

17th Annual

Ontario Construction Secretariat

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY & OUTLOOK CONFERENCE 2017

MARCH 9, 2017

METRO TORONTO CONVENTION CENTRE

7:30 am – 2:00 pm

FOCUS:

**Building the
Infrastructure Projects
that will Transform
Ontario's Economy**



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AGENDA & SPEAKER BIOS INSIDE

17th Annual
Ontario Construction Secretariat

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY & OUTLOOK CONFERENCE 2017

THURSDAY, MARCH 9, 2017 / 7:30 AM - 2:00 PM
Metro Toronto Convention Centre North Building, Room 205/206

AGENDA

7:30 am Networking Breakfast

8:30 am Opening Welcome

Joe Keyes President, OCS Board of Directors

8:45 am Greetings from the Provincial Government

Hon. Kevin Flynn Minister of Labour

9:00 am Ontario's Economy – What to Expect in 2017

Dawn Desjardins Vice President & Deputy Chief Economist, RBC

10:00 am Ontario's Construction Industry

Katherine Jacobs Director of Research, Ontario Construction Secretariat

10:30 am Networking Break

11:00 am Dialogue with Infrastructure Ontario

Ehren Cory President & Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Ontario

Sean Strickland Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Construction Secretariat

11:20 am Building the Infrastructure Projects that will Transform Ontario's Economy

Janet Ecker President & Chief Executive Officer, Toronto Financial Services Alliance (*Moderator*)

Chris Giannekos Associate Deputy Minister, Ministry of Infrastructure

Jeff Lehman Mayor, City of Barrie and Past-Chair, Ontario's Big City Mayors' Caucus

Jeff Moore Assistant Deputy Minister, Infrastructure Canada

Lou Serafini Jr. President and Chief Executive Officer, Fengage Capital Management Ltd.

12:15 pm Closing Remarks

Sean W. Strickland Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Construction Secretariat

12:30 pm Lunch and "The Generals"

Challenges and Opportunities in Ontario's Construction Industry

John Beck President & Chief Executive Officer, Aecon Group

Chris Gower Chief Operating Officer, Buildings, PCL Construction

Sean W. Strickland Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Construction Secretariat (*Moderator*)



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FEATURED SPEAKERS

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Dawn Desjardins

Vice President & Deputy Chief
Economist, RBC

Dawn Desjardins joined the RBC Economics team in January 2006. She is a key contributor to the macroeconomic forecasts for Canada and the U.S. and is part of a team that is responsible for the interest rate forecasts. Dawn delivers economic analysis to RBC's clients through a variety of publications and presentations. She is often interviewed by media from across North America to discuss developments in the economy and financial markets. Prior to joining RBC, Dawn worked as a reporter for Bloomberg Financial News and was the Canadian bond market strategist for a major U.S. bank. She is a graduate of the University of Toronto.



Katherine Jacobs

Director of Research,
Ontario Construction Secretariat

As the Director of Research, Katherine Jacobs works to enhance the competitive position of Ontario's unionized construction industry through research, collaboration and knowledge-sharing. An objective advocate for unionized construction, Katherine has led research on: apprenticeship completions, the union safety effect, collective bargaining trends, impact of the underground economy, construction market trends, competitive pressures and labour market conditions. Katherine has a Masters of Environmental Studies from York University and an honours degree in Economics from Queen's University.



Sean W. Strickland

Chief Executive Officer
Ontario Construction Secretariat

As the Chief Executive Officer of the OCS, Sean liaises with trade unions, contractors, government stakeholders and buyers of construction services to enhance relationships and to improve the competitive position of Ontario's unionized ICI construction industry. Prior to the OCS, Sean was the Business Manager of the Waterloo, Wellington, Dufferin, Grey Building and Construction Trades Council. A strong advocate and communicator, Sean also represents the City of Waterloo as an elected regional councillor. Sean has a degree in Political Science, from the University of Waterloo and has attended the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.



Ehren Cory

President & Chief Executive Officer
Infrastructure Ontario

Ehren Cory became President and CEO of Infrastructure Ontario in February 2017. He joined the organization in 2012, as Executive Vice-President of Transaction Structuring. In 2015, Ehren became the President of IO's Project Delivery Division where he and his team led the tendering and construction oversight for all major capital projects undertaken by the Province, ensuring on-time and on-budget delivery. Prior to joining IO, Ehren was a partner at McKinsey & Company leading the Public Sector and Capital Projects groups. Ehren holds an MBA from INSEAD and an Honours degree in Business Administration from Western University.



Janet Ecker

President and Chief Executive Officer,
Toronto Financial Services Alliance

Janet L. Ecker is President and CEO of the Toronto Financial Services Alliance, a growing public-private partnership dedicated to building Toronto as an international financial services centre. Ms. Ecker was formerly the Minister of Finance for Ontario and was the first woman to actually deliver a budget in the province. During her political career, Ms. Ecker also delivered significant public policy reforms as Minister of Education, Minister of Community and Social Services and Government House Leader. In 2016, Ms. Ecker was honoured to receive an Order of Canada.



Chris Giannikos

Infrastructure Policy and Planning,
Ministry of Infrastructure

Chris Giannikos leads the development and oversight of Ontario's infrastructure plan and its associated \$160 billion infrastructure investments. Chris joined the Ministry of Infrastructure after holding progressively senior positions in the Cabinet Office. He has over 25 years of experience in the Ontario Public Service and has served in six ministries to date. Much of his career experience has focused on business planning, cabinet decision-making processes, trade, municipal finance policy and federal-provincial relations. Chris holds an MBA and MA in economics from Dalhousie University.



Jeff Lehman

Mayor, City of Barrie and Past-Chair,
Ontario's Big City Mayors' Caucus

Jeff Lehman is the 46th Mayor of the City of Barrie and the Past-Chair of Ontario's Big City Mayors' Caucus. As the head of Council, Mayor Lehman is leading Barrie through a period of rapid change. In 2015, Barrie was named the safest big city in the country and most recently was named Canada's 3rd most entrepreneurial city. Mayor Lehman holds a B.A. from Queen's University and a Master's Degree from the London School of Economics. Mayor Lehman is a passionate believer in transforming urban economies through public and private entrepreneurship.



Jeff Moore

Assistant Deputy Minister,
Infrastructure Canada

Jeff Moore is the Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy and Communications at Infrastructure Canada. His accomplished career in the federal government has spanned over 20 years and several departments including the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario, Health Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Industry Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada. Jeff attended the University of Ottawa, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, a Bachelor's degree in Physiology and a Master's degree in Physiology.



Lou Serafini

President and Chief Executive Officer,
Fengate Capital Management Ltd.

Lou Serafini Jr. joined the Fengate group of companies in 1995 and has served as President since 2002. Lou has led the transformation of the company from a real estate business to an investment management firm. He oversees Fengate's strategic direction and investor relations program, and is responsible for the executive management of the company's operations. In 2005, Lou formed Fengate Capital Management Ltd. With the launch of Fengate's first infrastructure fund in 2006, he has successfully led the growth of Fengate from a niche asset manager to one of Canada's leading alternative asset management firms.



John Beck

President and CEO,
Aecon Group

John M. Beck is founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of Aecon Group. A graduate in Civil Engineering from McGill University, Mr. Beck has vast experience in the construction industry in Canada and internationally. His background includes corporate leadership in numerous construction activities including heavy civil projects and public-private partnerships. He is currently a member of the Board of Directors of PPP Canada. Mr. Beck is a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Engineering and was named P3 Champion of the Year by the Canadian Council of Public Private Partnerships in 2013.



Chris Gower

Chief Operating Officer, Buildings
PCL Construction

As Chief Operating Officer for PCL's Buildings Group, Chris Gower is responsible for the performance of the Buildings operations across North America. Chris is also a member of PCL's Office of the CEO. Having invested twenty-five years in the North American construction industry, Chris has extensive practical construction experience both in the field and in a senior management capacity. Chris was awarded PCL's Robert Stollery Construction Leadership Award, in recognition of his exemplary leadership qualities and contribution to the growth of the PCL family of companies.

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