IPAC National Leadership Conference & Awards 2018
The Dynamic Leader: Responding to an Uncertain World
Speakers’ Bios

SIRI AGRELL
Director of Strategic Initiatives, Office of the Mayor, City of Toronto

Siri has a distinguished career in politics, strategy and journalism, which include the post of Deputy Director of Communication for the Premier of Ontario and five years as the Urban Affairs Reporter for the Globe and Mail.

She is currently Director of Strategic Initiatives, in the Office of the Mayor for the City of Toronto. Here she led the formation of the city’s first Civic Innovation Office, in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies and the City Manager’s Office and worked on files such as government modernization and innovation, the Waterfront, the King Street Pilot project and federal intergovernmental affairs.

NIK BADMINTON
Futurist

Nikolas is a world-respected futurist speaker, author, teacher, and conference producer. Nikolas has over 20 years of experience in strategic planning, scanning, and forecasting with governments and companies all over the world.

He wows audiences with keynote speeches on: The Future of Work; The Sharing Economy; The Future of Cars; The Future of Cities; The Future of AI integrated with Life and Business; The Future of Education; The World with Virtual, Augmented and Mixed Reality; and Predictions for 2017 to 2030 and beyond.

He regularly appears on the BBC, CBC, CTV, Global News, VICE, and writes for the Techcrunch, Huffington Post, Forbes, Venturebeat, Betakit, TechVibes, Business.com, and other media.

STEVE BENNETT
Global Lead for Government Practice, SAS

Steve Bennett drives strategic industry positioning and messaging in global Government markets. A thought leader in decision science and the application of analytics in government, Bennett works to enable delivery of effective solutions to government customers around the world. Following the events of 9/11, he led the design and application of quantitative analysis to inform some of the United States’ most challenging security decisions, most recently as the Director of the National Biosurveillance Integration Center. Bennett has a passion for improving government decision making, and pursues better organization, management, and understanding of government data since it is critical to that endeavor.
RITU BHASIN
President of bhasin consulting inc.

Ritu Bhasin, LL.B. MBA, President of bhasin consulting inc., is an award-winning speaker, author, and globally recognized expert in diversity and inclusion, women’s advancement, and authentic leadership.

Since 2010, Ritu has delivered leadership training, coaching, and advisory services across sectors, working with top organizations and senior leadership teams around the world to develop inclusive cultures, and advocating for authenticity as a path to inclusion, empowerment, and innovation. Ritu is known for her expertise in cultural competence, unconscious bias, and neuroscience strategies, and has coached hundreds of professionals, leaders, and executives to be more inclusive. She has won numerous awards for her work, including the City of Toronto’s William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations in 2014.

Ritu’s Amazon-bestselling book, The Authenticity Principle: Resist Conformity, Embrace Differences, and Transform How You Live, Work, and Lead, was released in the fall of 2017. In the same year, Ritu also co-authored a ground-breaking research study called Sponsor Effect: Canada, with the Center for Talent Innovation, which examines the experiences that people of colour, Indigenous peoples, and women have with advocacy and sponsorship in the workplace.

Before founding bci, Ritu spent ten years in the legal profession, first as a civil litigator and then as the director of legal talent for a preeminent Canadian law firm.

Ritu, who is also an avid yoga and mindfulness teacher and practitioner, lives in Toronto, Canada, but travels all over the world to eat, swim, hike, dance, and work.

To learn more about Ritu, visit http://www.ritubhasin.com. Follow Ritu on Facebook at facebook.com/authenticityprinciple, and on Twitter and Instagram @ritu_bhasin.

PAUL S. BIEN
Senior Manager and Director of Insights at Deloitte Canada

Paul Bien is a Senior Manager in Monitor Deloitte’s Canadian practice, focused on helping public sector leaders build strategies and develop innovative solutions to some of today’s biggest challenges. Over the course of his career Paul has advised a number of senior government and private sector leaders on important topics ranging from education to health care, and the economy.

For the past 2 years he has developed and lead Deloitte’s premier thought leadership group, the Future of Canada Centre. The Centre creates original research and publishes articles, reports, and periodicals that provide leading insights for businesses, the public sector and NGOs. The Centre utilizes research, and experience from the organization, to advance the conversation on a broad spectrum of topics.

Prior to joining Deloitte Paul worked as a Policy Advisor to an Ontario Minister of Education, primarily focused on managing the $21 billion education budget. Most recently he was the Senior Transformation Program Coordinator in the Ministry of Education, leading consultations on, and developing the government’s vision for education in the next decade.
KIM CAPSTICK  
Executive Director of Engagement and Outreach, Alberta Cannabis Secretariat

Kim Capstick is the Executive Director of Outreach and Engagement for the Alberta Cannabis Secretariat. She has been with the Secretariat since Day One, helping to recruit and establish the team that would take on the unprecedented work of creating a system for legalized cannabis in Alberta. Kim has a lead role in developing the policies and elements of this system, and also leads the engagement process, which saw more than 60,000 people share their views about legalized cannabis -- one of the largest responses in Alberta government history.

Kim’s career with the Alberta government spans two decades, and includes establishing and leading teams through wildfire and flood recovery, leading the development of a comprehensive communications framework on natural resource development and serving as Director of Communications in several ministries, including Alberta Environment. Kim is married with two young children.

ANN CLANCY  
Chief of Staff, Canadian Red Cross

Ann Clancy is Chief of Staff at the Canadian Red Cross. Since joining the Red Cross in 2003, she has held several executive and leadership roles including National Director Human Resources & Volunteer Services, Director National Volunteer Resource Management, International delegate working in the Tsunami affected areas, and the Director Human Resources for Ontario operations. Prior to joining the Society’s staff team, Ann was a Red Cross First Aid Instructor and Disaster Management volunteer.

Before joining the Red Cross, Ann was the Vice President Human Resources (Ontario Division) for The Arthritis Society. Ann has a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration and is a Certified Human Resources Leader.

TRACEY COOK  
Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, City of Toronto

Tracey Cook has been the Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards for the City of Toronto since 2012, following a policing career with the Toronto Police Service and executive roles within the private sector. Over the past 6 years, she has overseen significant policy and regulatory initiatives including new regulatory regimes for street food & food trucks, taxis & Uber, and short-term rentals such as Airbnb. She is leading the City of Toronto response to both the proliferation of illegal storefronts and the impacts arising from the legalization of recreational cannabis. Tracey has represented Toronto globally in discussions about the role and response of government to the evolving "sharing economy". She is a recipient of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, and in 2016 was named Toronto Life's 13th Most Influential Person.
GLENDA FISK
Associate Professor, Employment Relations, Queen’s University

Glenda Fisk, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in Employment Relations at Queen’s University. As an Organizational Psychologist, she studies entitlement in the workplace and the conditions that lead to the experience of employees feeling worthy of rewards they might not objectively deserve. More recently, she has become interested in resilience, and has turned her attention to understanding when and why some individuals are better able than others to survive and thrive in response to difficult, painful, or anxiety-provoking situations. In addition to her research work, Glenda teaches graduate-level classes in Human Resource Management, Organizational Behavior, statistics, and survey methodology.

DAVID FULFORD
Former Assistant Deputy Minister, Government of Ontario

David Fulford worked for the Ontario government for 33 years and for 17 of those years he was an Assistant Deputy Minister. Prior to his retirement from the OPS in 2017, David was the Assistant Deputy Minister of the Employment and Training Division (ETD) with the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

Under David’s leadership, ETD was responsible for Employment Ontario, an investment of more than a billion dollars that helps over one million Ontarians each year, including employers, laid off workers, apprentices, newcomers and youth.

David has spearheaded a number of innovative initiatives. His vision was not only to improve employment services and supports for Ontarians, but also to engage public service employees, to support them, and to inspire them to do their best work.

Understanding that public service must transform for the 21st century, David built a coalition of 13 Ontario Public Service (OPS) partners to launch Employment Ontario Live Chat – the first online chat service in the OPS. Live Chat won the Silver at the 2015 Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) Awards for Innovative Management and The Amethyst Award for digital disruption.

In his previous Assistant Deputy Minister roles, David led a team that won a number of prestigious national and international awards for successfully implementing a government-wide enterprise financial system.

David is the founder and champion of the successful Ontario Public Service Project Management Excellence Initiative. He was an advisor to IPAC on the strategic planning process as part of an international development initiative for the Government of Lithuania. David has also spoken at a number of Conference Board of Canada events on risk management and change management.

STEVE HARDING
Associate Partner, Advanced Analytics, IBM Global Business Services

Steve Harding is the Canadian Leader for Advanced Analytics Services for IBM Canada. He is a recognized expert in Organizational Analytics transformation, Analytics Centre of Excellence design and implementation, Data value and monetization, Complex Analytics delivery, and Analytics solution design. He holds an MBA and is a Chartered Professional Accountant.
DR. MARC HURWITZ & SAMANTHA HURWITZ
FliPskills Consulting

Co-authors of the best-seller Leadership Is Half The Story: A Fresh Look At Followership, Leadership, and Collaboration (University of Toronto, Rotman Press) and co-founders of FliPskills Consulting, an HR thought leader and innovator, and FliP University, an online course startup – FliPing online learning on its head.

Marc is an engaging polymath with a PhD in neuroscience, an MBA, and Masters degrees in math and physics. He teaches entrepreneurship and leadership at the University of Waterloo and is Chief Insight Officer of FliP U.

Sam is Chief Encouragement Officer of FliP U and enjoys helping people have those “aha” and “ahhh” moments. She is a leadership and followership coach, consultant, trainer, speaker, and CPA with many years of corporate, executive and entrepreneurial experience.

EVERT LINDQUIST
Professor, School of Public Administration, University of Victoria

Evert Lindquist is Professor of Public Administration at the University of Victoria and Editor, Canadian Public Administration, the flagship journal of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada. He served as Director of the School of Public Administration (1998-2015), professor at the University of Toronto (1988-1998), the ANZSO-ANU Chair in Public Management Research (2010-11), and the first Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat Visiting Fellow (1992-94). Lindquist has served on IPAC’s Board of Directors, as President of the Victoria Regional Group, chair of IPAC’s Research Committee, and President of the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration. He has published on topics relating to public sector reform, governance and decision-making, central agencies, policy capability, think tanks, consultation, horizontal management, government-non profit relations, budgeting, leadership and competing values, and visualization and policy-making. He co-edited December 2017 special issue in Canadian Public Administration on ‘Understanding Governance in the Digital Era: An Agenda for Public Administration Research in Canada’. Lindquist and Richard Marcy’s ”The competing values framework: Implications for strategic leadership, change and learning in public organizations”, won the 2016 Best Article Award for the International Journal of Public Leadership Vol. 12:2.

SHAUN LONEY
Canadian social entrepreneur

Shaun has co-founded and mentored 11 social enterprises, including BUILD Inc., which won the 2011 Scotia Bank EcoLiving Green Business of the Year, and the 2013 Manitoba Apprenticeship Employer of the Year. Before co-founding BUILD Inc, Shaun was Director of Energy Policy for the Government of Manitoba, and political advisor to Gary Doer’s NDP. Loney is the first prairie Canadian to be awarded an Ashoka Fellowship (2015) and was Ernst and Young’s Entrepreneur of the Year in 2014.

Shaun lives in Winnipeg, with his partner Fiona. Between them they have three teenage boys – Aandeg, Weslee and Owen. Shaun is proud to be part of a strong and visionary social enterprise team that is flourishing across the country. An Army of Problem Solvers: Reconciliation and the Solutions Economy is Shaun’s second book.
VINCE MARSH
National Leader, Leadership Development, Deloitte Canada

Vince is a Director within Deloitte’s Canadian Human Capital team and works with executives, executive teams and boards to improve individual and team effectiveness.

He is widely recognized as one of Deloitte’s most experienced and high-impact leadership development assessors, workshop facilitators and coaches. He has extensive experience working with executives in both the public and private sectors.

Vince has particular expertise in two areas: the ability to leverage Deloitte’s world-class framework and assessment methodology to guide leader development; and a deep working knowledge of the conditions enabling senior teams to operate productively.

JOHN MILLOY
Co-director, Centre for Public Ethics & Assistant Professor, Public Ethics, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary; and former Minister, Ontario Government

From 2003 to 2014, John Milloy served as a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario for the riding of Kitchener Centre. During that period he held a number of Cabinet Portfolios including: Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities; Research and Innovation; Community and Social Services; Government Services and Government House Leader. Prior to that, he worked as the Director of Public Affairs for the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), a Waterloo based Think Tank. He came to CIGI from Parliament Hill, where he worked for several senior Cabinet Ministers, including five years in the office of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien.

Upon retirement from politics, John returned to the academic world and currently serves as the Co-Director of the Centre for Public Ethics and Assistant Professor of Public Ethics at Waterloo Lutheran Seminary, and the inaugural Practitioner in Residence in Wilfrid Laurier’s Political Science Department. He is also a lecturer in the Master of Public Service Program at the University of Waterloo.

John Milloy holds an Honours B.A. from Carleton University, an M.A. from the London School of Economics and a Doctorate in Modern History from the University of Oxford where he was a Commonwealth Scholar.

John sits on several Boards including Mitacs, the Kitchener-Waterloo Community Foundation, Waterloo North Hydro, the Schlegel-UW Research Institute for Aging and is the Government of Ontario representative on the board of MaRs. John is married to physician Sara Pendergast and has two young sons.

PATRICK MORISON
Associate Partner, Public Sector, IBM Global Business Services

Patrick is a leader in the Public Sector East practice for IBM Global Business Services in Canada and is the executive leader responsible for bringing transformation solution and their delivery at the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Patrick brings deep delivery expertise and IBM service offerings to support public sector organizations across Ontario and the Maritimes who are embarking on large transformational initiatives. Patrick has extensive experience in large scale multi stakeholder and complex delivery projects across Public and Commercial industry.
HON. PIERRE PETTIGREW
Executive Advisor (International), Deloitte Canada

From January 1996 to February 2006, the Honourable Pierre Pettigrew led a number of senior departments in the Government of Canada. Among other positions, he has served as the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Minister for International Trade, Minister of Human Resources Development and Minister of International Cooperation. Pierre Pettigrew presently works with Deloitte & Touche, LLP as Executive Advisor, International and he serves as a director of several public companies. Pierre Pettigrew is also the Government of Canada’s Special Envoy for the Canada-European Union Trade Agreement (CETA). Mr. Pettigrew holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Quebec in Trois-Rivieres, a Master’s of Philosophy in International Relations from the University of Oxford and in 2008 he graduated of the Directors Education Program of the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto.

GEMMA PIEMONTESE
Chief People Officer, Toronto Transit Commission

As the Chief People Officer of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC), Gemma oversees all Human Resources, Training and Development, Human Rights and Diversity, Policy Development, Employee Service Centre as well as Investigative Services matters of this large organization. Gemma has dedicated her entire career to public transit, and in particular Human Resources. Since joining the TTC in 1982, Gemma has spent most of her career in the Human Resources Department and has held various positions. She was the first female on the TTC Executive Team and holds directorships with the TTC Sick Benefit Association and TTC Pension Fund Society. Gemma is also affiliated with the International Association of Public Transit, the Ontario Municipal Human Resources Association, is a member of the Governing Body for the Toronto Chief Human Resources Officer Leadership Summit as well as volunteers her time with the Dreams Take Flight national charitable organization. She graduated with a Business Administration Diploma with High Honours from Seneca College and then attained Human Resources and Law Procedures Certificates from Ryerson University in Toronto. With a focus on customer service, people, transformation and culture change, the TTC was recognized as one of Greater Toronto’s Top Employers and named Outstanding Public Transportation System of the year by the American Public Transportation Association.

VINCE PRANJIVAN
Assistant Commissioner, Ontario Region, Canada Revenue Agency

Vince Pranjivan has been the Assistant Commissioner of the Ontario Region since June 2014. Prior to his appointment, from 2008 to 2014, Vince held the position of Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Ontario Region. Vince began his career with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) in 1981 as a payroll auditor in Vancouver. Since that time, Vince has held a broad range of senior management positions at both the national and regional levels including Chief of Special Investigations, Assistant Director of Audit, National Director of Specialized Compliance, Senior Advisor to the Assistant Commissioner and Director of both the Toronto East and Toronto North Tax Services Offices. As the Assistant Commissioner, Vince provides leadership to the largest regional organization in the CRA. He offers operational and strategic leadership to a frontline service organization of over 13,000 employees delivering programs and services in all areas of taxation and benefits. Vince is the National Champion for the CRA Team Leader and Manager community.
Vince is a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA), a Certified General Accountant (CGA), a graduate of the Government of Canada’s highly acclaimed Accelerated Executive Development Program and has a Master of Business Administration degree. Vince has extensive experience in taxation, finance, and executive leadership. As a strong proponent of sustaining a learning organization, Vince has been instrumental in developing individuals within the organization through mentoring and coaching. In addition to his duties as a public servant Vince teaches at the University of Toronto’s Munk School of Global Affairs. He served for three years on the Board of Directors of the Association of Professional Executives of the Public Service of Canada (APEX) a national association fostering excellence in leadership within the public service. He was the Chair of the Finance and Accounting Advisory Committee for Seneca College for six years and is a member of the Audit committee for the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC). Vince is also Chair of the Federal Government Sector for the United Way Campaign Cabinet for Toronto and York Region which is the driving force behind the annual fundraising efforts.

KAREN M. REEDMAN
Senior Principal, Korn Ferry Hay Group

Delivering results for clients
- Karen Reedman is a Senior Principal for Korn Ferry Hay Group, based in the firm’s Ottawa office.
- Karen is a senior advisor to broader public sector employers on a wide range of organization effectiveness strategies. With leadership experience in both the broader public and private sectors, Karen’s value is in her ability to align business strategy solutions and frameworks that balance the needs of stakeholders.
- Karen combines technical depth in pay equity and employment equity with her breadth of expertise in talent management solutions to offer an informed perspective on strategies for advancing women.
- She is an engaging speaker, skilled facilitator and trusted advisor who embraces diversity and sensitively balances conflicting priorities.

Expertise
Karen’s experience is strategic, operational, and financial, including accountability for developing business plans, evaluating systems, and implementing solutions.

Karen draws on expertise and experience from a number of different areas – including reward strategy, pay equity, organization design, talent management, recruitment, and succession planning.

Academic and Professional background
Karen Reedman graduated from Saint Mary’s University with a bachelor of commerce in human resources and marketing. She is also a certified human resources leader, and a certified recruiter with the Canadian Recruiting Guild.

Karen is a past Chair, Nova Scotia Special Olympics.
TOM ROSSER
Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Mr. Tom Rosser joined Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) as the Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Policy in January 2017. He is responsible for leading on major policy issues on behalf of the Department including Cabinet and intergovernmental affairs, development of a national food policy, as well as economic analysis. He is also the Department’s Champion for mental health and wellness.

Before joining AAFC, he was the Senior Assistant Deputy Minister of Strategic Policy at Fisheries and Oceans Canada, responsible for policy development, Cabinet and Parliamentary Affairs, communications, economic analysis and trade.

Prior to that, he was the Assistant Deputy Minister, Canadian Forest Service (CFS), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), where he was responsible for leading the network of federal forest science labs; trade and international affairs; economics and policy development pertaining to forestry and industry innovation.

Earlier in his career, Tom held a number of positions in both the public and private sectors related to economic and public policy analysis in natural resource sectors. This includes assignments at NRCan, Industry Canada and the Forest Products Association of Canada.

A British Chevening Scholar, Tom holds a Master of Science in Environmental and Resource Economics from the University of London as well as Masters and Bachelor’s degrees in Public Administration from Carleton University in Ottawa.

SATSAN (HERB GEORGE)
Senior Associate, Centre for First Nations Governance

Satsan (Herb George) is a Wet’suwet’en Hereditary Chief of the Frog Clan and has been a long-time Speaker for the Wet’suwet’en Nation. Satsan has over 40 years of experience working towards recognition and respect for the inherent right to self-government in the courts, classrooms, and communities.

Early in his career, Satsan was a key figure and strategist in the Delgamuukw and Gisdayway decision which ruled, for the first time, that Aboriginal Title and rights exist in law and are recognized and protected under section 35. Following the decision, Satsan went on to serve two terms as elected regional chief, representing BC at the Assembly of First Nations. He also lent his expertise to build educational programming around Aboriginal and treaty rights and the inherent right to self-government in universities across Canada.

In 2005, Satsan founded and became President of the National Centre for First Nations Governance (NCFNG). In his position as President of NCFNG, and now Senior Associate for the Centre for First Nations Governance (CFNG), Satsan worked to address outstanding questions around, and promote understanding about, the reality of the Indian Act.

Today, Satsan is leading a collaboration between the CFNG, the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) and Carleton University’s School of Public Policy and Administration – Transitional Governance Project. The Project provides strategic direction and directs applied research and analysis to support First Nations governments who are working to master or leave behind Indian Act administration.
MONIQUE SMITH
Ontario’s Representative in Washington

Monique Smith was appointed Ontario’s Representative in Washington in September 2013.

Prior to serving in Washington, Monique led Premier Kathleen Wynne’s transition team and successfully assisted the new Wynne government through its first six months in office at Queen’s Park. She had previously served as Ontario’s Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Government House Leader, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Revenue. During her first four years of elected office she served as Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care.

Before being elected in 2003, Monique served as Executive Director of the Association of Canadian Publishers (ACP) and as Chief of Staff to the Leader of the Official Opposition in the Ontario Legislature, Dalton McGuinty. Monique began her professional career practicing labour and employment law at McCarthy Tétrault, a national law firm, in their Toronto office.

A strong advocate for Ontario’s interests, Monique is the first person to hold the Washington post. She sits on the Premier’s Committee on Ontario-U.S. Economic and Trade Relations and is a Co-Chair of the Ontario-US Engagement Strategy. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge of her province to her work in the U.S. Her office is situated in the Canadian Embassy.

SASHA TREGEBOV
Senior Advisor, Behavioural Insights Team

Sasha is a Senior Advisor at the Behavioural Insights Team (BIT). He leads BIT’s work in Canada and manages BIT’s work with US cities under the What Works Cites initiative. Prior to joining BIT, Sasha was a Manager at Deloitte, where he consulted to public sector organizations across Canada with a focus on strategy, innovation and the application of human-centred design. He began his career as a policy advisor with the Government of Ontario. Sasha holds a Master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration from Ryerson University.

MARY ANN TRIGGS
Assistant Deputy Minister, Service Canada, Ontario Region

Mary Ann Triggs is the Assistant Deputy Minister of Employment and Social Development Canada/Service Canada, Ontario Region. Instrumental in the development of the Service Canada Initiative, Mary Ann has a passion for service delivery and strategic workforce management.

As Vice-Chair of the Ontario Federal Council, Mary Ann is committed to building strong relationships with community leaders, provincial counterparts and stakeholders to further collaborative service delivery.

In 2016, in recognition of her commitment to Public Service, Mary Ann received the Public Service Awards of Excellence, Joan Atkinson Leadership Award and a second award for leadership in the cross-Departmental initiative, Operation Syrian Refugee.

Mary Ann has also received a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for Excellence in Service Delivery (2012), the APEX Career Contribution Award (2010), and a Deputy Ministers’ Award of Merit for Job Bank.

Mary Ann holds a BA in English and History from York University. In her time away from work, Mary Ann enjoys entertaining family and friends and kayaking at “Dun Cuttin”, her cottage on southern Georgian Bay.
TARAN WASSON
Talent Manager, Canada’s Free Agents, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Taran S. Wasson is currently Talent Manager of the Canada’s Free Agents program at the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS), Government of Canada. He most recently worked in Open Government, TBS, and has previously worked with the Privy Council Office, Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), Labour Program and Canada Border Services Agency in a policy capacity. Taran serves as the First Vice-Chair, Institute of Public Administration of Canada – National Capital Region, and has been with the IPAC-NCR Board since 2014. From 2012 to 2014, he was the National Co-Chair of YMAGIN which he led to become the largest departmental employee-led youth network and actively worked with senior management to advance key priorities (e.g., Blueprint 2020 and innovation). He was previously the YMAGIN-Labour Co-Coordinator from 2009 to 2012. He is happy to connect with like-minded professionals on Twitter @TaranWasson, LinkedIn and GCcollab.

JARED WESLEY
Associate Professor, University of Alberta

Jared Wesley is a pracademic – a practicing political scientist and former public servant -- whose career path to the University of Alberta, Department of Political Science has included senior management positions in the Alberta Public Service (APS). While in Alberta’s Executive Council, he gained valuable experience in the development of public policy and intergovernmental strategy. He studies and teaches the politics of bureaucracy and the bureaucracy of politics, with ongoing research projects centering on the legalization of marijuana, intergovernmental councils, and political acumen. He is co-author of a leading textbook, *Inside Canadian Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2016), and a forthcoming *Public Servants’ Guide to Canadian Government* (University of Toronto Press, 2018).

BIANCA WYLIE
Lead, Public Sector Tech Policy, Dgen Network

Bianca is an open government advocate with a dual background in technology and public engagement. She worked for several years in the tech sector in operations, infrastructure, corporate training, and product management, most recently at Thomson Reuters. As a facilitator at Swerhun Inc., she designed, delivered and supported public consultation processes for various governments and government agencies.

In 2014, Bianca founded the Open Data Institute Toronto and in 2018 co-founded Tech Reset Canada. She is a columnist, guest lecturer, and speaker on open government and public sector technology policy.
BEV YEE  
Deputy Minister, Alberta Agriculture and Forestry

Bev Yee was appointed as Deputy Minister of Alberta Agriculture and Forestry (AF) on October 23, 2015. In this role, Bev is responsible for leading the department of Agriculture and Forestry in support of the Minister in promoting strong, competitive and sustainable agriculture, food and forestry industries.

AF’s mission is to provide the framework and services necessary for Alberta’s agriculture, food and forestry sectors to maintain, build and expand domestic and international markets for our agriculture, Agrifood and forestry products and services through a partnership approach with industry, strategic partners and key stakeholders. Among other things, this includes: promoting appropriate safe food production and processing practices throughout the supply chain; enabling the industry to innovate, create and capture value, and build competitive capacity by meeting consumer and public expectations around the environment; facilitating collaboration to enable resilient rural communities; and managing and protecting Alberta’s forest resources through effective and efficient wildfire management, sustainable forest management, and maintenance of the health of our forests.

Bev has been with the Government of Alberta for more than twenty years and served with Municipal Affairs before her appointment as Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry in 2015. Much of her time with the GoA has been dedicated to the Environment portfolio where she was Assistant Deputy Minister of Integrated Resource Management Planning, as well as Alberta’s Stewardship Commissioner. Prior to joining the GoA, Bev was a high school physics and biology teacher.