

Gateway to New Horizons - Investment Opportunities in Canada Alberta

7:00-8:30PM (EDT) September 22nd, 2021

4:00-5:30PM (MDT) September 22nd, 2021

8:00-9:30AM (JST) September 23rd 2021

Speakers (Alphabetical order)



Kosuke Abe, Senior Investor Services Advisor, Japan, Invest in Canada

Invest in Canada works directly with global investors to unlock business opportunities and facilitate expansion in Canada. We bring industry, community and government partners together to offer seamless services that make it easy for you to grow your operations in Canada.



Don Bell, Partner, Torys

Don's practice focuses on commercial transactions including mergers and acquisitions and joint ventures. In addition to advising on commercial transactions, Don provides ongoing general business law advice to corporations and financial institutions carrying on business in North America. Don is fluent in Japanese, and worked for several years for a Japanese electronics manufacturer and a business consulting company, which is reflected in the practical and service-oriented business counsel he provides.



Bill Baver, SMART World Executive Leader, NTT

Bill Baver is a senior go to market executive in the NTT family. His current responsibilities include leading the overall strategy, global go to market activities and management of NTT Smart Solutions. Responsibilities also include setting and driving the delivery strategy, growing strategic partnerships and evangelizing leadership positions in cross-industry applications globally. These efforts focus on the expanding one NTT message insight of NTT and with the analyst community, partner community and customer base.

Bill brings over 30 years of experience working across all industries, which included but is not limited to consumer, manufacturing, distribution, financial and public sector organizations.

Bill is a creative technology strategist who early on saw the potential of smart technologies. Inspired by world events in cities and beyond, Bill's passion developed a sense of urgency. With the full support of NTT's global resources ideas became reality—the first result was a live solution that accelerated SMART by implementing a revolution safety solution in Las Vegas. Never content with the status quo, Bill and his team are imagining the art of the possible and expanding the forward-reaching NTT Smart Solutions globally.

Bill has previously worked at BearingPoint / KPMG Consulting / KPMG, and Unisys.



Nella Brodett Director, Investment & Partnerships, Alberta Machine Intelligence Institute (Amii)

Nella Brodett is the Director of Investment & Partnerships at Amii. After earning her Bachelor of Commerce from Ryerson University, Nella began her career in the Toronto tech sector where she gained a breadth of cross-sector experience working with startups, the provincial government, health technology commercialization and AI. Nella enjoys developing lasting relationships creating meaningful change to society's most pressing challenges.



Michael Couch, MSc., Senior Investment Advisor (Japan), Invest Alberta Corporation

With a B.A. in Economics and Japanese from the University of Alberta and M.Sc. in Energy Science (Economics) from Kyoto University, Michael has worked in both the private and public sectors between the Americas and Japan for over fifteen years. Recently returning from the Nevada Institute for Autonomous Systems to Alberta as Senior Advisor for Japan with the Invest Alberta Corporation, Michael previously served in various roles within the Government of Alberta streamlining policy and regulations, and leading a variety of strategic trade and investment attraction initiatives for the province across a variety of sectors; including agriculture, energy and environment, aerospace and defence, unmanned systems, and life sciences. Michael is driven by developing new trade and investment opportunities through his well established international public-private network to connect qualified foreign companies to the Japanese market and vice versa.



Katie Curran, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Invest in Canada

Effective May 20, 2021, Katie Curran has taken on the role of Interim CEO of Invest in Canada, succeeding inaugural CEO Ian McKay, who was named Canada's Ambassador to Japan. As Interim CEO, she will lead Invest in Canada's efforts to promote, facilitate and accelerate global investments into Canada and will continue in this role until a search for a new CEO is complete.

Ms. Curran previously served as Invest in Canada's Chief Administrative Officer and is a core member of the Invest in Canada leadership team responsible for the successful launch of Invest in Canada. She has been instrumental in building Canada's first federal investment promotion agency (IPA), ensuring Invest in Canada's activities align with its mandate and establishing the foundations for excellence in governance and strong stewardship of resources.

Prior to joining Invest in Canada, Ms. Curran held a range of senior roles in talent consulting and human resource management in both the private and public sector.

Ms. Curran holds an MBA from Telfer School of Management and a B. Com. in Human Resource Management from the University of Ottawa.



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CANADA カナダ



The Japan Society

JETRO

Japan External Trade Organization

TORYS
LLP



Marko Trivun, Senior Associate, Torys

Marko represents high-growth technology companies through all stages of their growth cycle, and those that invest in or acquire them, including VC funds and strategic investors. As part of Torys' Emerging Companies and Venture Capital group, he provides strategic advice on equity and debt financing, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, securities, commercial transactions, employment and intellectual property matters. Marko also brings valuable business insights to the firm, providing advice on project management and efficiencies in service delivery, developing workflows and new technology solutions to support our clients cost effectively.



Howard L. Shearer, Chief Executive Canada, Hitachi Canada

Howard is a Board Member of the Japan Society and his professional career diverse from High Tech as well as Energy and Industrial sectors resulting in the accumulation of knowledge and experience in the areas of Semiconductors, Optical transmission, Power Generation (Coal, Gas, Nuclear, Renewables and Project Execution), Transmission & Distribution, Consumer (wholesale, retail), Rail Transportation, Medical Healthcare, IoT (Big Data Analytics) as it relates to Physical Security, Cyber Security, Maintenance (Predictive, Prescriptive, Preventive), Military and other industrial sectors.