

FiberConnect Calgary, Alberta | October 8, 2024 Airport Westin

7:15AM **Registration Opens**

7:15AM - 8:00AM **Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors**

8:00AM - 8:10AM Welcome & Introduction: Gary Bolton, President & CEO, Fiber Broadband Association

8:10AM - 8:40AM Opening Keynote: Alberta Broadband Strategy: Investments to Build Strong Communities and

a More Competitive and Resilient Province

The Honourable Nate Glubish, Minister of Technology and Innovation, Alberta

8:40AM - 9:10 AM **Calgary: Building the Quantum City**

> The University of Calgary has formed a strategic partnership with the Government of Alberta and Mphasis, its first industry partner, to create Quantum City. Quantum City's mandate is to establish quantum-focused fabrication infrastructure, new talent development programs, and adoption pathways to support the development of a vibrant economic and scientific hub based in Calgary. These combined assets will create a unique, once-in-a-generation opportunity to position Alberta as a national and international jurisdiction in the new quantum economy. This panel, comprised of leaders from the Quantum City Program and some companies that are part of the developing ecosystem, will explain progress to date and where quantum communications and networking can take our community and our lives.

> Moderator: Kimberly McKinley, Chief Marketing Officer, Utopia Fiber and Vice Chair, FBA Board of Directors

Panelists:

- Megan Lee, PhD MBA, Managing Director, Quantum City
- Jordan Smith, Co-Founder/CEO, Quantized Technologies Inc.
- Rainer Iraschko, Principal Technology Architect, TELUS

9:10AM - 9:40AM **Keynote:**

Sachin Jayapalan, Partner, Value Creation, PwC Canada

9:40AM - 10:10AM Networking Break with Exhibitors

10:10AM – 10:15AM **Calgary White Hat Ceremony**

10:15AM - 10:50AM The Community Connection: How Fibre Impacts Economics and Opportunity

> As the industry moves to close the Digital Equity Gap, what does this mean for local stakeholders in terms of economic impact and opportunity? What role does fibre play in improving GDP, creating job opportunities, and new business development? What impact can it have on education, community services, and home prices? Does fibre present the best catalyst for growth as local operators decide what technology is best to ensure every community has full

access to the digital economy?

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Moderator: Jimmy Todd, CEO and General Manager, Nex-Tech and Chairman FBA Board of Directors

Panelists:

- E.J. "Bud" Keys, President and CEO, Westman Communications Group
- Joe Hickey, President, POMEGRAN INC.
- Johann Reimer, Director of Business Development, Canadian Fiber Optics

10:50AM - 11:25AM

Fireside Chat: TELUS How Fibre Impacts Your Communities

Shazia Sobani, Vice President, Network Planning, TELUS with Bob Knight, President and CEO, Harry Marketing

11:25AM - 11:50AM

Keynote: The CRTC Broadband Fund Goals and Objectives

Leila Wright, Executive Director, Telecommunications, Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission

11:50AM

Lunch Sponsor Remarks

11:50AM – 12:30PM

Networking Lunch, Sponsored by Graybar and Fujitsu

12:30PM - 1:00PM

Networking Dessert with Exhibitors

1:00PM - 1:30PM

Fireside Chat: Telecom Priorities, the Industry Perspective

Robert Ghiz, President and CEO, Canada Telecommunications Association, moderated by Gary Bolton, President and CEO, Fiber Broadband Association

1:30PM - 1:40PM

Building Your Future Workforce with FBA OpTIC Path™

Deborah Kish, Vice President, Workforce Development and Research, Fiber Broadband Association

1:40PM - 2:10PM

Fireside Chat: Changing the Technology Opportunity Paradigm for Indigenous Learners

Daryl Silva, Instructor, First Nations Technology Council with Deborah Kish, Vice President, Workforce Development and Research, Fiber Broadband Association

2:10PM - 2:50PM

Fibre Broadband and Indigenous Communities

Better connectivity in our communities means that Indigenous people will have better access to the global economy, health, and education. Broadband also supports Indigenous economic diversification initiatives by providing opportunities to build new workforce skills and support growth in new sectors. This panel will discuss progress today in connecting Canada's Indigenous communities, what is still missing, and how operators can best help move these communities forward.

Moderator: Shane Vail, National Sales Manager Canada, AFL Telecommunications **Panelists:**

- Balgovind Pande, Corporate Secretary, Sichuun
- Asennaienton Frank Horn, Senior Advisor, Indigenous Connectivity Institute
- Jason Neepin, Executive Director, Broadband Communications North

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2:50PM - 3:20PM

Networking Break with Exhibitors

3:20PM - 4:00PM

Deployment Challenges and Opportunities: Optimizing the Fibre First Priority

Canada's vast landscape, with its varying geography and climate, presents unique challenges to the provision of high-quality broadband internet access services for all Canadians. Today, 67% of rural Albertans and 805 of Indigenous communities do not have access to reliable high-speed internet at federal target speeds. Factors contributing to Alberta's digital divide include low population density, distance from core network infrastructure, and challenging terrain. This panel of industry experts will share best practices and lessons learned and discuss the challenges ahead and the industry looks to connect every Canadian community and household, no matter how remote or hard to reach.

Moderator: Barry Walton, Senior Broadband Solution Architect, Corning **Panelists:**

- Steve Kielley, Director of Business Development, Cambium Networks
- Curtis Shaw, President, Northwestel Inc.
- Ron Huinink, Vice President of Operations, Algonquin Fiber

4:00PM - 4:40PM

Capacity Drivers: Edge, Cloud, AI, IoT, Quantum, and Machine Learning

As fibre broadband reaches more communities and households, the ability for companies, governments, and people to better leverage the power and potential of AI, Quantum Networking, Machine Learning, Edge technologies, and IoT devices is an order of magnitude greater. What has only been theoretically a possibility becomes probable as these capacity-intensive applications, technologies, and services have the potential to change all aspects of everyday life and business. This panel will discuss the fibre dependencies that will enable these technologies to take root in our communities and across Canada.

Moderator: TBC Panelists:

- Christine Marion, President, Digicom
- Rob Davidson, Director of Data Science, ICTC
- TBC

4:40PM

Closing Remarks

4:40PM - 5:30PM

Networking Reception

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