



2021 VIRTUAL FORUMS

CASCADIA'S TRANSFORMATIVE TECH: INNOVATING ACROSS BORDERS

JUNE 2, 2021

9:00AM – 10:30AM

The Cascadia region has a deeply rooted reputation as a hotspot for tech and innovation from aerospace to personal computers to gaming, cloud computing and virtual reality. Today, the Cascadia Innovation Corridor is a global cluster of tech talent and capital and has grown leading firms in quantum computing, blockchain and augmented reality.

All of these technologies serve a global - and local - client base and enable innovative solutions and economic growth across sectors including agriculture, resource development, life sciences and transportation.

AGENDA

9:00 am	Welcome	Governor Chris Gregoire , CEO, Challenge Seattle
9:10 am	Agenda Overview	Pamela Saunders , Co-Chair, Cascadia Innovation Corridor Sub-Committee on Technology
9:15 am	Lightning Talk #1: <i>Blockchain NFTs</i>	Mickey Maher , Senior Vice President, Partnerships, Dapper Labs
9:25 am	Lightning Talk #2: <i>Algorithm Institute and NWQN</i>	Dr. Stephanie Simmons , Founder and Chief Quantum Officer, Photonic Inc.
9:35 am	Lightning Talk #3: <i>Connected Work</i>	Andrew Chrostowski , Chairman and CEO, RealWear
9:45 am	Panel Session & Audience Q&A: <i>Applications of technology collaboration within the Cascadia Innovation Corridor</i> Please use the chat function to ask your questions	Andrew Chrostowski Mickey Maher Dr. Stephanie Simmons Moderator: Ray Walia , CEO, Launch Ventures
10:45 am	Closing Remarks	Greg D'Avignon , President and CEO, Business Council of British Columbia

SPEAKERS



Andrew Chrostowski, Chairman and CEO, RealWear

Andrew is an executive and board leader with a deep understanding of technology, innovation and complex systems. As a physicist, program manager and officer in the USAF, he applied systems thinking to the full technology stack of command, control, communications and intelligence systems in airborne and space-based platforms. At RealWear, he's driving the world's first voice-driven and fully ruggedized head-mounted computer that has an inherently safe ATEX Zone-1 certified product for use in hazardous environments such as oil and gas production and chemical processing. RealWear's approach to augmented and assisted key challenges in workforce training, safety and productivity with IoT data visualization, remote mentoring and workflow applications.

realwear.com



Mickey Maher, Senior Vice President, Partnerships, Dapper Labs

Mickey Maher is the Head of Revenue at Dapper Labs, with a primary goal of expanding blockchain projects into the greater gaming market. Mickey previously worked as the Head of Global Sales for Unity Technologies and spent years working with high-level partnerships with start-ups including Applifier, Sometrics and Upsight, offering analytics, marketing, advertising, digital good marketplace, and social solutions to gaming companies. Mickey's time with Dapper Labs has allowed him to travel to different parts of the world every week. He's at his best when applying his blend of conscientious and entrepreneurial spirit, his tenacious drive and his ability to thrive in complex environments.

www.dapperlabs.com



Pamela Saunders, Public Relations and Social Impact Lead, Microsoft Vancouver, and Co-Chair, Cascadia Innovation Corridor Sub-Committee on Technology

Pamela Saunders is the Public Relations and Social Impact Lead for Microsoft's development campus in Vancouver. With more than 20 years in corporate communications across a variety of industries, she joined the company in 2016 to shape regional investment through collaborative partnerships. Saunders advocates for Vancouver's tech industry, serving on the Board of Directors for the B.C. Tech Association and advising on Microsoft's investment in the Digital Technology Supercluster.

mcec.microsoft.ca

www.connectcascadia.com

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Dr. Stephanie Simmons, Founder and Chief Quantum Officer, Photonic Inc.

Dr. Stephanie Simmons is an Assistant Professor, Canada Research Chair, and CIFAR Fellow, based out of the Department of Physics at Simon Fraser University (SFU), and is the Founder and Chief Quantum Officer of Photonic Inc. Her work on silicon quantum technologies was awarded a Physics World Top Ten Breakthrough of the Year of 2013 and again in 2015, and she is one of only 5 individuals to have ever won this award twice. She was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40 for 2020, and her work has been covered by the New York Times, CBC, BBC, Scientific American, the New Scientist, and many others.

photonic.com



Ray Walia, CEO, Launch Ventures

Ray Walia is a serial entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in both the entertainment and technology sectors. Ray founded Launch Ventures which owns and operates a network of private incubators, innovation labs, and investment funds. The most prominent incubator is Launch Academy, Western Canada's leading entrepreneurship facility, which has incubated more than 3500 entrepreneurs of which 300 have grown their start-ups to Seed and Series A stage and raised over \$300 Million in funding. Launch Academy is a designated provider for the Canadian Start-up Visa Program. Ray has invested in over 30+ start-ups either personally or through his funds and was named Entrepreneur Mentor of the Year for 2014 and 2015, BIV Top Forty Under 40, G20 Young Entrepreneur, and B.C. Tech Person of The Year Finalist 2018.

Ray has contributed towards the development of the technology ecosystem in North America and has assisted countless entrepreneurs in building sustainable and financeable businesses, including international companies from over 100+ countries through various Launch Academy programs. Ray has hosted and run events that have been attended by international dignitaries and ambassadors, the Canadian Prime Minister, CEOs and Founders of Fortune 100 companies with the most recent being the TractionConf.io event in both Vancouver and San Francisco.

www.launch.vc

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Governor Christine Gregoire, CEO, Challenge Seattle, Former Governor, Washington State and Co-Chair, Cascadia Innovation Corridor

Christine Gregoire is the CEO for Challenge Seattle. Challenge Seattle is an alliance of CEOs from 17 of the region’s largest private-sector employers who work together to ensure the Greater Seattle area continues to thrive as one of the most vibrant, innovative, and globally competitive regions in the world.

Previously, Chris served for two terms as Governor of the State of Washington with a \$32B biennial budget and over 60,000 employees. She led historical investment in strategically significant infrastructure, an historic number of trade missions, reformed the foster care system to protect children, and was among the first to lead in health care reform. Prior to becoming Governor, Chris served for three terms as Washington State’s Attorney General.

Chris is a member and former Chair of the Fred Hutch Cancer Research Center, Member of the National Bipartisan Governor’s Council. She served as Chair of the National Export-Import Bank Advisory Board 2013 – 2016.

www.challengeseattle.com



Greg D’Avignon, President and CEO, Business Council of British Columbia, Co-Chair, Cascadia Innovation Corridor

Greg D’Avignon is the President and CEO of the Business Council of B.C., a 220-member driven policy and advocacy organization comprised of the province’s leading businesses in every sector of the provincial economy and B.C.’s post-secondary institutions. A fourth generation British Columbian, Greg has held senior private and public sectors leadership positions over the last 25 years, including serving the Prime Minister of Canada.

Greg is the immediate past Chair of the B.C. Cancer Foundation and former Chair of the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation. He is a current member of the Board of the YMCA of Greater Vancouver, the Premier’s Indigenous Business Investment Council, the B.C. Academic Health Science Network, and the Pacific Autism Family Centre Foundation.

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