



2024 Symposium Biographies



Ontario Regional Chief Abram Benedict

Abram Benedict is currently the Grand Chief for the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne. In the position of Grand Chief, Abram leads a dynamic Council of 12 members that govern the Mohawk Community of Akwesasne. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne is an advanced First Nation community that delivers a wide variety of services to its members. Akwesasne is uniquely located on the international boundaries of Canada, the United States and the provincial borders of Ontario and Quebec. As an advanced community government, one of the Council priorities is to improve the services offered to its members. By embracing change through the utilization of modern approaches and enhanced governance structures, the Mohawk Council has set out to modernize the organization through embracing its senior-level management down to its front-line staff to effect positive change.




Abram has spent the last 13 years in community leadership, more recently, in the position of Grand Chief for Akwesasne. The Mohawk Council of Akwesasne has recently undertaken initiatives to redefine its service delivery methods using design thinking and performance measurement outcomes. Under Abram's leadership as the Grand Chief, he has lead negotiations with federal government partners to obtain financial support for the organization to support the preparation and the implementation of change initiatives. The change initiatives included the review of governance structures and system reviews, and analysis of a workforce of 800 employees predominantly made of Mohawks of Akwesasne. Abram and his council recognize that the workforce is the catalyst for implementing change, and organizational improvements would only not only benefit the organization but the community of Akwesasne as well. As the Grand Chief of Akwesasne, Abram has built a

	<p>healthy relationship with federal and provincial government partners that support Akwesasne and support the community's initiatives for change.</p>
	<p>Grand Council Chief Linda Debassige, Anishinabek Nation</p> <p>Born and raised in M'Chigeeng First Nation, Linda Debassige is a devoted mother to two children and grandmother to one. Linda graduated with honours from Civil Engineering Technology in at Confederation College in Thunder Bay , and holds a Certificate in Negotiations from Osgoode Hall Law School.</p> <p>First elected to M'Chigeeng First Nation Council in 2013, Debassige was Chief from 2015-2023. During her tenure within the governance of M'Chigeeng, she participated in numerous portfolios, committees, and boards locally, regionally, and nationally, across many sectors including but not limited to treaty, infrastructure, water, housing, environment, policing, mental health and addictions, community safety, economic development, education, health, emergency management, and community development. She is currently serving as the Grand Council Chief of the Anishinabek Nation following a Traditional Stand-Up Election in June 2024.</p> <p>Linda is known for her strong leadership style, knowledge, dedication, and passion for all First Nations people and is often called upon for advice and advocacy for Indigenous communities, organizations, and leadership.</p> <p>Notably, Linda was the first Indigenous Trustee to hold the position of Vice Chair of the largest school board in Northern Ontario, the Rainbow District School Board. She also serves as a co-lead for the Assembly of First Nations on the co-development of the First Nation Safe Drinking Water and Wastewater Legislation.</p>
	<p>Kendal Netmaker, Award Winning Entrepreneur, Author and Indigenous Speaker</p> <p>An award-winning entrepreneur and author, Kendal Netmaker is a master storyteller who uses his natural gift to help people shift their mindset and find the success they seek. He speaks professionally to thousands of people worldwide on resilience, leadership, and the power of telling your story, weaving his real-life experiences into motivating lessons that empower and build more resilient leaders and organizations.</p> <p>From Sweetgrass First Nation, Netmaker and his siblings were raised by their single mother. Life wasn't easy growing up on the reserve surrounded by poverty and few opportunities, but one</p>

	<p>moment changed his life forever. In grade five, he and his best friend shared a love of sports, but his family couldn't afford extracurricular activities. So, his friend's family stepped in. They paid the fees and drove him to his games and practices. It wasn't until he was older that Netmaker understood exactly what this family did for him, and how different his life would have been without them. It's this that has motivated him throughout his life and drives him still to this day.</p> <p>Today, Netmaker is a leading entrepreneur whose passion to succeed is contagious. He is the founder of Neechie Gear, a lifestyle apparel brand that gives back a percentage of their profits to help underprivileged youth take part in sports. Netmaker has won over 25 business awards, including being named one of Canada's "Top 40 Under 40" and being runner-up at the YBI Global Entrepreneur of the Year. He is also the author of Driven to Succeed: From Poverty to Podium.</p>
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Speakers

	<p>Natalie Adams, Canadian Council of Aboriginal Business</p> <p>Natalie has been a Director at CCIB's 2022, leading the Indigenous Procurement Program, Supply Change™. The program works to ensure Indigenous businesses are full participants in the supply chains of corporate Canada and government.</p> <p>Natalie has over 12 years of private and public sector sustainable and Indigenous procurement experience. Her leadership on the implementation of sustainable procurement practices for Municipal government received both the City Manager Award of Excellence and the Sustainable Procurement Leadership Council (SPLC) Outstanding Case Study Award. Her work in the private sector included engagement with local Indigenous communities, driving Indigenous spend targets and leading the cultural awareness program for a large international construction company. She is a trained Innovation Coach, Facilitator and Change Manager with a passion for socially conscious procurement, collaborative solutions and fostering relationships.</p>
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	<p>Shariq Alvi, CIBC</p> <p>Shariq Alvi is a Managing Director based in Toronto. He has over 25 years of investment banking and capital markets experience in the infrastructure, energy and power sectors. He has worked on a wide variety of transactions including M&A, greenfield projects, P3s, privatizations, and project financings. His experience includes transactions involving indigenous investment where he has advised transaction sponsors and indigenous communities.</p> <p>Prior to joining CIBC in 2010, Shariq founded and headed the infrastructure advisory business for an international bank in Canada and worked in the infrastructure and project finance and M&A advisory groups for a global consultancy firm in their Montreal, Toronto and UK offices. He has advised on number of high profile transactions around the world including Europe, LATAM, the US and Canada.</p>
	<p>Stephanie Aldersley, Canada Infrastructure Bank</p> <p>Stephanie Aldersley joined the Canada Infrastructure Bank in February 2021 to help launch CIB's Indigenous Community Infrastructure Initiative (ICII). As part of the CIB's investments team, Stephanie offers strategic counsel on investments consistent with the CIB's priority initiatives. Stephanie leads the CIB's ICII clean power investments and Indigenous Equity Initiative transactions in partnership with Indigenous communities.</p> <p>With over 10 years of experience in the Clean Power sector, Aldersley led her team at the Independent Electricity System Operator, managing 170 Indigenous communities' relationships to promote clean electricity usage.</p> <p>Stephanie received an Engineering degree from the University of Toronto and is a Master in Public Policy and Administration from Ryerson University. She also received her Chartered Financial Analyst designation in 2023.</p>
	<p>Fiona Blondin, Board Member IESO</p> <p>Ms. Blondin is the Vice President of Indigenous Strategy at Cormorant Utility Services. Ms. Blondin joined the executive team at Cormorant to develop and implement a long-term strategy to promote and ensure the inclusion of Indigenous communities across Cormorant's business units. She is developing and leading Cormorant's vision to be the best-in-class partner for Indigenous nation building & wealth creation in the high voltage power, natural resources, and infrastructure project development.</p>

Ms. Blondin, a member of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation in Northwest Territories, is the proud mother of three children. Building from this strong cultural foundation and family, she has made an impact in her ability to connect with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people in unique and effective ways; always tailoring her approach and strategies to the customs and needs of the people she represents.

Ms. Blondin serves as a member of the board of directors at VIA HFR, which will be one of the largest transportation electrification infrastructure projects in Canadian history with frequent, accessible, and sustainable rail service between Toronto, Peterborough, Ottawa, Montreal, Trois-Rivières and Quebec City.

With over 25 years of combined experience in power, mining, public sector, and private consulting for First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities, Ms. Blondin brings a wealth of experience and understanding knowing that the best path forward in projects involving Indigenous communities is truly understanding and supporting the unique goals and vision for respective Indigenous nations.



Patrick Boileau, North Vista Advisors

Patrick is from Thunder Bay and has a diverse investment and project management background, having started his career on Bay Street, and spent the last 15 years providing advisory services in northwestern Ontario. Patrick and his company North Vista Advisors focuses on helping First Nations with community capital projects, and large-scale infrastructure investment. Patrick was a founding board member for Wataynikaneyap Power and continues to act as a consultant to the 24 First Nation partnership. This \$2 billion project was completed this year and connected 16 remote First Nations to the power grid. Patrick currently acts as the Implementation Officer of the 8 First Nation partnership Gwayakocchigewin LP (GLP) on the Waasigan Transmission Line Project, a \$1.2 billion transmission line project between Thunder Bay and Dryden. This project is being developed in partnership with Hydro One with construction potentially starting later this year. Other projects for his First Nations clients include community buildings, roads, bridges, and renewable power projects.



Mike Carter, First Green Energy

Mike Carter brings over 25 years of renewable energy expertise, with a deep-rooted commitment to Indigenous empowerment and community economic development. As founder of First Green Energy Ltd., Mike has led transformative projects in solar, microgrids, energy storage, and hydroelectric development.

His current focus on agrivoltaics integrates solar into farming, supporting dual-use land practices that benefit agricultural and energy productivity alike, and most importantly finds broad support needed to accelerate the deployment of a new generation of electricity projects.

Mike has worked with and continues to support various Federal agencies on domestic and international solar and sustainable initiatives tied to technological innovation, green mining, international development and solar recycling.

Mike actively supports Indigenous leadership in the energy industry with continued participation in the ICE Network Catalyst 20/20 program and currently participating in the Generation Power internship program. His commitment to sustainable, community-driven energy projects comes from a belief that now is the time for capacity utilization to catalyze a better structure for indigenous owned and controlled energy infrastructure projects.



David Collie, Board Member IESO

Mr. Collie recently served as Chair of the Electrification and Energy Transition Panel (EETP). The Panel provided recommendations to the Minister on key policy areas such as the clean-energy economy, sector governance and accountabilities and comprehensive energy planning.

Mr. Collie is the past President and CEO of the Electrical Safety Authority of Ontario. Prior to ESA, he held several executive positions in the energy sector, including Burlington Hydro, Hydro One and Enbridge (formerly Union Gas).

Mr. Collie is a past faculty member of the Directors College of Canada and was their Energy Executive-in-Residence. He is a frequent speaker on the topics of energy transition, grid innovation and modern regulatory practices. He is also guest faculty of the Harvard Kennedy's School's executive program on strategic regulatory oversight.

Mr. Collie was Chair of the Electricity Distributors Association, Plug N' Drive as well as Vice Chair of the Energy Council of Canada. He

	<p>was a founding member of the Ontario Smart Grid Forum and the Energy Transformation Network of Ontario. He is also a board member of several other national and provincial organizations. Professionally, Mr. Collie is a Chartered Professional Accountant (“Fellow”) and a Chartered Director</p>
	<p>Peter Collins, Chi Mino Ozhitoowin</p> <p>Peter Collins is a distinguished Anishnaabe leader from Fort William First Nation and is known for his extensive contributions to his community and beyond. With nine years as the Regional Grand Chief of the Northern Superior Region and an impressive twenty-two years as Chief of Fort William First Nation, Collins has shown unwavering commitment to Indigenous leadership and advocacy.</p> <p>His influence extends through his service on the boards of key organizations, including the Anishinabek Nation, Dilico, BLP-Bankushwada, and the Bora Laskin Faculty of Law- Aboriginal Advisory Committee. Additionally, he has played a significant role on the Chief’s Committee on Economic Development with the Assembly of First Nations, where he has worked to enhance economic opportunities for First Nation communities.</p> <p>In September 2022, Collins became the Chief Executive Officer of Chi Mino Ozhitoowin, where he oversees a partnership of seven First Nation communities collaborating on the Waasigan Transmission Line Project. His work focuses on training, employment, and procurement, with a goal of ensuring lasting benefits for current and future generations.</p> <p>Collins has received the prestigious Anishinabek Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing his enduring impact and service. Outside of his professional life, he has been married to Susan for over forty years and is a dedicated father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. In his leisure time, he enjoys watching his favorite hockey team, the Toronto Maple Leafs, and playing golf during the off-season.</p>



Mike DeGagné, Indspire

Michael D DeGagné has been the President & CEO of Indspire since 2020. Indspire is an Indigenous national charity which supports and invests in the education of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis people across Turtle Island.

He was appointed President and Vice Chancellor of Nipissing University in 2013, becoming one of the first Indigenous president of a Canadian public university. While President of Nipissing, Dr. DeGagné dedicated much of his work to Indigenous issues and ensuring that Nipissing University played a significant role in the Indigenization of the post-secondary education sector. In 2020 he served as the first President of Yukon University, a new hybrid post-secondary institution in Whitehorse, Yukon.



His career includes working with the federal government in management of Indigenous programs and as a negotiator of comprehensive land claims. In 1998, Dr. DeGagné became the founding Executive Director of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, a national Indigenous organization dedicated to addressing the legacy of Canada's Indian Residential School System, a role he played until its closure in 2013.



Dr. DeGagné holds a PhD from Michigan State University, focussing on Indigenous post-secondary success, and Masters degrees in Administration, Law, and Public Ethics. He has co-edited and co-authored several publications in Canada and Australia on reconciliation and healing, including the "Speaking My Truth" series.



He is currently Professor of Sociology at the University of Toronto Scarborough, his alma mater.

He has served on numerous boards of directors in the health and university sectors including as Chairman of Ottawa's Queensway Carleton Hospital and Chairman of the Child Welfare League of Canada. He is currently the past-Chair of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, a Board Director of the Global Centre for Pluralism, and Vice Chair of the Collegium of the University of St. Michael's College.

He is a recipient of the Order of Canada, the Order of Ontario, and the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal. In 2018 he received an Indspire Award for Public Service. He holds Honorary Doctorates of

	<p>Law from Dalhousie University and Ontario Tech University.</p> <p>Dr. DeGagné is a citizen of the Animakee Wa Zhing 37 First Nation (Northwest Angle #37 First Nation) in northwestern Ontario.</p>
	<p>Chuck Farmer, IESO</p> <p>Mr. Farmer leads the planning of Ontario’s electricity system to ensure it is reliable, resilient and cost-efficient in the years ahead.</p> <p>This includes assessing the future adequacy of Ontario’s electricity supply and the transmission system, identifying system needs, and securing the resources needed to meet system needs, including through the advancement of conservation efforts.</p> <p>Prior to his current position, Mr. Farmer has held a variety of senior roles at the IESO and Ontario Power Authority in the areas of Power System Planning, Conservation, and Corporate Relations. His career began with Union Gas where he focused on the residential and commercial markets and was Director for Market Knowledge and Demand Side Management.</p> <p>Mr. Farmer is a graduate of the Richard Ivey School of Business at The University of Western Ontario.</p>
	<p>Penny Favel, Hydro One</p> <p>Penny Favel joined the Hydro One team in October of 2020 as Vice-President Indigenous Relations, a role integral to the execution of our corporate strategy and becoming a Trusted Partner for Indigenous communities. In 2023 she became the Vice- President Indigenous Relations and Sustainability, and was appointed as the CEO and President of Hydro One Remote Communities Inc.</p> <p>Under Penny’s leadership, Hydro One developed a strategic approach to Indigenous Relations, based on a clear vision and principles to address meaningful Reconciliation. Penny has worked across the organization to achieve meaningful change and set new targets that help the organization achieve its strategic priorities for Reconciliation. In 2021, Penny led the development of the industry-leading First Nations Equity Partnership model for all new major Transmission Projects, which offers 50% equity on all new Transmission lines over \$100 million, and meaningful opportunities to work in partnership with Indigenous communities through procurement, project committees and training.</p> <p>Prior to joining Hydro One, Penny held senior roles in the energy sector as Vice-President of Environment, Land and Indigenous Relations, as well as Sustainability in Canada and the US. Penny</p>

	<p>was raised in Saskatchewan and attended the University of Saskatchewan for both her undergraduate and law degrees. She had a 20-year career in law, primarily serving as a commercial construction lawyer in Alberta before moving into Stakeholder and Indigenous Relations.</p>
	<p>Alison Fernandes, OPG</p> <p>As an accomplished professional in the Nuclear industry, Alison holds a strong commitment to fostering collaboration, opportunities and engagement between corporate procurement and Indigenous peoples, businesses, and communities. She brings a unique blend of passion for advocacy and dedication to every initiative and commitment she undertakes, all while championing inclusivity and diversity within the supply chain. Creating meaningful opportunities and participation are at the forefront of the work Alison does, all while driving to achieve true sustainable economic reconciliation.</p> <p>With extensive experience in supplier relations, procurement, and vendor support and management, Alison has consistently delivered exceptional results while adhering to the highest standards of integrity and efficiency.</p> <p>In addition to her experience in the Nuclear industry, Alison holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Social work and Psychology, which has allowed her to continue her deep passion for building meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships and opportunities for underrepresented groups. Alison is actively involved in giving back to the communities she works and lives in. She currently is Past Chair of the Bruce Grey Child & Family Services, Board Director of the United Way of Bruce Grey, and Board Director of the Saugeen Memorial Hospital Foundation and Board Director of the Epilepsy Society of Southwestern Ontario.</p>
	<p>Denise Jamal, IESO</p> <p>Denise Jamal currently serves as the Independent Electricity System Operator’s Senior Director of Sector and Community Engagement. Denise brings more than 17 years of experience as an award-winning public affairs and engagement professional to the position. Throughout her career, she has held several senior leadership roles with Hydro One in the areas of community relations, customer experience, corporate communications and public affairs, and has a deep understanding of the electricity sector. Denise is committed to creative problem solving and collaboration with Indigenous Nations, communities and a variety of</p>

	<p>stakeholders to build partnerships that collectively advance the energy transition journey.</p>
	<p>James Jenkins, Indigenous Clean Energy</p> <p>James is the Executive Director of Indigenous Clean Energy, a not-for-profit that has provided training and capacity development to hundreds of Indigenous leaders and youth in the clean energy field. James is a member of Walpole Island First Nation, where he has previously served as Chief Executive Officer. James led the development of First Nation equity participation in two 100MW wind farms. These and similar experiences led James to become a champion of Indigenous community and business partnerships in clean energy.</p> <p>James holds an M.A. from the University of Texas at Austin, and he is a former municipal clerk. He has also spent time running a consulting business, Ajijaak Solutions, which provided governance and management support for First Nations and businesses. James is a sessional instructor at Western University’s Public Administration Program. He is a proud father of three, a multi-instrumentalist, and an avid outdoorsman.</p>
	<p>Garry Kissack, Indigenous Practice Group</p> <p>Gary Kissack – Partner and Co-Chair of the Indigenous Practice Group, Fogler Rubinoff LLP. Gary represents several Indigenous Communities, and their institutions across Canada on business transactions, the formation of economic development groups and other matters focused principally on governance and wealth creation. Gary often works as co-counsel to leading national law firms specializing in Aboriginal law who focus on land claims negotiations, Aboriginal and treaty rights advocacy, and consultations with government and industry. Gary provides advice on major commercial and industrial developments and impact benefit agreements throughout Canada, including in respect of infrastructure, energy transmission, renewable energy generation, logistics and transportation projects. Gary is recognized as a leading lawyer in Indigenous law in the Best Lawyers in Canada legal directory.</p>



Dazawray Landrie-Parker, Mokwateh

Dazawray is a Métis woman dedicated to advancing Indigenous interests in business and fostering collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities. As Director of Strategy & Governance for Mokwateh, Dazawray brings over a decade of experience in research, project management, stakeholder engagement, and practical expertise to her work.

Her research primarily focuses on socio-economic data analysis and community engagement, particularly with Indigenous communities. Emphasizing culturally sensitive approaches to research and collaborative problem-solving, Dazawray has led initiatives exploring Indigenous perspectives on nuclear energy and contributed to environmental impact assessments for resource development projects. Her work highlights the importance of integrating Indigenous knowledge into decision-making processes for sustainable outcomes.

Dazawray's leadership in the nuclear sector has been recognized through her notable publications, awards, and board appointments. In 2022, she received the CNS/CNA Award of Excellence in Engagement and Communications, and in 2023 she was appointed to the Canadian Nuclear Association Board of Directors. Driven by her Identity as a Métis women, Dazawray has dedicated her academic and professional career to advocating for Indigenous & gender inclusion in the industry. She is a strong proponent of “two-eyed seeing” -an approach that combines Indigenous and Western knowledge systems to gain a comprehensive understanding of complex issues while respecting and valuing both perspectives, for the benefit of Indigenous Nations, communities, and industry. Dazawray holds a Master's Degree in Governance and Entrepreneurship in Northern and Indigenous Areas and is in the final stages of completing her Ph.D. in Public Policy, focusing on Indigenous Economic Reconciliation in Canada's Nuclear Energy Sector.



Dan Lambe, Anishinabek Nation

Dawn Lambe leverages 30 years of experience in technology design, clean energy development, and strategic planning to support sustainable economic development. She has led international business delegations from Finland and Sweden to communities throughout northern Ontario to share opportunities in community energy sovereignty with bioheat and biopower.

Dawn supports the Forestry, Biomass, and Energy files with the Anishinabek Nation’s Economic Development Department.

Dawn treasures the time she spends hunting, fishing, harvesting, and just being in the forests and on the lakes and rivers of northern Ontario.



Owen Miles, Fort Severn First Nation

Owen Miles is the Community Energy Champion for Fort Severn First Nation. He is an advocate for energy sovereignty in remote Indigenous communities, focusing on sustainable solutions that address both environmental and economic needs. Owen has been a leader in supporting and contributing to the success of Fort Severn’s groundbreaking 300-kW solar array and microgrid. His hands-on experience with electrical systems, combined with his commitment to sustainability, made him key to the project's success.



Sioux Manitowabi, Wikwemikong First Nation

Biomechanical Engineering; Master’s in Earth and Energy Resources Leadership Program at Queens University



Leading Wikwemikong into the renewable energy future through biomass and innovative collaboration




Nishin Meawasige, Waasmoowin Energy

Nishin is Anishnaabe from Serpent River Anishinabek, a business owner, and a passionate advocate for elevating our First Nations position within the energy and agricultural sectors.

Drawing on his leadership experience in First Nation community governance, administration, and socio-economic development, Nishin believes in the potential of First Nations, municipalities, and businesses working together to harness our collective strengths to grow innovative and collaborative economies.

	<p>Waasmoowin Energy Inc., a partnership amongst nine First Nations along the North Shore of Lake Huron, is a newly created entity to share equal ownership alongside Hydro One Networks Inc. on two new bulk transmission line projects within the Robinson-Huron Treaty area. As Project Manager, Nishin is contributing to a multi-disciplinary project team to ensure both equity and non-equity interests for all nine First Nations are being effectively and efficiently attended to while taking every opportunity to build capacity for all project partners.</p> <p>The inclusion of culture and traditional knowledge is paramount to achieving meaningful and sustainable energy partnerships where First Nations interests are best met while building new relationships and opportunities within the energy sector.</p>
	<p>Carla Y. Nell, IESO</p> <p>Carla Y. Nell is responsible for providing strategic leadership in the areas of communications, stakeholder and community engagement, government affairs, corporate strategy, and managing and enhancing all relationships on behalf of the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO).</p> <p>Ms. Nell has extensive senior leadership and operational experience within the private, public and not-for-profit sectors. Her expertise includes development of comprehensive engagement and advocacy strategies, overseeing initiatives to ensure a robust and responsive customer experience, and fostering transparency and mutual accountability with internal and external audiences to transform relationships into true partnerships.</p> <p>Ms. Nell holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Ottawa, completed her Masters degree at Western University, and is a paralegal licensed by the Law Society of Ontario.</p>
	<p>Beverly Nollert, IESO</p> <p>Beverly Nollert currently serves as the Independent Electricity System Operator’s Director of Transmission Planning. In this role, Beverly leads the Division responsible for identifying electricity infrastructure needed to meet future electricity needs in Ontario resulting from demand growth, economic development and connection of new supply resources.</p> <p>Beverly has 20 years of experience in Ontario’s electricity sector, holding several leadership roles in system planning and regulatory affairs at the IESO, as well as previous roles at Ontario Power Generation and consulting to support the nuclear sector in Ontario.</p>

	<p>She holds a Bachelor of Engineering Science in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering from Western University, and an MBA from the Ted Rogers School of Management at Toronto Metropolitan University.</p>
	<p>Tracy Primeau, OPG</p> <p>Tracy Primeau began her career in 1990 at the Ontario Power Generation Pickering Nuclear Generating Station as a Nuclear Operator in Training and was qualified as a Nuclear Operator at Pickering A in 1992. Three years later, she moved home to Kincardine and became a qualified Nuclear Operator at Bruce A, progressing to Authorized Nuclear Operator and eventually to Shift Manager in 2010. She is one of the few women (and the only Indigenous one) to become a CNSC licensed operator at Bruce Power (the first at Bruce A) and the only female Shift Manager to work her way up from the shop floor.</p> <p>Ms. Primeau is also a mentor and role model to many men and women in the energy sector, often sharing insights from her nuclear career at conferences, professional development events and other initiatives. She offers insights on diversity, women in STEM and Indigenous relationship building through her company Agile Bear.</p> <p>Tracy is a proud member of the Nipissing First Nation and was a founding member of the Ontario Hydro Native Circle in 1992 and was the first Chair of the Bruce Power Native Circle, a position she held for many years. She strives to use the Seven Grandfather Teachings in her leadership every day.</p> <p>Raising her two boys with her husband Dave, Tracy has always been active in her community. Tracy currently serves on the Board of Directors for Women in Nuclear Canada, Ontario Power Generation, Ingenium, United College Board of Governors and the University of Waterloo. Within her community, she actively strives to establish creative and lasting solutions for the systemic hurdles faced by Indigenous populations. Among her many aspirations is the global expansion of clean energy, with a special focus on extending its benefits to remote Indigenous communities across Canada and equity partnerships on the path to economic reconciliation.</p>



Elder Garry Sault, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

ELDER GARRY SAULT is an Ojibway Elder for the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. His people signed over 20 pre-confederation treaties with the Crown, which covers most of the Golden Horseshoe. He is a Veteran and served in the United States Navy. He resides on the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation with his wife of 48 years and enjoys spending time with his 15 grandchildren. Elder Sault is also a story teller and has welcomed Prince Charles, two Prime Ministers, three Premiers, many Chiefs, Environmentalists and many more to the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.



Katarina Savic, Mokwateh

Katarina Savic is the Director, Advisory Services at Mokwateh, specializing in Indigenous procurement, business relations, and net-zero transition planning. She brings 7+ years of experience in project management, policy development, and meaningful Indigenous engagement.

One of the highlights of Katarina’s career was when she visited more than 30 First Nation communities across urban, rural and remote parts of Canada to interview elected leadership and Economic Development Corporations while working at the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB). During her time at CCAB, Katarina strengthened her understanding of Indigenous economic development and the importance of collaboration with industry and government to achieve our shared goals. Katarina led many projects on Indigenous procurement, trade and export, industry specific studies, and more. She then worked at the Pembina Institute in the Renewables in Remote Communities team advocating for policies to support off grid, diesel dependent communities transition to clean, Indigenous-led solutions.

Katarina completed her Master of Environmental Studies specializing in Urban-Regional Planning and her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Business from York University.



Stan Wesley, Kahnkehnekahtahk

Stan Wesley is from Moose Factory and currently living in Six Nations Territory with his wife Mandy and two daughters Maya and Tenona.

With his high-energy and sincere professional approach, he’s considered by many to be one of the highest energy speakers around.