

## Event Facilitator

Nicole Paquet - The Connected Leader



Nicole has spent her 25-year career working in change management, operational excellence, and people strategy, in some of the world's largest and most respected consulting firms.

She works with leaders, teams, and individuals as a facilitator and strategic advisor in Leadership, Culture, and Systems to help increase alignment, improve performance, and gain clarity of purpose through a meaningful, measurable plan.

Nicole is Prosci Certified, a Certified Change Management Professional, a Facilitator in IAF methods and tools, and an MBA instructor specializing in Leadership and Communications.

## Awards dinner Keynote Speaker:



## Hon. Blaine Higgs

Premier, President of the Executive Council

First elected to the Legislative Assembly on September 27, 2010, he represents the riding of Quispamsis. On October 12, 2010, he was sworn-in as Minister of Finance, Minister responsible for the New Brunswick Liquor Corporation, Minister responsible for the New Brunswick Investment Management Corporation, Minister responsible for the New Brunswick Lotteries and Gaming Corporation, and Chair of the Board of Management. He also served as Minister of Human Resources until October 9, 2012.

Mr. Higgs was re-elected to the Legislative Assembly on September 22, 2014, as MLA for Quispamsis. In 2016 he was elected Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party. On September 24, 2018, was elected for a third term as the MLA for Quispamsis. On November 9th, 2018 he formed the first minority government in 100 years and became the 34th Premier of New Brunswick. On September 14th, 2020, Premier Higgs was elected for a fourth term and formed a majority government, becoming the first Premier since Premier Bernard Lord to secure a second mandate from the people of New Brunswick.



David Campbell

President, Jupia Consultants Inc.

David is the president of Jupia Consultants Inc., an economic development consulting and research firm based in New Brunswick. Previously, he was Chief Economist with the Government of New Brunswick. In that role, he led the development of economic policy, development and people attraction strategy. He has more than 25 years experience as a consultant and working with industry, not-for-profit organizations and governments across Canada. He has strengths in economic impact analysis, people attraction/workforce development, return on taxpayer investment analysis, sector development and investment attraction. David is a columnist with Brunswick News and co-host of the Insights Podcast with Dan Mills.



Michelle Robichaud
President, Atlantica Centre of Energy

President of the Atlantica Centre for Energy where she spends her time fostering partnerships and proactively engaging in energy-related issues in Atlantic Canada.

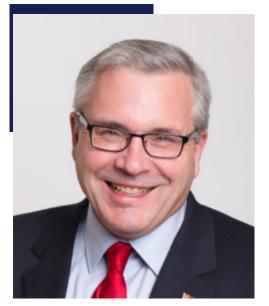


**Kevin Colvey** 

Director - Corporate Development, Saint John Energy

Kevin Colvey provides leadership in growth initiatives, business development, and corporate finance. Kevin has been with Saint John Energy since 2015 and during the past several years has made contributions to Saint John Energy's growth agenda through the development of renewable energy projects, increasing smart energy products business, and developing new business partnerships.

In 2018, Kevin was instrumental in the establishment of Saint John Energy's Smart Energy Project, a multi-year project that provides artificial intelligence alongside smart energy assets into the local electricity grid.



Chris Ballard

CEO, Passive House Canada

Chris Ballard has a history of supporting environmental and land use causes, most recently as the Ontario's Minister of Environment and Climate Change implementing the government's plan for a clean environment and a sustainable economy. He also served as the Minister of Housing and the Minister responsible for Ontario's Poverty Reduction Strategy and a Member of the Treasury Board. Chris' political experience also includes being a municipal councillor in Aurora, Ontario. Chris is a past Executive Director of the 60,000 member Consumers' Association of Canada (Ontario) and a founding board member of the Consumers Council of Canada. His leadership in journalism, communications and public affairs includes terms as President and Board member of the Public Affairs Association of Canada.



Scott Skinner
President & CEO, The Clean Foundation

Scott has been the President and CEO of the Clean Foundation for the past 6 years. Clean works with many partners to support the fair transition to the clean low carbon economy through a number of key impact areas including the reduction of energy poverty, support for undeserved communities, protection of the natural environment, action on climate change mitigation and adaption, and by contributing the clean economy labour force.

Scott has over a decade of experience on topics relevant to the low carbon economy transition including energy efficiency, clean tech, energy policy and high impact program design and delivery. He is also an alumnus of both Saint Mary's and Dalhousie Universities.



**Jeff Hoyt**Climate Change Secretariat, Government of New Brunswick

Jeff is the Executive Director of the New Brunswick Climate Change Secretariat. The Climate Change Secretariat coordinates initiatives promoting the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, adaptation to impacts of climate change, and general education and awareness of climate change in New Brunswick. The Secretariat is responsible for the development of New Brunswick climate change action plans and coordinating their implementation.

Jeff has been with the Secretariat since 2013 and prior to his role as Executive Director, he served the Director of Climate Change Adaptation within the Secretariat. Before joining the government of New Brunswick Jeff worked for the British Columbia Ministry of Environment in the field of natural resource management.



Gilles Vlopé

Vice President & General Manager, Liberty New Brunswick

Vice president and General Manager of Liberty New Brunswick, the province's public natural gas distribution utility. A graduate of the University of New Brunswick, Mr. Vlopé was recently honored as one of the Top 50 CEOs in Atlantic Canada. He has successfully led the natural gas distribution utility through its strongest growth year in 7 years, as well as reducing the total cost of natural gas for its customers by a remarkable 35% since 2014. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Canadian Gas Association, the Conseil Economique du Nouveau-Brunswick, and Vice Chair of the Atlantic Hydrogen Alliance.



**Brad Coady**Executive Director, NB Power

Executive Director of Business Development & Strategic Planning. He oversees the utility's integrated Resource Planning and a variety of Corporate Business Initiatives. His areas of responsibility include Rates Modernization, Corporate Strategic Planning, and Environment Services. Brad joined NB Power's executive team in 2020 and prior to his current role, has held a number of positions in the utility sector including Business Development, Strategic Planning, Plant Engineering, System Operations, Energy Efficiency, and Energy Marketing & Trading. Brad is currently a member of the Board of Directors for the Atlantica Centre for Energy (ACfE). He also participates on a number of industry oversight committees and is a member of APEGNB. Prior to joining NB Power, Brad worked at Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. He has a Bachelor of Engineering (Electrical) and Master of Business Administration degrees from Memorial University



Kaila Johnston

Supervisor of Education, Outreach, and Public Programming, *National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation*.

Kaila Johnston is the Supervisor of Education, Outreach, and Public Programming at the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (NCTR). In this role, Kaila oversees matters related to the support of educators, development of resources, establishment of outreach initiatives, as well as public engagement on residential schools and their legacy. Prior to the NCTR, Kaila worked with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) as a statement gatherer and coordinator to support statement gathering activities. She holds a BA (Hons.) in Criminal Justice from the University of Winnipeg and a M.Sc. in International Crimes and Criminology from Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam.

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Tanya Chapman

President & Senior Consultant, The Chapman Group

Tanya holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Education degree from St. Thomas University. She has a certificate in Human Resource Management and an MBA from the University of New Brunswick. She is a designated Certified Human Resource Professional and has completed the ICD Directors Education Program at the Rotman School of Business. Tanya is committed to leading positive, progressive, and sustainable growth in New Brunswick and across Atlantic Canada. She encourages leaders to think big about their businesses, their teams, their plans and their purpose. As president and CEO of the Chapman Group, she leads by example.



**Hon. Jeff Carr**Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

Jeff Carr was first elected to the Legislative Assembly on September 22, 2014 to represent the riding of New Maryland–Sunbury, and was re-elected on September 24, 2018. On November 9, 2018, he was sworn into Cabinet as Minister of Environment and Local Government. Mr. Carr was re-elected on September 14, 2020 and was appointed as the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure on October 13, 2022. Prior to being elected, Mr. Carr served as an Executive Assistant to his younger brother Jody Carr, Minister and long–time MLA.

He has spent 20 years in the political arena helping his twin brothers Jody and Jack Carr in their election campaigns. Mr. Carr also grew up for 11 years in a military family and understands the sacrifices and value of our servicemen and servicewomen.

Mr. Carr knows that jobs and the economy are the biggest issues facing New Brunswickers and works hard and takes pride in his ability to understand local, "grass roots" issues.



Nancy Boutcher

Owner, TrailHead Consulting

Over 20 years helping organizations create workplaces that promote and protect physical and mental health. Nancy has worked in rehabilitation helping people return to work, in health and safety prevention, helping employers keep people at work, and with leaders learning skills and behaviors required to create cultures where people can be their best. Nancy uses humor and story -telling to create safe spaces for audiences to think, reflect, and share. She has worked as an occupational therapist throughout New Brunswick, held various leadership positions with WorkSafeNB, and is currently Vice President of Strategic Advancement and Culture with Autism Intervention Services and the owner of TrailHead Consulting



Pierre Cléroux

Vice President Research and Chief Economist, Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)

Pierre leads a team of experts who analyze economic data to identify business and sector trends impacting Canadian entrepreneurs and provides economic analysis and advice to the Bank's senior management team, and supervises all marketing and industry research activities.

Over his 25-year career as an economist, he has held several influential positions that had a direct impact on entrepreneurs in Canada and abroad. Before joining BDC, Pierre worked for the Government of Saudi Arabia as Vice President, Business Analysis in the National Industry Clusters Development Program. His role was to create program strategies, define sector policies and conduct financial and economic analyses of industrial projects. Pierre is President of the Financial Services, Capital and Economy Committee of the Fédération des chambres de commerce du Québec (FCCQ).