

Key-Note Presenter Bios



Christina Clarke, Executive Director for Songhees Nation

Christina Clarke is the Executive Director for Songhees Nation, where she has been employed for twenty two years. Christina holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Victoria in Canadian History and Anthropology. Christina represents Songhees Nation as a board member of the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority and the South Island Prosperity Project and is a member of the Mayor's Task Force on Social Procurement and Social Enterprise for the City of Victoria. She also serves as a Director for several Nation owned businesses. Christina's proudest achievement is her contribution to the planning and financing of the award winning Songhees Wellness Centre.

Key-Note Topic: *First Nations and Local Government Engagement: Reconciliation through Collaboration*

When First Nations and Local Governments come together, their constituents benefit. From coordinated land use planning, infrastructure projects and economic development strategies to treaty negotiations, local and regional solutions can be advanced by a commitment to constructive engagement. Christina will speak about the evolving relationship between Songhees Nation and the City of Victoria.



Sandra Hamilton, Social Procurement Advisor

Sandra is a renowned Social Procurement Advisor and Canada's First Social MBA. Hamilton has over 20 years' experience as a strategic advisor and business consultant. She is the former Business Manager to Vancouver 2010 Olympics CEO John Furlong and has designed both British Columbia's & Alberta's first Social Procurement Frameworks. As a Canadian industry expert, Hamilton was recently nominated to profile her work at the World Trade Organization (WTO) Symposium on Sustainable Government Procurement in Geneva.

Key-Note Topic: *The importance of People, in a People, Planet, Profit approach to Sustainable Economic Development*

As business becomes more socially responsible and the non-profit sector becomes more enterprising, Hamilton uncovers the power of public sector procurement to stimulate new approaches to sustainable and inclusive economic development.

Presenter Bios



Don Calveley, Founder & Executive Chairman, The Truffles Group

Don Calveley is the proud founder of The Truffles Group, currently serving as Executive Chairman to his growing group of companies. Under his leadership and an unwavering commitment to core values, The Truffles Group has been advancing Vancouver Island's hospitality, tourism and beverage retail industries for over two and a half decades.

Guided by his entrepreneurial spirit and dedication to business excellence, retail innovation and sustainability, the group has evolved to six market-leading brands including Truffles Catering, Canoe Brewpub, Cascadia Liquor Stores, Habitat Catering, Sequoia Coastal Coffee and Victoria Butterfly Gardens.

His integrity and passion continually inspire other industry leaders to be strong corporate citizens, mirroring his belief that businesses should operate under a balanced system that allows for its people, the planet and profit to endure and co-exist. With over 350 staff across Vancouver Island, his roots of innovation and creativity drive his team to continually create lasting and memorable experiences for each and every guest.



Daniela Cubelic, Owner, Founder and CEO of Silk Road Tea

Hailed as "Canada's Queen of Tea" (Globe & Mail), and "Canada's Tea Master" (Vancouver Sun), Daniela Cubelic is the owner, founder and CEO of Victoria's Silk Road Tea. A pioneer and innovator in the tea industry, Daniela opened Silk Road Tea in Victoria's Historic Chinatown in 1992 at the age of 22.

Silk Road is a homegrown success story, and has grown into a multi-faceted company which includes a production facility which manufactures tea, skin and body care products, an award-winning spa, a wholesale division and online sales. Silk Road has become renowned for its high quality organic skin & body care products as well as its tea. The company and its products have a cult-following and are available online in Canada and the US, are served at restaurants and cafes, and are available at hotels and other retailers in North America. Last year, Silk Road opened a 3rd retail location in Vancouver.



Judith Guichon, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

The Honourable Judith Guichon was sworn-in as the 29th Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia on November 2, 2012. Prior to this appointment she owned and operated Gerard Guichon Ranch Limited in the Nicola Valley in the British Columbia Interior. The Guichon family has ranched in the area since 1878 and Her Honour's father-in-law was awarded the Order of Canada in 1974 for his leadership in Cattleman's Associations and his contribution to agriculture in Canada. Two of her four children now manage the ranch with a 700 head cow calf and 700 yearling operation.

Presenter Bios



Dan Gunn, CEO of VIATeC

Dan is CEO of VIATeC, the industry association for Victoria, BC's technology sector and serves as its head cheerleader, therapist and personal party planner. He started out on a contract but he kept showing up and creating results, which turned his seven-month contract into an exciting 14-year journey. Since taking the reins at VIATeC, the organization has doubled its membership and grown its budget seven-fold, which enabled the purchase and development of Fort Tectoria, a 16,000 square-foot building in downtown Victoria that is now home to over 30 emerging tech companies. He is a graduate of Leadership Victoria and the Entrepreneurial Management program at Royal Roads University, has been listed on both the Victoria and Vancouver Top 40 under 40 lists, and was named the BC's Entrepreneurship Ecosystem Builder of the Year (2014) by Startup Canada.



Joaquin Karakas, City of Victoria Senior Urban Planner

Joaquin is the Senior Urban Designer in the City's Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department. Prior to joining the City over a year ago, Joaquin was Principal and Lead Designer at Modus, and prior to that, an associate at HB Lanarc. Joaquin's role at the City is cross disciplinary, working across City Departments on a range of urban design initiatives. These include leading implementation of the Downtown Public Realm Plan, the City-wide Way-finding strategy and Ship Point Master Plan, supporting a number of other public realm and transportation projects including the David Foster Harbour Pathway and design and planning for the AAA Bike Network, and providing urban design support on Neighbourhood Planning.



Linda Reid, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly

The Honourable Linda Reid, MLA for Richmond East, has built her reputation in the BC Legislative Assembly on her professional background in education, management and community service. Linda's first electoral success in 1991 represented a breakthrough for the Liberal Party of BC; and she has been re-elected to represent Richmond East ever since. Linda is the longest-serving MLA in the current parliament, making bold and steadfast efforts to drive positive change for more than 20 years.



Charlayne Thornton-Joe, Victoria City Councillor

Charlayne Thornton-Joe's family have long and deep roots in the Chinese community. She is a past member of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association and Past President of the Victoria Chinatown Lioness Club. Charlayne and her family are featured in the National Film Board's documentary From Harling Point about the Chinese Cemetery in Victoria. This walking tour will give the history of the oldest Chinatown in Canada and its impact on the economic development of Victoria, and will end at Silk Road Tea with a short talk by the owner.