

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS & MODERATORS



Emile Di Sanza FCILT, Director, CILTNA

Emile Di Sanza worked in the transportation field for nearly 30 years, holding various positions at Transport Canada, the National Transportation Agency and the Transportation Division of Statistics Canada. He retired from the Canadian public service in 2008.

As Director General, Marine Policy at Transport Canada (2002-2008), he was responsible for the development of economic policies and governance structures related to marine services, port authorities and the Seaway. In 2000-2001, he served as Executive Director for the Canada Transportation Act Review. Prior to that he was Director, Motor Carrier Policy, Transport Canada. Elected in 2008 to the Audit Body of the International Oil Pollution Compensation Funds, he served as chairman from 2011-2014. He joined the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in 2012 and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Ottawa Chapter.

He holds degrees from McGill University and McMaster University.



Arun Thangaraj, Deputy Minister of Transport

Arun Thangaraj was appointed Deputy Minister of Transport on February 20, 2023.

Before joining Transport Canada, Arun was the Associate Deputy Minister at Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, following two years as the Associate Deputy Minister at Transport Canada.

Before these roles, he was Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Financial Officer at Global Affairs Canada and was the Deputy Chief Financial Officer at the former Canadian International Development Agency. He also brings experience and knowledge on transportation issues, from his time at the Canadian Transportation Agency from 2002 to 2011.

Arun received the Queen Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013 for his contribution to the federal public service and to his community. He has served on various governance boards and is a sessional lecturer in the School of Public Administration at Carleton University.

Arun is a Chartered Professional Accountant and holds a Master of Arts in Public Administration from Carleton University, a Master of Business Administration from the University of Ottawa, and an Honours BA in Political Science from the University of Toronto.



Michael Keenan, Former Deputy Minister, Transport Canada

Michael Keenan served as a Deputy Minister in the Government of Canada for ten years, until he retired in January 2023 after a career spanning 35 years and seven departments.

Michael served as the Deputy Minister of Transport and, before that, the Associate Deputy Minister at Natural Resources Canada. He worked at Environment and Climate Change Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Canada School of Public Service, the Privy Council Office and Finance Canada.

Michael has extensive experience in organizational leadership, digital transformation, regulatory modernization, Indigenous engagement, emergency management, international relations, and policy development in multiple disciplines, including economic, social, environment, safety and security.

He holds a Bachelor's degree from Saint Francis Xavier University and a Master's degree in Economics from Queen's University.



Matthew Stewart, Director, Economic Advisory, Deloitte

Matthew Stewart is a director in the Economics and Financial Advisory group at Deloitte Canada. He has almost 20 years of experience in economic forecasting, economic consulting, and international development.

Prior to joining Deloitte, Matthew was the director of the economics department at the Conference Board of Canada. He was responsible for all economic forecast publications, primarily overseeing the creation of economic analysis including industry forecasts and serving as the main media spokesperson.

Matthew has an MA in economics from McMaster University and a BA (Honours) in economics from the University of Western Ontario.



Dr. Meredith Lilly, Professor and Simon Reisman Chair in International Economic Policy, Carleton University

Meredith Lilly is a full Professor and Simon Reisman Chair in International Economic Policy at Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs. Her research focuses on North American trade relations, Canada's trade diversification strategy, economic sanctions, and the use of research evidence in policy making. Before her appointment to Carleton in 2016, she served as Foreign Affairs and International Trade Advisor to Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper. She has also worked at the University of British Columbia Okanagan, and several federal government departments. She is a member of CD Howe Institute's International Economic Policy Council, an Advisory Board member for the Canadian Global Affairs Institute, and serves as the Academic Partner for Canada's delegation to the North American Forum. She engages regularly with foreign governments and diplomats, and is a frequent media commentator on North American trade issues.

Expertise:

Canada-US relations; international trade policy; free trade negotiations; labour economics; economic sanctions



Shauna McMillan, CMILT, P. Eng., former CN executive and Member, Supply Chain Task Force

Ms. McMillan is a seasoned supply chain professional and passionate business executive. Most recently, she worked for Canadian National Railway (CN) for over 8 years, holding the position of Assistant Vice President, Sales & Industrial Products, and leading a team of sales professionals supporting forest products, metal, mineral and frac sand products to North American customers. Leveraging her experience not only from CN but also as a customer, she has developed, implemented and monitored strategic sales plans and direct sales activities, which has generated increased value for rail services and market share gains. Immediately prior, Ms. McMillan was appointed Chief of Staff to the President & CEO, serving a key strategic advisor role which required working closely with internal and external stakeholders to facilitate and track execution of key deliverables, including; safety, diversity, engagement, and customer centricity. Prior to that, she was the Director of Marketing (both for Intermodal and Automotive) for over four years.

During her time at CN, Ms. McMillan was also active in the community being elected to a director role on the Brampton Board of Trade where she served until late 2021.

Before joining CN, Ms. McMillan worked for Canadian Tire Corporation for 14 years where she honed her supply chain skills through a number of roles, from distribution and capacity planning to International Transportation Manager in which she oversaw procurement and operations for the global inbound product supply to the Canadian distribution network.

Ms. McMillan holds a P.Eng. (Ontario) and a Master of Science, Transport Management and Supply Chain from the University of Denver. She is a certified Supply Chain Professional and certified in Production and Inventory Management from the Association for Supply Chain Management.



Donald Roussel, former Associate ADM, TC and Founding Member, Intelligent Maritime Corridors International Council

As Senior Advisor, Mr. Roussel support stakeholders in the domains of, International Maritime rules and policies developments, Pilotage, Autonomous mode of transportation, Legislative & Regulatory Reform's.
Mr. Donald Roussel was appointed Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Safety & Security, Transport Canada, in 2014. In January 2018, he was assigned as Senior Advisor to the Assistant Deputy Minister for Safety & Security, and reports to the Deputy Minister of Transport Canada.

As Associate Assistant Deputy Minister, Mr. Roussel was responsible for overseeing key aspects of Transport Canada's safety and security programs across the country, namely aviation, marine, rail, road, dangerous goods, and multi-modal transportation. Mr. Roussel was the Canadian representative at numerous national and international venues.

From 2008 to 2012, Mr. Roussel served as Director General, Marine Safety and from 2012 to 2014 as Director General Marine Safety and Security.

He holds a Master's degree in Maritime Resources Management and a Bachelor's degree in Marine Transportation, as well as professional certifications as Marine Engineer First-Class. Mr. Roussel is also a fully certify Charter Director of Corporation C.Dir and ASC. He is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Logistics and Transport (CMILT).



Andrew Margolis, Chief Operations Officer, Vancouver Airport Authority

Andy Margolis has been Vice President Airport Capacity and System Design since December 2020 after serving as a director in the Operations and Maintenance department at YVR for two years. As Vice President, Airport Capacity and System Design, Andy is responsible for strategic leadership of his department including capacity planning, airside and baggage operations. Andy began his career in aviation at Heathrow Airport where he held several management positions culminating in a Head of Operations, Service Delivery, and Resilience role. He was responsible for transitioning operations to new baggage systems and developing new approaches to better manage the overall baggage system. After five years at Heathrow, Andy left to pursue a position as Service Development Director at Aviation Business Continuity. Finally, in 2019 Andy transitioned his life from London to Vancouver and began working at Vancouver Airport Authority.



Robert (Bob) Armstrong, FCILT, CITP

Bob Armstrong is president of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in North America and president of his own consulting firm Armstrong Trade & Logistics Advisory Services Inc. Bob has over 45 years of experience in the fields of global supply chain management, international trade, cross border logistics and customs regulations and procedures.

Bob has extensive involvement in the marine industry on the St. Lawrence Seaway-Great Lakes marine highway and served 8 years on the Board of Directors of the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation.

Bob also served as Chair and Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce.

In March 2022, Bob was appointed to the Minister of Transport's Supply Chain Task Force



James Clements, Executive Vice-President Strategic Planning & Corporate Services, CPKC

As Executive Vice-President Strategic Planning & Corporate Services at CPKC, James Clements leads the company's strategic government relations and communications functions as well as leadership of CPKC's ongoing multi-year integration and change management efforts.

In his role, Mr. Clements also is responsible for overseeing the operation of CPKC's heritage fleet, and leads the industrial development, facilities and real estate portfolios.

Mr. Clements had more than 20 years of experience at Canadian Pacific (CP), including extensive understanding of CP's customers, processes and systems and leadership of CP-KCS integration planning. Throughout his career, he has held a wide range of leadership roles, including within car management, finance, logistics, grain marketing and sales in Canada and the U.S., as well as marketing and sales responsibilities for various other lines of business.



Robert Sacco, GTA Trade & Customs Leader, KPMG

Bob is the Greater Toronto Area Trade and Customs Leader at KPMG LLP. He has over 35 years of public practice experience having launched and led a specialized Customs & Trade group in another big four firm prior to joining KPMG.

Bob has worked on behalf of government departments, protecting the interests of Canadians and has led large multinational consulting activities to help companies effectively navigate these territories to realize savings through imports and exports.