

Agenda

8:00 am	Registration & Networking
9:00 am	Opening Ceremony, Brandon Doxtator, Oneida Nation of the Thames
9:15 am	<p>PLENARY: New Collaborations to Restore Nature and Build Climate Resilience</p> <p><i>The dual crises of global biodiversity loss and climate change challenge us to implement pragmatic collaborative solutions quickly. In southern Ontario, we need shared approaches now that will restore native habitat for one-third of Canada's species at risk and ensure that communities are on track to be climate resilient by 2030. Panelists bring deep sectoral experience in urban and rural community settings, corporate, academic, financial, and environmental conservation with a focus on practical solutions.</i></p> <p>Megan Leslie, President and Chief Executive Officer, WWF-Canada</p> <p>Dr. Timothy Beatley, Founder and Executive Director, Biophilic Cities, Teresa Heinz Professor of Sustainable Communities, University of Virginia</p> <p>Alain Brandon, Vice-President, Government Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility, Loblaw Companies Limited</p> <p>Michelle Kanter, Executive Director, Carolinian Canada</p> <p>Mira Chouinard, Senior Project Manager, Mennonite Economic Development Associates</p> <p>James Snider, Vice President, Science, Research & Innovation, WWF-Canada</p>
10:30 am	Break (including displays & exhibitors)
10:45 am	<p>CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Inspiring Sector-Based Strategies</p> <p><u>Corporate Stream: Challenges and Opportunities to Support Nature-Based Climate Solutions</u></p> <p><i>Some companies are leading approaches to restore healthy landscapes and foster a strong green economy in southern Ontario. The co-benefits of restoring natural habitat will be highlighted through tangible examples. Solutions within the business context must address regulatory and policy consistency, risk management, employee engagement and the need for resilient social-ecological and financial systems. Explore strategies to accelerate change with experts in the native plant, landscape design, property management and financial sectors.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Pete Ewins, Species Lead Specialist, WWF-Canada</p> <p>Allan Arthur, President, St. Williams Nursery and Ecology Centre</p> <p>David McGown, Executive Director, Canadian Business Coalition for Climate Policy</p> <p>Jonas Spring, Owner, Ecoman Inc.</p> <p>Jeremy Wright, ZinCo Canada, Green Roof Systems</p>

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10:45 am	<p><u>Municipal & Community Stream: Connecting People to Actions that Restore Nature in their Communities</u></p> <p><i>Nature can thrive within urban environments and support high levels of biodiversity. Actions that municipalities take to restore nature can be amplified through community engagement. Let's build on examples of municipalities that are delivering successful programs and community initiatives that have high citizen engagement. Dive into how we can align efforts and measure success towards increasing native habitat for biodiversity, maximizing carbon drawdown through nature-based climate solutions, and motivating citizen action.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Jarmila Becka Lee, Specialist, WWF-Canada Centre for Urban Environments, University of Toronto Mississauga Clement Kent, Project Swallowtail Khrysta Lyn, Natural Environment Analyst, City of Richmond Hill David Mayberry, Mayor, Township of Southwest Oxford Sarah Winterton, Director, Nature-Connected Communities, WWF-Canada</p> <p><u>Conservation Finance Stream: The Ecosystem of Conservation Finance</u></p> <p><i>The UN has identified conservation finance as a critical tool to accelerate ecosystem restoration. What are the opportunities, challenges and models that can guide this approach? Hear firsthand from a range of major stakeholders in this field.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Daniel Fuentes, Senior Manager, Business Development, MEDA Paul Kariya, Senior Policy Advisor, Coastal First Nations Great Bear Initiative Paige Olmsted, Senior Research Associate, Smart Prosperity Institute André Vashist, Director, Social Innovation, Pillar Non-Profit Network Rob Wilson, Director, Conservation Finance, Nature Conservancy of Canada</p>
12:15 pm	Lunch (including displays & exhibitors)
1:00 pm	<p>PLENARY: Creating the Right Conditions for Accelerating Nature Restoration</p> <p><i>What will it take to accelerate municipal programs to restore nature and build climate resilient communities? What do we need to coalesce community groups and citizens around action for change? What are the major factors in the corporate and social finance sectors that will propel shifts to limit climate change and ramp up nature protection? We will tackle these questions and dig into practical strategies that will define our work together for the next decade.</i></p> <p>Lorraine Johnson, Author, <i>The New Ontario Naturalized Garden</i> Kelly Riley, Treaty Research Coordinator, Chippewas of the Thames First Nation Jennifer Court, Executive Director, Green Infrastructure Ontario</p>

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Restoring Our Future by 2030

1:45 pm	<p>CONCURRENT SESSIONS: Deep Dive on Action to Reach 2030 Global Goals</p> <p><u>Corporate Stream: Shared New Approaches</u> <i>Wondering how to get started on nature restoration in your business setting? Learn from detailed, practical examples how to design and implement corporate approaches to native plant procurement, landscaping, property management and climate resilient practices.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Pete Ewins, Species Lead Specialist, WWF-Canada Mike Farrell, Hydro One Deborah Kenley, Credit Valley Conservation Plus Morning Session Speakers</p> <p><u>Municipal & Community Stream: Collaboration within Communities</u> <i>Municipal and community settings are inherently both complex and resource-rich systems for activating change. Building on the morning's content, this session will delve into individual aspects of community-level natural habitat restoration and help you to accelerate your action.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Jarmila Becka Lee, Specialist, WWF-Canada plus Morning Session Speakers</p> <p><u>Deshkan Ziiibi Conservation Impact Bond and Beyond: Co-Developing Conservation Finance Mechanisms for the Carolinian Zone</u> <i>Explore how conservation finance can be used at a community level for sustainable conservation in southern Ontario. Discuss potential local opportunities with leaders in the prototype Deshkan Ziiibi Conservation Impact Bond through a series of roundtables.</i></p> <p>Moderator: André Vashist, Director, Social Innovation, Pillar Non-Profit Network Lina Bowden, Founder, Verge Capital Brandon Doxtator, Indigenous Leadership Coordinator, Carolinian Canada Daniel Fuentes, Senior Manager, Business Development, MEDA Michelle Kanter, Executive Director, Carolinian Canada Daria Koscinski, Conservation Property Manager, Thames Talbot Land Trust Kelly Riley, Treaty Research Coordinator, Chippewas of the Thames</p> <p><u>Growing Canada's Biggest Wildlife Garden Through the In the Zone Program</u> <i>Are you a community ENGO, municipality, or corporate leader looking for new ways to naturalize your property or engage your staff/community members in habitat restoration? Learn about the In the Zone Program and the many ways it can help you meet your goals.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Koral Wysocki, Program Manager, Carolinian Canada Ryan Godfrey, WWF-Canada</p>
3:30 pm	Break (including displays & exhibitors)
3:45 pm	PLENARY: Collective Acceleration: Moving Forward Together
4:15 pm	PLENARY: 2030: Mobilizing First Year Commitments to Restoring Our Future
4:45 pm	Closing Ceremony, Brandon Doxtator, Oneida Nation of the Thames
5:00 pm	Reception

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