

**Annual Forum and Gala**  
**April 24, 2018**  
**National Arts Centre, Ottawa, Ontario**

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**PROGRAM**

**Theme: Innovation for Sustainability**

09:30 Continental Breakfast and Registration

10:00 *Welcoming Remarks*

Mohammad Al Zaibak, Chair Canada Arab Business Council  
His Worship, the Mayor of Ottawa, Jim Watson

10:10 H.E. Naif Bandir A. Alsudairy, Chair of the Council of Arab League Ambassadors and Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Canada

10:20 *Investment Opportunities*

Basel Dahleh, Project Manager, Mergers and Acquisitions, Masdar, Mubadala Investment Company

Zineb Midafi, Vice President, Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc

Blair Patacairk, Vice President Global Expansion, Invest Ottawa

Fred Gorrell, ADM, International Affairs Branch, Agriculture Canada

**Moderator:** Tim Casben, Managing Partner, Dubai Office, Gowling WLG

11:10 *Partnerships for Innovation and Sustainability*

Rabah Arezki, Chief Economist for the MENA Region, World Bank

Mark Romoff, President and CEO, Canadian Council for Public Private Partnerships

**Moderator:** Ahab Abdelaziz, Gowling WLG

11:50 Health Care Trends

Moderator: Craig Ceppetelli, Associate Director, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

Dr. Ryan Wiley, President, Shift Health

Andrew Padmos, CEO, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (tbc)

Leslee Thompson, CEO, Accreditation Canada and Health Standards Organization

12:20 Break for Lunch

12:30 Lunch:

Fireside Chat with

The Hon. Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development

**Moderator: Audrey Mascarenhas**

13:15 Break to return to Forum

13:30 Sustainable Energy solutions:

Audrey Mascarenhas, President and CEO Questor Technology, Fellow, Energy Futures Lab

Kerry Adler, President & CEO, SkyPower

Basel Dahleh, Project Manager, Masdar, Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company

**Moderator: Ahab Abdelaziz, Gowling WLG**

14:10 Education and Training for Economic Development

Aziz Bouzlikhane, President ISIAM Universiapolis, Morocco

Christopher Manfredi, Provost, McGill University (TBC)

Sylvain Dubois, Vice President International, Institute on Governance

**Moderator: Damien Dunne, Manager, International Partnerships and Programs, Algonquin College**

14:40 Infrastructure – Net Zero equals Net Gain

Ziak Rizk, Head of Systems Integration, Bombardier Transportation

Andrew Bowerbank, EllisDon, and former CEO World Green Building Council on Net Zero projects and carbon agenda

- 15:10 *Aligning Business Interests and Opportunities in a Competitive World*  
H.E. Marc-André Blanchard, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the UN
- 15:30 *Growing business opportunities for women*  
Bessma Momani, Professor of Political Science at the University of Waterloo and Senior Fellow at the Centre for International Governance and Innovation  
Shamira Jaffer, Founder and President of Signifi Solutions  
Joanna Osawe, Chair and Co founder of Women in Renewable Energy (WiRE)  
**Moderator:** Ailish Campbell, ADM Trade Investment and Innovation, Global Affairs Canada (tbc)
- 16:00 *Networking Break*
- 16:10 *Connecting SMEs internationally*  
Danièle Henkel, President and CEO, Danièle Henkel Inc and Judge in Dans l'oeil du dragon  
Minister of International Development, the Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau (tbc)  
**Moderator:** Mairead Lavery, Senior Vice President, Business Development, EDC (tbc)
- 16 :30 *Inclusive Trade- A Win Win*  
The Hon. François Philippe Champagne, Minister of International Trade
- 17:00 *Concluding Remarks*  
Scott Jolliffe, President, Canada Arab Business Council
- 17:15 *Networking reception*  
Expo 2020 Dubai
- 18:00 *Gala Dinner : A perspective on the MENA – Canada investment landscape*  
The Honourable Jean Charest, former Premier of Québec and Co-Chair of the Canada UAE Business Council