



Council for Innovation and Commercialization

Agenda

May 30th and 31st, 2023
Winnipeg

THEME: Innovation Across Canada

Meeting Location

Red River College
Manitou a bi Bii dazaiigae
319 Elgin Ave., Winnipeg, MB
The Roundhouse (RoomE240)
Located on the 2nd floor

Accommodations

Fairmont Winnipeg
2 Lombard Place, Winnipeg, MB
Rate: \$219.00 per night
Cut-off date: April 28, 2023
[Book online](#) or by phone at 204-957-1350 (mention group code **CIC0523**)

Contact(s)

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Canada is a vast country. While 73% of people live in large urban centres (of 100,000 people or more), 9% live in smaller population centres, while 18% live in rural areas. Given this diversity, it should be obvious that innovation shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all approach for each region—each faces unique challenges and constraints (e.g., housing, permafrost, supply chains). This is especially true when considering rural and remote communities. We've all heard a lot about innovation hubs and ecosystems designed for 73% of Canadians. In our Spring meeting, we will aim to better understand what models and systems work well for the other 27%.

Meeting Objectives

- [Understand](#) other models for supporting innovation.
- [Identify](#) best practices that have been applied in smaller communities.
- [Explore](#) some of the challenges and constraints facing rural and remote Canada.
- [Learn](#) from experts living these challenges and constraints.

Monday, May 29, 2023

6:15 p.m. **Casual Networking Dinner**
James Avenue Pumphouse
2 - 109 James Avenue, Winnipeg, MB (4 mins away)
For those available, meet in the lobby to walk to the restaurant.
(This dinner is NOT sponsored by the Conference Board of Canada)

Tuesday, May 30, 2023

8:30–9:00 a.m. **Registration and Networking**
Continental breakfast will be available.

9:00–9:30 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Deborah Fleck, Senior Council Manager, The Conference Board of Canada

Jamie Wilson, Vice-President, Indigenous Strategy, Research and Business Development, Red River College

9:30–10:30 a.m. **Presentation and Discussion: State of Innovation in Rural Communities**



Ken Coates, Professor and Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation, Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, University of Saskatchewan

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. **Break**

11:00 – 11:30 a.m. **Interactive Member Discussion with Ken Coates**

11:30–12:30 p.m. **Presentation and Discussion: Community Wellness Connections**

Lindsey Boechler, Research Manager – Cultural Empowerment, Saskatchewan Polytechnic

The suicide rate of Indigenous youth in Canada is five to six times higher in comparison to non-Indigenous youth. This statistic clearly indicates the current mental healthcare approach is inadequate. Saskatchewan Polytechnic researchers have been collaborating with students and staff at Dene High School in La Loche, Saskatchewan to explore innovative ways of supporting Indigenous youth's mental health and well-being. This presentation will discuss the potential value of leveraging virtual reality technology in improving access, quality, and the range of mental health support services offered and outline plans to scale the initiative across multiple communities of varying Indigenous cultures.

12:30–1:15 p.m. **Networking Lunch**

1:15–2:00 p.m. **Presentation and Discussion: Indigenous Food Security Rural Manitoba**

Demian Lawrenchuk, Executive Director, Food Matters Manitoba

Indigenous cultures in the area we now know as Manitoba have thrived for countless generations, continuously evolving closely with the natural environment and the resources it holds. This story has taken many turns over the course of history, and when studied holds invaluable lessons for the world. Though at one time each of these communities was centred among a vast oasis of food, resources, and a thriving economy connected by endless waterways that spanned a continent, today they are described with terms such as isolation and dependence.

What has changed in the centuries that Canada has come to be? We explore a story of wellbeing, sustainability and innovation, but also a story of fragility, where we sit in the midst of a complex web of factors that must always be taken into account. Recently, with the latest global pandemic, the world has tasted the fragility masked beneath



our modern comforts and technological advancements as bare spots on the grocery store shelves of urban centres became a common sight.

It is now that we are reminded of what matters most. And just like the world is again remembering the importance of consistent, sustainable, locally available healthy food, we are rebuilding our food systems throughout Manitoba.

Join Damian to discuss the resurgence of Indigenous culture and traditions, the blending of age-old wisdom with the latest technological advancements and academic knowledge as we work to recreate a food secure reality.

2:00–2:30 p.m.

Break and Walk to Prairie Kitchen

Located: Patterson GlobalFoods Institute
504 Main St., Winnipeg

2:30–2:40 p.m.

Introductory Remarks

Jolen Galaugher, Director of Research Partnership & Innovation,
Red River College

2:40–4:15 p.m.

Presentation and Tour: Great Ideas Start in the Kitchen

Elena GomezHaro, Research Manager and Food Scientist, Prairie Kitchen

Bill Ryzniczuk, Research Coordinator, Prairie Kitchen

Prairie Research Kitchen (PRK) is RRC Polytech third Technology Access Centre housed above the School of Hospitality and Culinary Arts in historic downtown Winnipeg. To date, PRK has worked with over 100 small and medium sized enterprises across Western Canada to bring their new products and ideas to life. The food science and culinary professionals on the PRK team bring College resources including instructors, students and infrastructure to these industry projects with two goals in mind: create economic opportunities for Canadian companies and provide industry work experience for RRC Polytech students through applied research projects.

Elena Gomez Haro will provide an overview of the history of the Prairie Research Kitchen including funding support necessary to build this valuable agri-food resource. She will provide an overview of food product development with a blended team, examples of innovation success stories, classroom interactions, and PRK's engagement with Indigenous learners and communities. The presentation will wrap up



with plans and goals for the next few years at PRK. The group will split up for a tour of the historic Union Bank building, now home to the School of Hospitality and Culinary Arts, as well as the 4600 ft² Prairie Research Kitchen on the newly renovated 11th floor. We will wrap up the day with some tasty samples created at PRK from Research Coordinator, Bill Ryzniczuk.

4:15–4:30 p.m. **Wrap-Up and Adjournment**

6:00 p.m. **Informal Network Dinner**
Peasant Cookery
283 Bannatyne Ave, Winnipeg, MB (5 mins away)
Reservation will be under **The Conference Board of Canada**

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

Red River College
Notre Dame Campus
2055 Notre Dame Ave.
Room

8:00–8:30 a.m. **Registration and Networking**
Full hot breakfast available.

8:30–8:40 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks**
Deborah Fleck, Senior Council Manager, The Conference Board of Canada

8:40–10:00 a.m. **Introductory Remarks**

Jolen Galaugher, Director of Research Partnership & Innovation, Red River College

8:40–10:00 a.m. **Presentations and Discussion: Red River College**

Jojo Delos Reyes, Research Program Manager, Research Partnerships and Innovation, Red River College

During this session Jojo will provide an overview of innovation and research activities from the Technology Access Centre for Aerospace and Manufacturing (TACAM), Building Efficiency Technology Access Centre (BETAC) and the Vehicle Technology & Energy Centre (VTEC).



Followed by a tour of the Smart Factory and Advanced Composite Development Centre, led by Dr. Dele Ola, Director, TACAM.

10:00–10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30–10:50

Tour and Discussion: CARS Building

During this tour, JoJo and his colleague, Dr. Ali Kaboorani will showcase the capabilities for building performance testing by the Building Efficiency Technology Access Centre (BETAC) and some projects from the Vehicle Technology & Energy Centre (VTEC) such as the battery repurposing project.

11:15–11:45 a.m.

Tour and Discussion: Motivelab

During this tour, JoJo will give participants an opportunity to see the environmental chamber, chassis and engine dyno and EV related equipment.

11:45–12:00 p.m.

Wrap-Up and Adjournment

When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the **Chatham House Rule**, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Source: <https://www.chathamhouse.org/chatham-house-rule>.

Next meeting

September 26/27 or 27/28

Newfoundland (to be confirmed)