



CANADIAN FORUM for
SOCIAL INNOVATION
FORUM CANADIEN pour
L'INNOVATION SOCIALE




Calgary, AB
1-3.06.2026



**UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY**

socialinnovationforum.ca

1 June

8:00-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:30	<p>Land Acknowledgement</p> <p>Opening Ceremony with Traditional Knowledge Keeper Vera Mary Crowchild Leslie Reid, Interim Dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Calgary Mehrdad Hariri, CEO of the Canadian Science Policy Centre Sandra Lapointe, Director of the Canadian Collaborative for Society, Innovation and Policy Tricia Williams, Director of Research and Knowledge Mobilization at the Future Skills Centre</p>

Session 1				
9:30-10:15	Talent-powered resilient communities			
Catalyst Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ben Weinlick, CEO at Skills Society • Diane Roussin, Director of the Winnipeg Boldness Project • Glen Lowry, CEO at Edufirm • Gwen Joy, CEO (Interim) of Social Innovation Canada • Judy Shum, Vice-President, Community Impact of United Way Centraide Canada • Alberta Johnson, Blueprint/CCNDR 			
10:30- 11:45	Charlene Marion, CEWIL Huzaifa Faisal, Government of Alberta	Cameron Ketchum, United Way Ontario East Maria Mayan, University of Alberta	Gemma Dunn, Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations Megan Conway, Volunteer Canada	Charles Tepperman, University of Calgary Krista Pawley, CEO of Wavemakers

12:00-12:30	Reflection
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12:30-13:30	Lunch
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Session 2				
13:30-14:15	Adaptability, agility and intelligence across all sectors: What does a whole of society talent strategy look like?			
Catalyst Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brandon Meawasige, COO at Indspire • Marwa Abdou, Director of Research at the Canada Chamber of Commerce • Patrick Dubé, Vice-President Innovation Programs and Practices at Sillons • Sara Ibrahim, Executive Director of Policy and Strategic Priorities At Manitoba Innovation and New Technology • Wendy Cukier, Director of Research at the Future Skills Centre • Wesley Oakes, Director of Equity, Social Innovation and GE³LS at Genome Canada 			
14:30-16:00	David Phipps, Research Impact Canada Kathryn Graham, University of Calgary	Geraldine Cahill, UpSocial Ryan Deschamps, Conestoga College	Tom Goldsmith, Orbit Policy Tracy Ravio, University of Alberta	Janice Baskin, Alberta Innovates Sierra Swallow, CDU Alberta
16:15-16:45	Reflection			

17:00	Reception & Keynote. Speaker: Tricia Williams, Director of Research and Knowledge Mobilisation at the Future Skills Centre & Kathryn Graham, Professor of Research Impact and Assessment at the University of Calgary
19:30	Conference Dinner at CharBar

2 June

9:00-9:30	Registration
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Session 3	
9:30-10:15	Talent for inclusive, collaborative and open research
Catalyst Roundtable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amy Buckland, University Librarian at Concordia University • Kelly Cobey, Co-Chair of DORA • Jenny Baechler, Dalhousie • Marie-Christine Therrien, Chair of the North-American Chapter of INGSA • Malinda Smith, Vice-President Research (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) at the University of Calgary • Stéphanie Michaud, CEO of BioCanRx

10:30-11:45	Marie Lagacé, Sillons Justin Solamillo, Government of Alberta	Michael McDonald, CICan Shahad Khalladi, CCSIP	Karen Benzies, University of Calgary Angie Gelinis, the Nonprofit Chamber	Vanessa Paesani, Pond Deshpande Centre at UNB Amelia Kiddle, University of Calgary
12:00-12:30	Reflection			

Session 4	
13:30-14:15 Catalyst Roundtable	<p>The skills of tomorrow's researchers: balancing curiosity and purpose in mission-oriented innovation ecosystems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne-Marie Thompson, Vice-President Research Grants and Scholarships at NSERC • Rahina Zarma, Director of Policy at Mitacs • Robert Luke, CEO at eCampusOntario • Sylvie Lamoureux, COO at SSHRC • Tijs Creuzberg, CEO at Canadian Council of the Academies
14:30-15:45	<p>Key Takeaways and Next Steps</p> <p>Chair: Tricia William, Director of Research and Knowledge Mobilization at Future Skills Centre</p> <p>(Panel will be selected by the plenary, democratically, at the close of the first day, by participants)</p>
16:00-16:30	Reflection



SSIL THE STRATEGIC SCIENCE AND INNOVATION LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE



From Fragmentation to Coherence in Canada's Science and Innovation Ecosystem

June 3, 2026 | University of Calgary

CFSI/SSIL Symposium, 3 June 2026

8:00-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:30	Welcomes Malinda Smith, Vice-President Research (Equity, Diversity and Inclusion) at the University of Calgary Mehrdad Hariri, CEO of the Canadian Science Policy Centre Sandra Lapointe, Director of the Canadian Collaborative for Society, Innovation and Policy
9:30-10:30	The Long-Term View of Science, Research and Innovation Strategy in Canada Chair: Tijs Creuzberg, CEO of the Canadian Council of the Academies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frédéric Bouchard, Dean of Arts and Science at the University of Montreal • Mehrdad Hariri, CEO of the Canadian Science Policy Centre • Kelly Cobey, Co-Chair of DORA • Rob Annan, President & CEO of Genome Canada • Robert Asselin, CEO at U15 • Shahad Khalladi, CCSIP and Orbit Policy
10:30-11:15	Facilitation: Defining the Thematic Framework and Priority Landscape for SSIL (Part I)
11:30-12:30	Working Across Institutions to Maximize the Societal Return of Canada's Science Investment Chair: Gianni Parise, Vice-President Research at McMaster University <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anne-Marie Thompson, Vice-President of Research Grants and Scholarship at NSERC • Coryell Boffy, Vice-President Society and Culture at Axelys • Janet Halliwell, Chair of the Board of the Canadian Science Policy Centre • Mohamad Nasser-Eddine, Vice-President of Programs at the CFI • Sylvie Lamoureux, COO of SSHRC
12:30-13:30	Lunch

13:30-14:30	<p>Skills and Talent for Prosperity in Real Places</p> <p>Chair: Sandra Lapointe, Director of the Canadian Collaborative for Society, Innovation and Policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brandon Meawasige, COO at Indspire • Charlene Marion, Executive Director at CEWIL Canada • Martin Maltais, President of ACFAS • Robert Luke, CEO of eCampusOntario • Stephen Lucas, CEO of Mitacs • Wendy Cukier, Director of the Diversity Institute and co-Founder of the Future Skills Centre
14:30-15:15	Facilitation : Defining the Thematic Framework and Priority Landscape for SSIL (Part II)
15:30-16:30	<p>The Societal Impact of Enhancing Capacity and Infrastructure for Innovation in the Social Sector</p> <p>Chair: Julia Scott, Vice-President Member Services at Universities Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bettina Cenerelli, CEO at the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation • Gwen Joy, CEO of Social Innovation Canada • Dan Clement, CEO of United Way Centraide Canada • Diane Roussin, Director of the Winnipeg Boldness Project • Marie-Christine Therrien, Professor at ÉNAP and Chair of the North-American Chapter of INGSA • Marwa Abdou, Director of Research at the Canada Chamber of Commerce
16:30	Closing Remarks

