royal Ontario
Museum



Jennifer Baichwal
Mercury Films Inc.

1:05

Proof of Impact: Why climate tech ventures need to care about ESG

The threat of regulation and rising pressure from shareholders and customers means LPs, VCs, and corporate buyers alike are demanding that the ventures they invest in or purchase from are socially and environmentally responsible. More than that, they want proof. What are the implications for climate tech founders as they work to set their companies up for success?



Nancy Foran
ESG Partners Inc.



Arun Eapen
BDC Capital



Tobli Mueller-Gleide
TELUS Pollinator
Fund for Good



Dana Krecchowitz
HSBC



Jason Sukhrum
Quinn+Partners

1:40

Venture spotlight: New School Foods



Chris Bryson
New School Foods

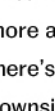


Elaine Corbett
Ontario Genomics

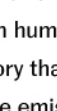
1:45

Dinner on Mars

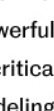
This session kicks off with a fireside chat with Lenore Newman, author of Dinner on Mars: The Technologies That Will Feed the Red Planet and Transform Agriculture on Earth. Lenore will share her research and how the idea of setting the table off-planet can help efforts to sustainably produce food here on Earth. This conversation will be followed by a panel discussion with alternative protein innovators working to transform food systems.



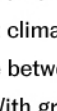
Lenore Newman
University of the
Fraser Valley



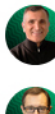
Emily Farrar
Genuine Taste



John Abousawan
Biolect Innovations



Elaine Corbett
Ontario Genomics



Mary Dimou
Nidarra Ventures

2:35

Networking break

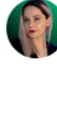
2:55

Pitch session: Seed

Four climate tech companies looking for seed capital will pitch to a panel of leading Canadian and U.S. investors. Who will emerge on top?



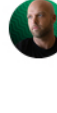
Prashant Jain
Whiteboard Foods



Natasha Kostenuk
Ayrton Energy Inc



Alex Ip
CERT Systems Inc



Roya Aghighi
Life-1 Microbial
Dye



Tom Boudex
Active Impact
Investments



Jason Blumberg
Energy Foundry



Emil Savov
MaRS Investment
Accelerator Fund



Nicole Leite
BDC Capital

3:40

The Earth's hidden power: Natural hydrogen

A fireside chat with Barbara Sherwood Lollar, one of the world's leading researchers on geologic hydrogen, also known as "natural" or "white" hydrogen. It was once believed hydrogen didn't occur naturally, but new evidence has led to a gold rush in natural hydrogen research and exploration. Could this be a black swan for climate action? And what is Canada's plan?



Barbara Sherwood Lollar
University of
Toronto

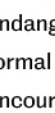


Tyler Hamilton
MaRS Discovery
District

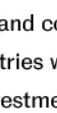
4:05

Better buildings: Constructing a low-carbon future

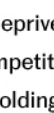
To address the housing crisis, Canada needs to build 5.8 million new homes by 2030. But this could add up to 18 million tonnes of emissions — the equivalent of putting an additional 4 million cars on the road for a year. With Canada on the edge of a building boom, our construction sector is overdue for the widespread adoption of low-carbon materials and smarter processes. When it comes to low-carbon building materials and methods, where are we now? And where do we need to go?



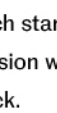
Phil Santana
Mattarney Homes



Lorri Rowlandson
BGIS



Derek Goring
Carbon Upcycling
Technologies



Sheida Shahi
Adaptis



Ryan Zizzo
Marble
Developments

4:35

Conclusion of day one

November 29

November 30

8:30

Registration and networking

Get your badge and join attendees for pre-conference networking over coffee.

9:00

Day two: Opening remarks

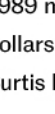


Krista Jones
MaRS Discovery
District

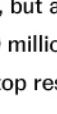
9:10

Fireside conversation: Indigenous-led climate solutions

A conversation about the importance — and necessity — of incorporating Indigenous voices and solutions into the climate innovation space, and inspiring the next generation of Indigenous leaders to get involved in solving climate issues globally.



Althea Wiebehoff
Raven Capital



Raylene Mitchell
University of
Toronto

9:30

Climate and AI: Friend or foe?

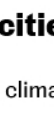
AI can optimize systems, monitor environments, control machines, see patterns and make new discoveries with more accuracy and speed than humans. This makes it a powerful ally in the fight against climate change. But there's a darker side to the story that's less discussed. It's critical that we find a balance between the benefits and downsides, such as data centre emissions caused by AI modeling. As the adage goes, "With great power comes great responsibility." What do the experts say?



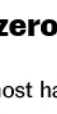
Hamid Arabatzadeh
Ranova Inc



Natalie Duncan
Bug Mars



Laura Zizzo
Manifest Climate



Jehad Abed
Meta - FAIR



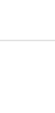
Sean Caffrey
University of
Toronto

10:10

Venture spotlight: Sustainable fashion

Mycofutures is using fungi to develop a durable and luxury textile that has the look and feel of leather.

Evoco makes innovative plant-based sustainable materials for footwear and athletic gear.



Stephanie Lipp
Mycofutures



Jason Robinson
Evoco

10:20

Networking break

10:40

Fashion forward: Transforming the textile industry

A staggering 60 percent of the clothes we wear are made of plastic. Textile production alone creates 1.2 billion tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year — more than all international flights and maritime shipping combined. But the industry may be turning a corner and new material innovations are playing a big role in that shift.

Myra Arshad
ALT TEX

Roya Aghighi
Life-1 Microbial
Dye

Leslie Harwell
Alante Capital

Adam Taubenfelgel
Triarchy

Alexandra Weston
Holt Renfrew

11:15

Pitch session: Series A

Four climate tech companies looking for Series A capital will pitch to a panel of leading Canadian and U.S. investors. Who will secure this year's award?

Kayli Dale
Friedlander

Corey Ellis
Grower

Ryan Bouras
Carbon Upcycling
Technologies

Ramee Mossa
FTEX

Nelson Switzer
Climate Innovation
Capital

Chanel Dumhouse
MKB & Co.

Jeff Keats
Export
Development
Canada (EDC)

Jennifer Anderson
Renewal Funds

12:00

Lunch

12:45

Venture spotlight: Extract Energy

Up to 65 percent of the energy we consume is lost through waste heat, most of it too expensive to recover. Extract Energy is looking to change that with a heat engine that converts waste heat into electricity.

Ibraheem Khan
Extract Energy

12:50

Spurring Canadian corporate venture capital

Around the world, corporate venture capital funds focused on climate innovations have grown over the past several years, but not so much in Canada. Corporate investment is critical and could help dramatically accelerate the deployment of climate technology. A lack of domestic participation in Canada's climate innovation ecosystem endangers future productivity and competitiveness. It also deprives Canada's climate tech startup community of a formal link to traditional industries where Canada has a competitive advantage. This session will explore how to encourage more corporate investment and what might be holding corporate Canada back.

Irene Yang
BASF Venture
Capital

Peter McArthur
RBCX

Matt Stanley
BDC Capital

Jessie Ju
Innovative Inc.

Graeme Millen
Independent
Cleantech Advisor,
ex-SVB

1:35

Fifteen months later: How is Canada faring against the IRA?

Since the introduction of the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act in August, 2022, our neighbour to the south has seen a manufacturing and clean electrification boom. The IRA has been called "one of the most ambitious and complex efforts at economic and industrial reinvestment ever," and progress to date has been immense. What has been the impact on Canada and our domestic cleantech community? Have the measures introduced been effective, and what else needs to happen to keep up?

Michael Bernstein
Clean Prosperity

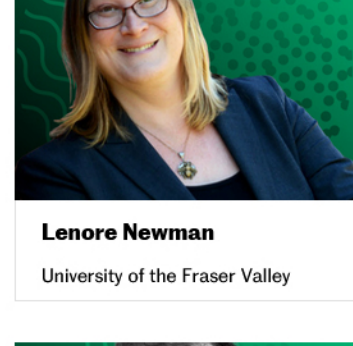
James Larsen
e-Zinc

Jana Keemo
Evok Innovations

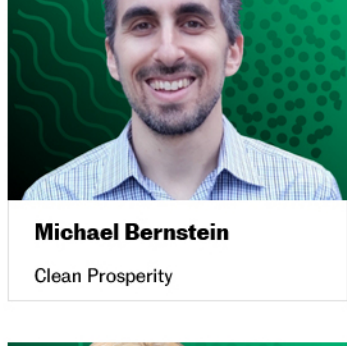
Shirley Speakman
Cycle Capital

Adam Radwanski
The Globe and Mail

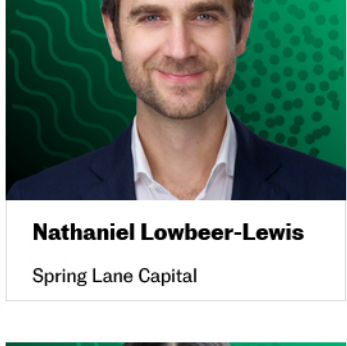
Speakers



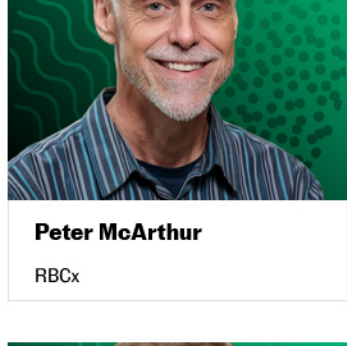
Lenore Newman
University of the Fraser Valley



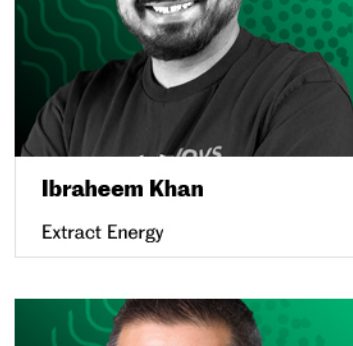
Michael Bernstein
Clean Prosperity



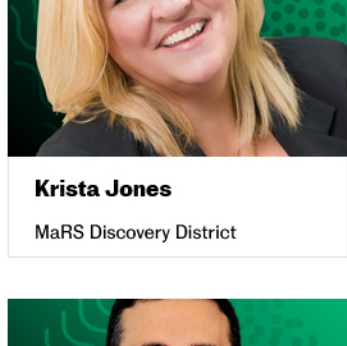
Nathaniel Lowbeer-Lewis
Spring Lane Capital



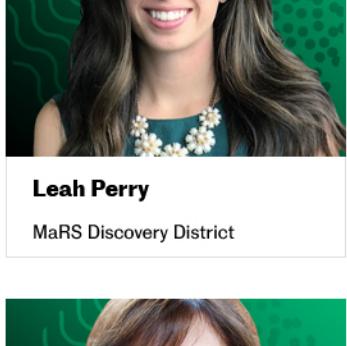
Peter McArthur
RBCx



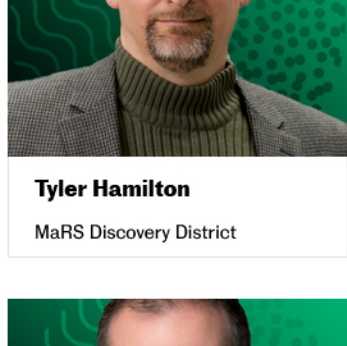
Ibraheem Khan
Extract Energy



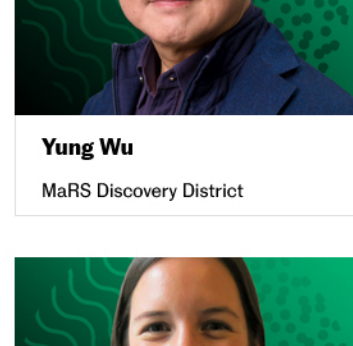
Krista Jones
MaRS Discovery District



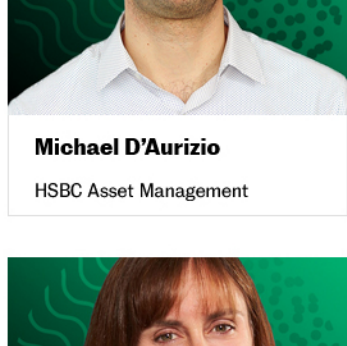
Leah Perry
MaRS Discovery District



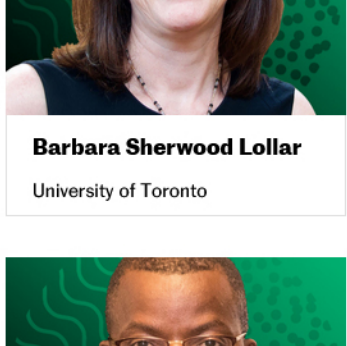
Tyler Hamilton
MaRS Discovery District



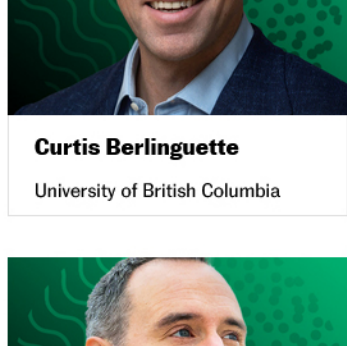
Yung Wu
MaRS Discovery District



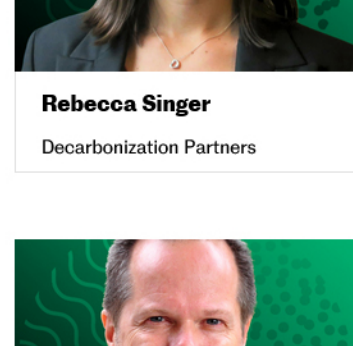
Michael D'Aurizio
HSBC Asset Management



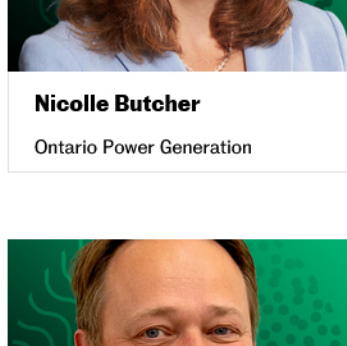
Barbara Sherwood Lollar
University of Toronto



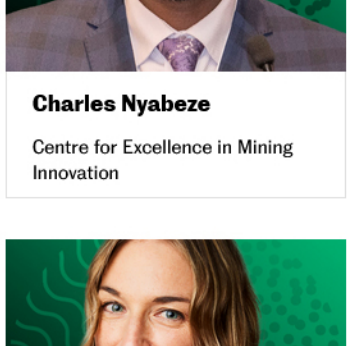
Curtis Berlinguette
University of British Columbia



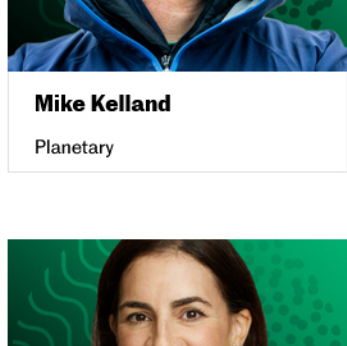
Rebecca Singer
Decarbonization Partners



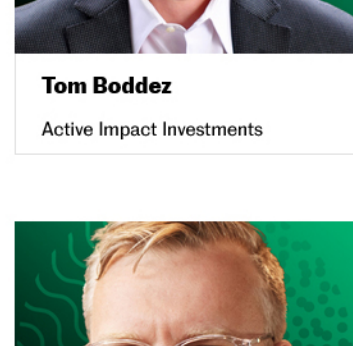
Nicole Butcher
Ontario Power Generation



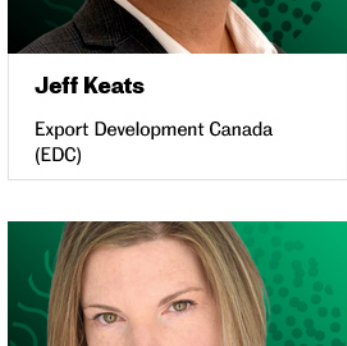
Charles Nyabeze
Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation



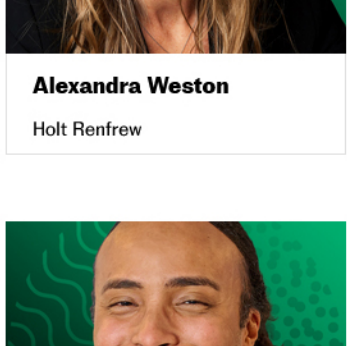
Mike Kelland
Planetary



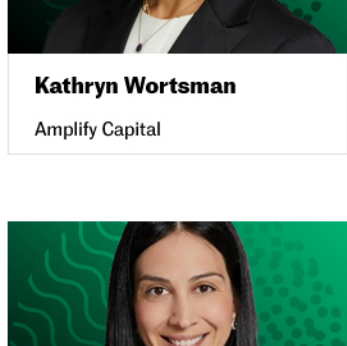
Tom Boddez
Active Impact Investments



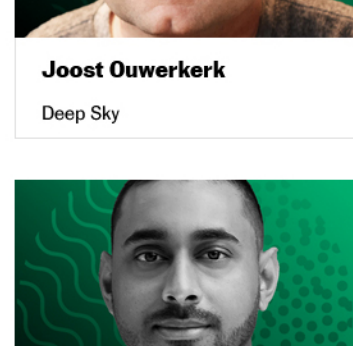
Jeff Keats
Export Development Canada (EDC)



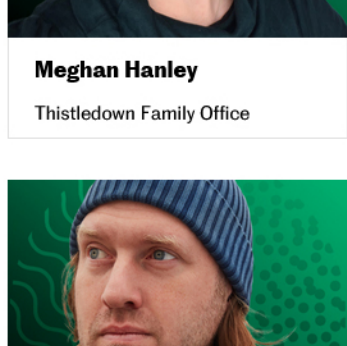
Alexandra Weston
Holt Renfrew



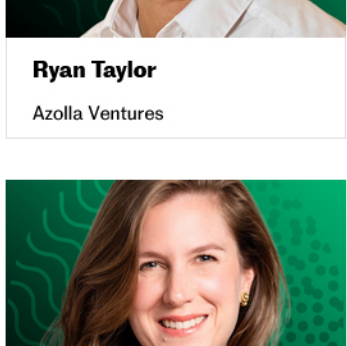
Kathryn Wortsman
Amplify Capital



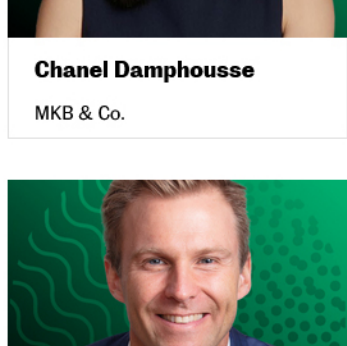
Joost Ouwerkerk
Deep Sky



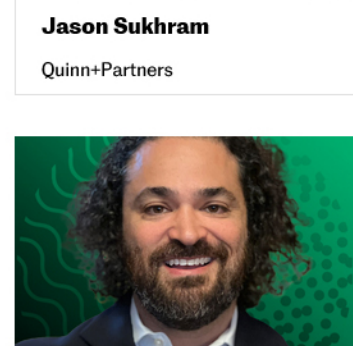
Meghan Hanley
Thistledown Family Office



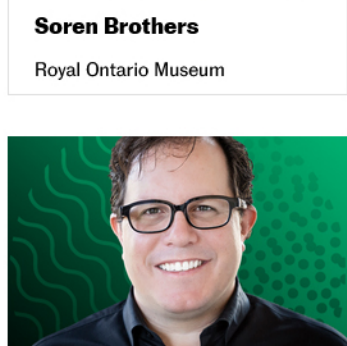
Ryan Taylor
Azolla Ventures



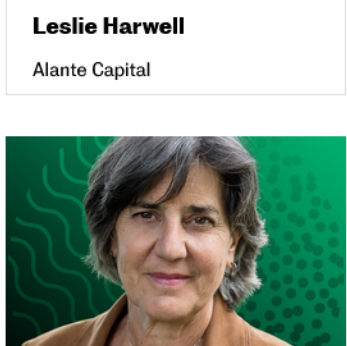
Chanel Damphousse
MKB & Co.



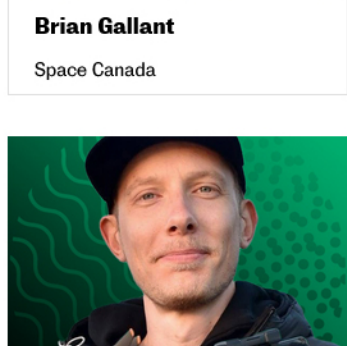
Jason Sukhram
Quinn+Partners



Soren Brothers
Royal Ontario Museum



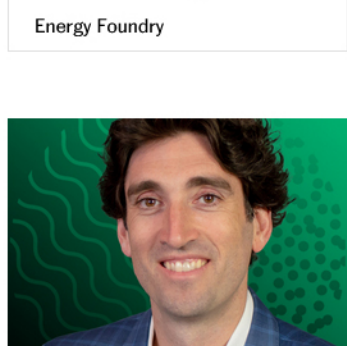
Leslie Harwell
Alante Capital



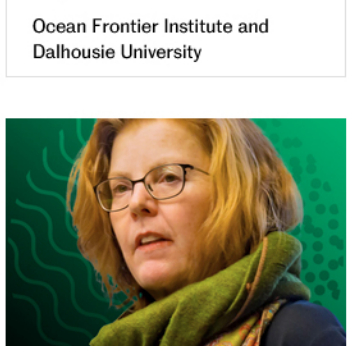
Brian Gallant
Space Canada



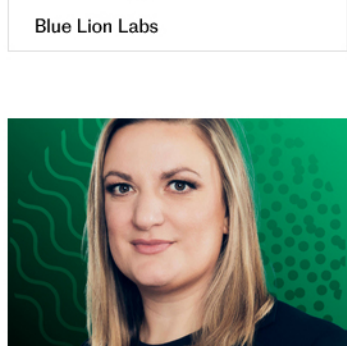
Daniel Sax
Canadian Space Mining Corporation



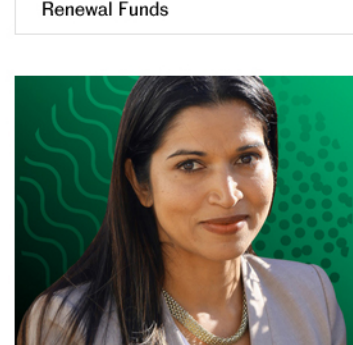
Jason Blumberg
Energy Foundry



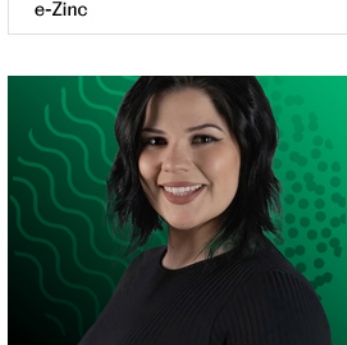
Anya Waite
Ocean Frontier Institute and Dalhousie University



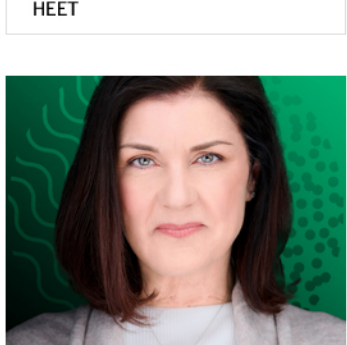
Jason Deglint
Blue Lion Labs



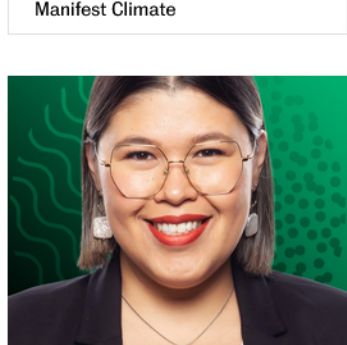
Jennifer Anderson
Renewal Funds



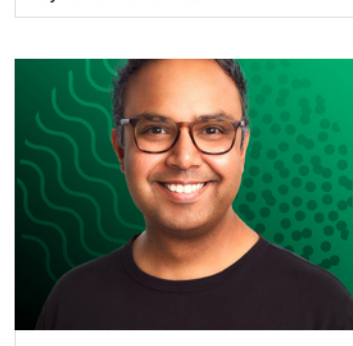
James Larsen
e-Zinc



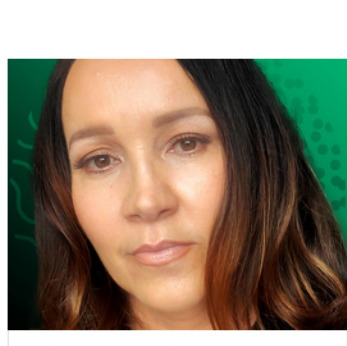
Audrey Schulman
HEET



Laura Zizzo
Manifest Climate



Manjula Selvarajah
Journalist, producer and syndicated tech columnist



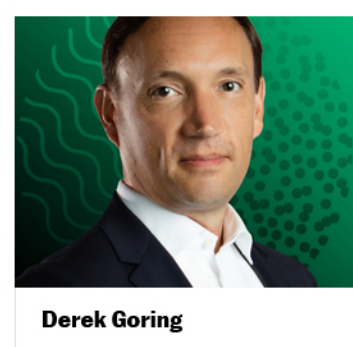
Natalie Duncan
Bug Mars



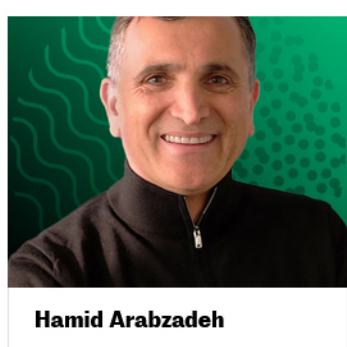
Nancy Foran
ESG Partners Inc.



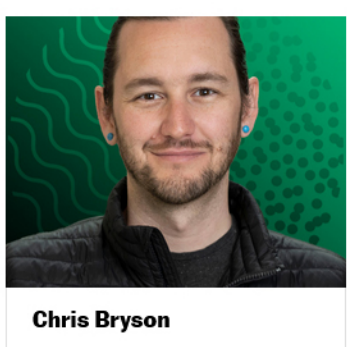
Stephanie Lipp
Mycofutures



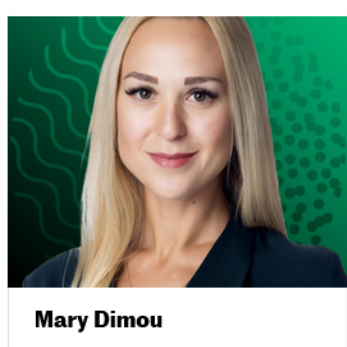
Deval Pandya
Vector Institute



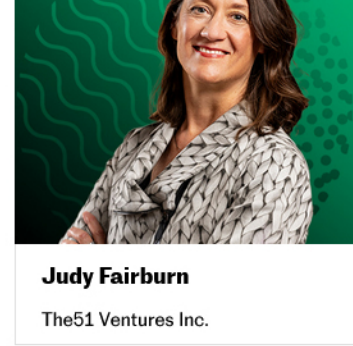
Elaine Corbett
Ontario Genomics



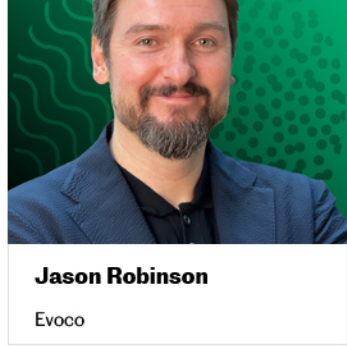
Dana Krechowicz
HSBC



Emily Farrar
Genuine Taste



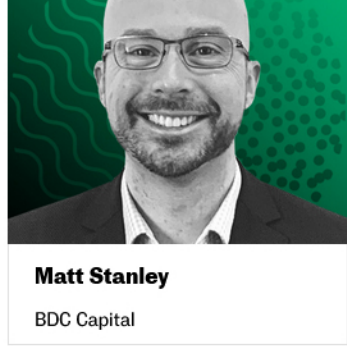
Derek Goring
Northrest Developments



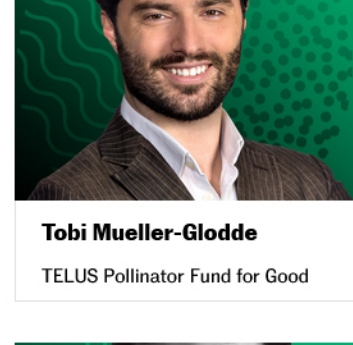
Hamid Arabzadeh
Ranovus Inc



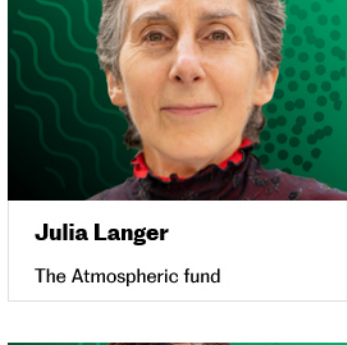
Chris Bryson
New School Foods



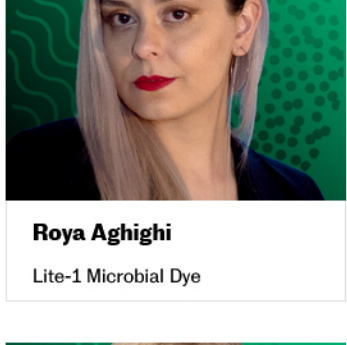
Mary Dimou
Nadarra Ventures



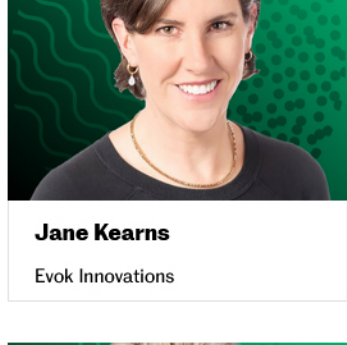
Judy Fairburn
The51 Ventures Inc.



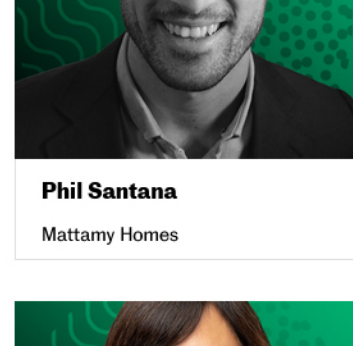
Jason Robinson
Evoco



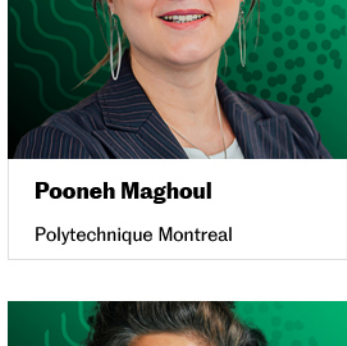
Emily Chung
CBC News



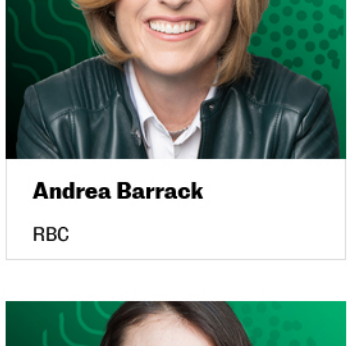
Matt Stanley
BDC Capital



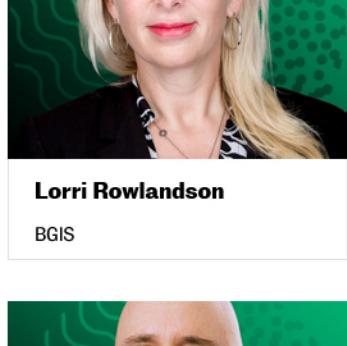
Tobi Mueller-Glodde
TELUS Pollinator Fund for Good



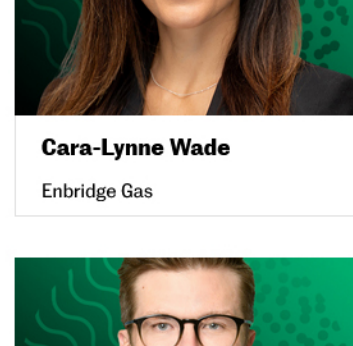
Julia Langer
The Atmospheric fund



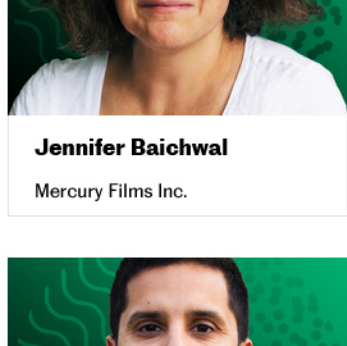
Roya Aghighi
Lite-1 Microbial Dye



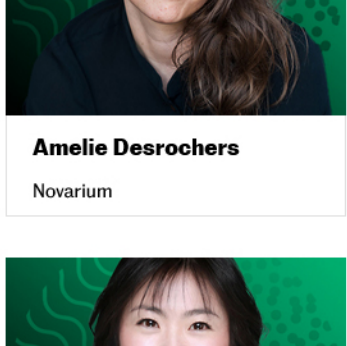
Jane Kearns
Evok Innovations



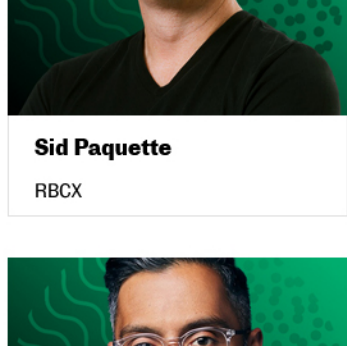
Phil Santana
Mattamy Homes



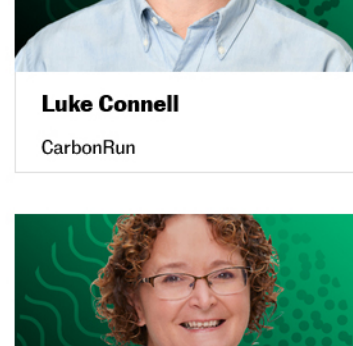
Pooneh Maghoul
Polytechnique Montreal



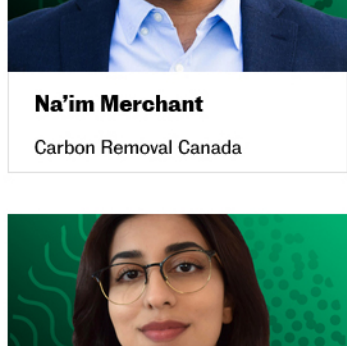
Andrea Barrack
RBC



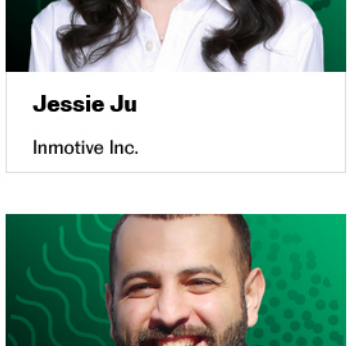
Lorri Rowlandson
BGIS



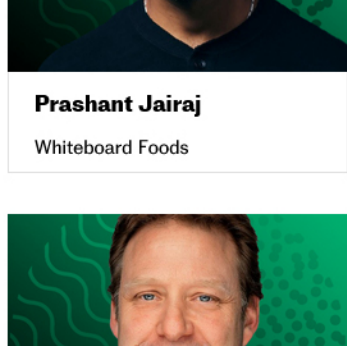
Cara-Lynne Wade
Enbridge Gas



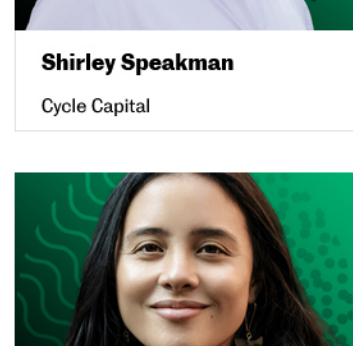
Jennifer Baichwal
Mercury Films Inc.



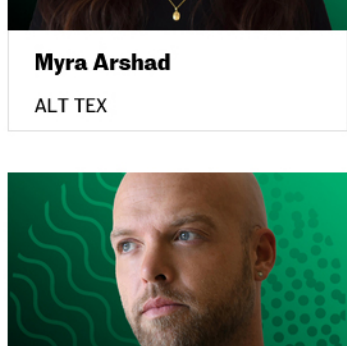
Amelie Desrochers
Novarium



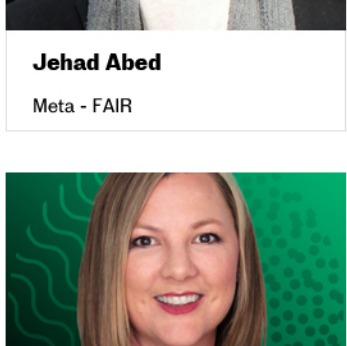
Sid Paquette
RBCX



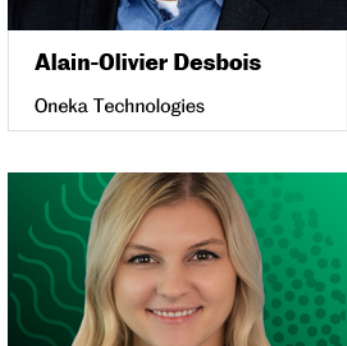
Luke Connell
CarbonRun



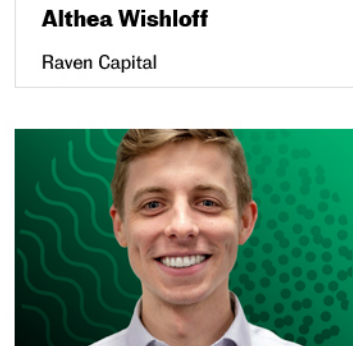
Na'im Merchant
Carbon Removal Canada



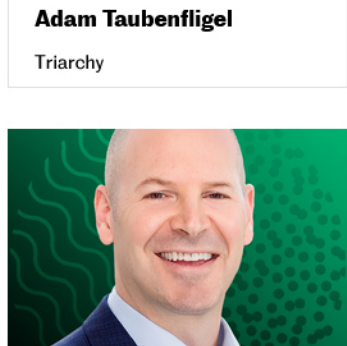
Jessie Ju
Innovative Inc.



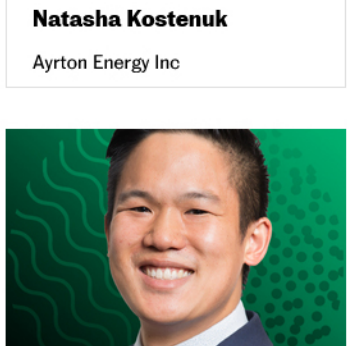
Prashant Jairaj
Whiteboard Foods



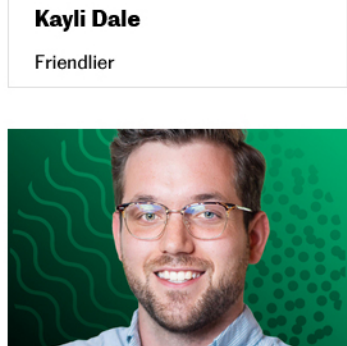
Shirley Speakman
Cycle Capital



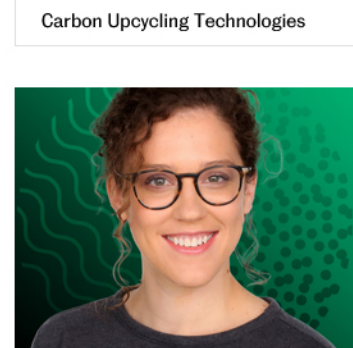
Myra Arshad
ALT TEX



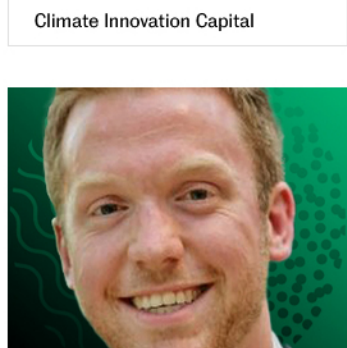
Jehad Abed
Meta - FAIR



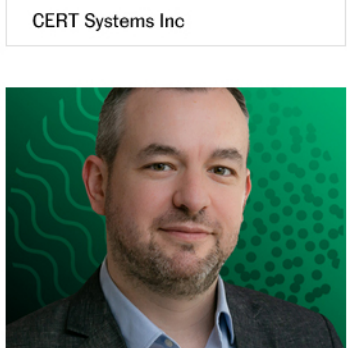
Alain-Olivier Desbois
Oneka Technologies



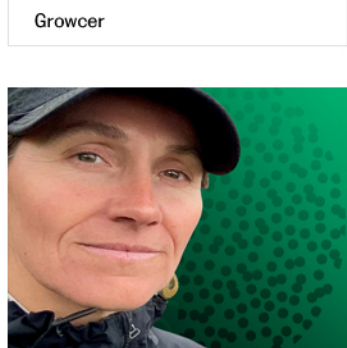
Althea Wishloff
Raven Capital



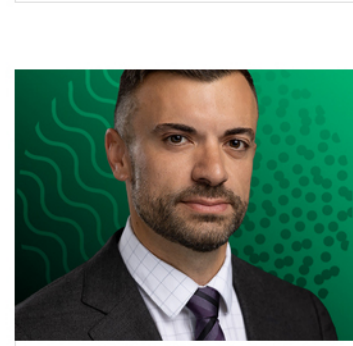
Adam Taubenfligel
Triarchy



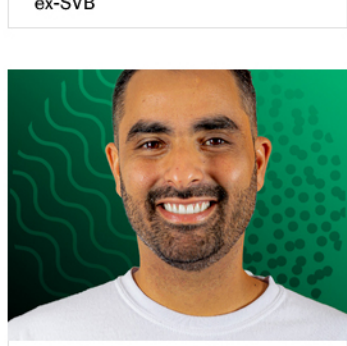
Natasha Kostenuk
Ayrton Energy Inc



Kayli Dale
Friendlier



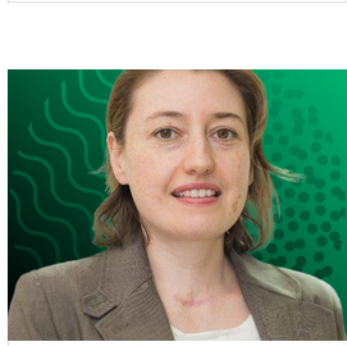
Ryan Bourns
Carbon Upcycling Technologies



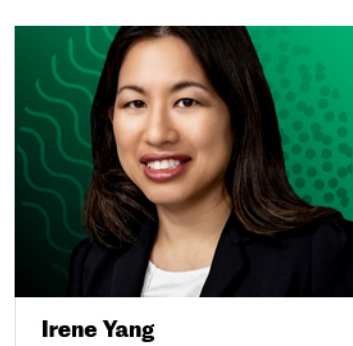
Nelson Switzer
Climate Innovation Capital



Alex Ip
CERT Systems Inc



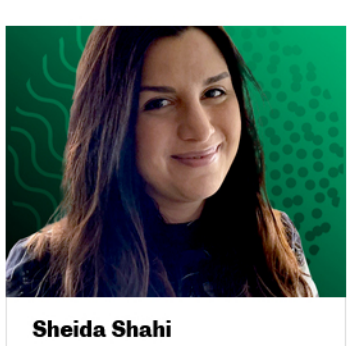
Corey Ellis
Growcer



Kate Allen
Toronto Star



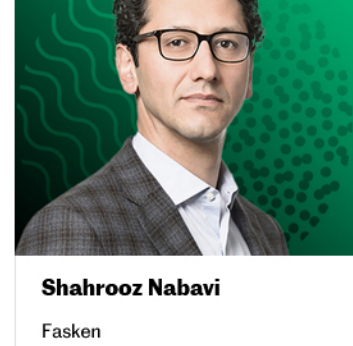
Graeme Millen
Independent Cleantech Advisor, ex-SVB



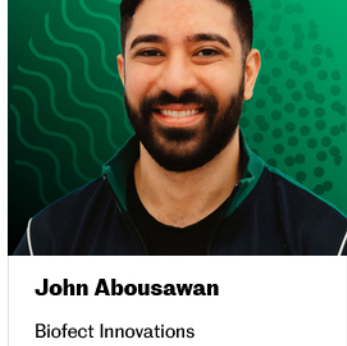
Adam Radwanski
The Globe and Mail



Gwenaelle Chailou
UQAR ISMER



Ryan Zizzo
Mantle Developments



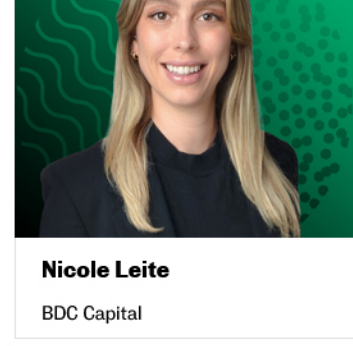
Ramee Mossa
FTEX



Diane Saxe
Toronto



Selin Bastin
CGF Investment Management



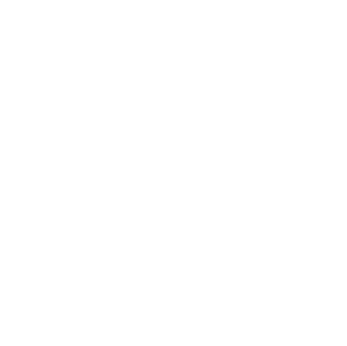
Irene Yang
BASF Venture Capital



Sean Caffrey
University of Toronto



Sheida Shahi
Adaptis



Raylene Mitchell
University of Toronto



Shahrooz Nabavi
Fasken



John Abousawan
Biofect Innovations



Emil Savov
MaRS Investment Accelerator Fund



Arun Eapen
BDC Capital

Nicole Leite
BDC Capital