

Conference Program

June 18 – 20, 2025

Nanaimo, BC | Vancouver Island Conference Centre

Updated June 26, 2025

Wednesday June 18

4:00 - 6:00pm Registration Open

6:00 - 8:00pm **Opening Reception | Sponsored by Innergex**
Dallas Smith, President, Nanwakolas Council
Performance – Qwam Qwum Stuwixulh School

Thursday June 19

8:00am Registration Opens

8:00 – 8:30am Morning Nutrition Break & Networking | Sponsored by West Fraser

8:30 – 9:00am **Conference Opening**
Opening Prayer & Conference Blessing - Elder Lolly Good, Snuneymuxw First Nation
Dallas Smith, President, Nanwakolas Council
Leonard Krog, Mayor, City of Nanaimo
Luke Schauerte, CEO, Woodfibre LNG

9:00 – 9:10am **Keynote Address**
Hon. Sheila Malcolmson, Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction,
 Government of B.C.

9:10 - 10:00am **Panel 1 – Call for Power – Indigenous Participation in Wind**
 Panelists: **Greg Perrins**, Senior Manager of Indigenous Strategy and Negotiations, BC Hydro
Chief Councillor Chris Roberts, Wei Wai Kum First Nation
Ina Gjoka, Strategist - Government Relations, Innergex
 Moderator: **Kwatuuma Cole Sayers**, Executive Director, Clean Energy Association of BC

10:00 - 10:20am Morning Nutrition Break & Networking | Sponsored by Engineers and Geoscientists BC

10:00 - 10:20am Special Presentation

10:20 – 11:10am **Panel 2 – Indigenous Partnerships Across Canada**
 Panelists: **Alexandre Girard**, General Manager of Groupe Aishkatsh, Pekuakamiulnuatsh Nation,
 Quebec
Dale Levesque, General Manager, Dallan LP Contracting, Fort William First Nation, Ontario
Tina Rasmussen, Chief Business Officer of Meadow Lake Tribal Council Industrial
 Investments, Flying Dust First Nation, Saskatchewan
Erik Blaney, Legislator, Tla'amin Nation, British Columbia
 Moderator: **Lana Wilhelm, RPF**, Director of Indigenous Relations, Domtar

Partnership Showcase

11:10 – 11:25am **Partnership Showcase 1 - Quatsino Solar Project**
 Panelists: **Kara Wilson**, Community Energy Champion, Quatsino First Nation
Mary Vasey, Project Manager, Barkley Project Group

11:25 – 11:40am **Partnership Showcase 2 – Cedar Brush Site Services & Janitorial**
 Panelists: **Corey Janvier**, Founder, Cedar Brush Site Services & Janitorial

11:40– 11:55am	Partnership Showcase 3 – Shas Ti Environmental LP
Panelists:	Kevin Wilson , Director, Shas Ti Environmental LP Dwayne Martin , Binche Whuten Member & Director, Shas Ti Environmental LP
11:55 – 12:10pm	Partnership Showcase 4 – First Nations Forestry Council
Panelists:	Robert Manuel , Business Development Strategic Advisor, First Nations Forestry Council
12:10 – 12:25pm	Indigenous Partnerships: Unlocking Capital, Alignment, and Long-term success in a Values-Driven Economy
	Jaimie Lickers , Vice President, Indigenous Markets, CIBC
12:25 – 12:45pm	Tradeshow Networking Break
12:45– 2:00pm	Keynote Luncheon Sponsored by Mosaic Forest Management
	Lunch Prayer – Elder Sandra , Snuneymuxw First Nation Hon. David Eby, K.C. , Premier, Government of BC
Moderator:	Dallas Smith , President, Nanwakolas Council
2:00 – 2:30pm	Tradeshow Networking Break
2:30 - 2:55 pm	Fireside Chat: Incorporating Indigenous Knowledge in EA: Lessons from CNA and Teck
	Kama Sills , Senior Coordinator, Indigenous Engagement, Teck Highland Valley Natalie Ross , Senior Technical Coordinator, Citxw Nlaka'pamux Assembly
Moderator:	Emily Milne , Director, Advisory Services, C3 Alliance
2:55 – 3:05pm	Keynote Address
	Hon. Lana Popham , BC Minister of Agriculture and Food
3:05 – 3:50pm	Panel 3 - Feeding the Future: Indigenous Food Security and Sovereignty
Panelists:	Kim Burden , CEO of Nanoose Economic Development Corporation Deputy Chief Councillor Isaiah Robinson , Kitasoo Xai'xais Nation Hon. Lana Popham , BC Minister of Agriculture and Food Leslie MacDonald , Emergency Management Advisor, BC Agriculture Council
Moderator:	Brian Kingzett , Executive Director, BC Salmon Farmers Association
3:50 – 4:10pm	Stewarding Opportunity: Indigenous Leadership in Resource Management and Community Well-Being
	Chief Councillor Chris Roberts , Wei Wai Kum First Nation
Moderator:	Sarah Weber , President and CEO, C3 Alliance
4:10 – 4:30pm	Economic Reconciliation and Community Voices: A Fireside Chat on Woodfibre LNG
	Chief Ian Campbell , Squamish Nation Deanna Lewis , Cultural Ambassador, Squamish Nation
Moderator:	Selena Basi , VP Corporate Relations, Woodfibre LNG
4:30-4:35pm	Special Presentation
4:35 - 6:00pm	Tradeshow Networking Reception
6:00 - 8:00pm	Keynote Dinner (Ticketed)
	Dinner Prayer & Cultural Performance – Elder Lolly Good , Snuneymuxw First Nation David Walkem , Sr. Manager, Strategic Partnerships, Invasive Species Council
Friday June 20	
8:00am	Registration Opens
8:00 - 8:30am	Morning Nutrition Break & Networking Sponsored by Capacity Forest Management

8:30 – 8:35am	Conference Opening Dallas Smith , President, N̓anwak̓olas Council
8:35 – 9:25am	Panel 4 – Indigenous Leadership in Carbon Offsetting Panelists: Dallas Smith , President, N̓anwak̓olas Council Danielle Warren , Sr. Sales and Operations Manager, Great Bear Carbon Credit LP Adria Fradley , Assistant Deputy Minister, Clean Growth, Ministry of Energy and Climate Solutions Michael Berends , Chief Executive Officer and Co-Founder, Clear Blue Markets Moderator: Paul Kariya , Acting General Manager, Great Bear Carbon Credit LP
9:25 – 9:40am	Indigenous Partnership Showcase Panelists: Steven Stark , President & CEO, TSI - Tsawwassen Shuttles Inc.
9:40 – 10:30am	Panel 5 – Reflections on the last five years of the BC Environmental Assessment Process Panelists: Nathan Braun , Partner, ERM Environmental Resources Management Scott Bailey , Owner, Beacon Regulatory Solutions Tamlyn Botel , Regulatory Engagement Manager, Skeena Gold + Silver Jennifer Campbell , CEO, Two Worlds Consulting Moderator: Sharon Singh , Partner, Co-Head, Environment and Indigenous Practices, McMillan LLP
10:30 – 11:00	Morning Nutrition Break & Networking Sponsored by Grieg Seafood
11:00 – 11:10am	Keynote Address Sponsored by Western Forest Products Hon. Ravi Parmar , BC Minister of Forests
11:10 – 11:50am	Panel 6 – Stronger Forestry Partnerships Sponsored by A&A Trading Panelists: Hon. Ravi Parmar , BC Minister of Forests Kim Haakstad , President and CEO, COFI Chief Councillor John Jack , Huu-ay-aht First Nations Moderator: Dallas Smith , President, N̓anwak̓olas Council
11:50 – 12:10pm	Building Indigenous Prosperity: Introducing FNBC’s New Business Acquisition Loan for Indigenous Communities, Supported by BDC Panelists: Booker Cornea , Market Lead (National), Commercial Banking, First Nations Bank of Canada Kris Smith , Lead, Community Banking – Lending Solutions, Business Development Bank of Canada
12:10 – 12:30pm	Keynote Address Michelle Carr , CEO and Commissioner, BC Energy Regulator
12:30 – 12:50pm	Tradeshow Networking Break
12:50 – 2:15pm	Luncheon Sponsored by University of Northern British Columbia Lunch Prayer – Elder Sandra , Snuneymuxw First Nation Á'a:líya Warbus , MLA, Chilliwack-Cultus Lake and House Leader, BC Conservative Caucus
2:15 pm	Conference Closing Remarks