

2025 Lawrence National Centre Symposium

BUILDING A STRONGER ECONOMY

How can Canada be a global
leader in **AI adoption**?

Arcadian Loft, 401 Bay Street, Toronto ON
September 18, 2025, 11:30 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.



AGENDA

11:00-12:15pm
Registration & Lunch

12:15pm
Welcome & Symposium Agenda
Romel Mostafa, Professor and Director, Lawrence National Centre (LNC)

12:30pm
Dean's Remarks
Julian Birkinshaw, Dean, Ivey Business School

12:45pm
Keynote Speech | Managing Uncertainty: The Best Defense is a Good Offense
Stephen Poloz, Former Governor, Bank of Canada; LNC Advisory Council Chair

1:15pm
Industry Experiences with AI Adoption: Opportunities, Challenges, and Best Practices
Muhammad Mamdani, VP Data Science and Analytics, Unity Health; Faculty Affiliate, Vector Institute
Kristin Milchanowski, Chief AI and Data Officer, BMO Financial Group
Lauren Steinberg, EVP and Chief Digital Officer, Loblaw Companies Ltd.
Jenny Yang, Partner, RiSC, Senior Advisor, MaRS Discovery District (Moderator)

1:55-2:10pm
Coffee Break

2:10pm Fireside Chat on Enabling Businesses to Adopt AI Using Platforms Alyza Keshavjee, Head of Consumer Insights and Executive Experiences, Google Canada Michael Pelosi, Canada Country Manager, Cohere Giles Gherson, President and CEO, Toronto Board of Trade (Moderator)
2:40pm Dialogue on the Implications of Global Policy Shifts and the U.S. AI Action Plan Dev Saxena, Director, Eurasia Group; Senior Advisor, Open AI Salim Teja, Partner, Radical Ventures; LNC AI Industry Champion, Ivey Business School (Session Chair)
3:10pm Fireside Chat on Government as an Enabler and Adopter of AI Kara Beckles, Executive Director, Privacy and Responsible Data, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat Mark Schaan, Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (AI), Industry, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Mahmood Nanji, Power Corporation of Canada Policy Fellow, LNC, Ivey Business School (Moderator)
3:40-3:55pm Coffee Break
3:55pm Fireside Chat on Building AI Infrastructure: Sovereignty, Security, and Scale Tania Leppert, Chief Technology Officer, Ericsson Canada Jaime Tatis, Senior Vice-President and Chief AI Officer, TELUS Sohayla Praysner, Former Country Manager, Intelsat (Moderator)
4:25pm Dialogue on Bridging AI Infrastructure and Adoption: Strategies, Partnerships, and Ecosystems John Watson, Group President, Bell Canada Enterprises Inc. Nicole Haggerty, Associate Dean of Faculty, Ivey Business School (Moderator)
4:50pm Synthesizing Lessons, Actionable Policies, and Next Steps Julian Birkinshaw, Dean, Ivey Business School (Panel Chair) Ulrike Bahr-Gedalia, Senior Director, Digital Economy, Technology and Innovation, Canadian Chamber of Commerce Mark Schaan, Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet (AI), ISED Canada Salim Teja, Partner, Radical Ventures; LNC AI Champion
5:30pm Closing Remarks
5:35pm Networking Reception
6:30pm Event Ends

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