

# Shaping the Future Together: Canadian Cooperation in the Face of a Changing Global Order

Bios - Conference speakers and round table participants

## Welcome & Opening Remarks

### Charles Patton (Otsi'tsakèn:ra)

Elder, Kanien'keha:ka (Mohawk) community of Kahnawá:ke



- Otsi'tsakèn:ra (Charles Patton) is a respected elder of the Kanien'keha:ka community of Kahnawá:ke, Bear Clan.
- He has been involved in the spiritual and civic life of the Longhouse and Haudenosaunee territory for over 45 years.
- A fluent Kanien'kéha speaker, he was the first teacher to deliver Immersion Physical Education in the language.
- He has served as Director of the Kahnawá:ke Youth Center, Museum Director of the Kanien'kehá:ka Cultural Center, and for over 20 years with the Haudenosaunee Council of Chiefs.
- He continues to share Indigenous knowledge through cultural programs, ceremonies, and teachings in Canada, the US, and internationally.

### Lucie Ménard

Vice-Chancellor, Research, Creation, and Dissemination, UQAM



- Lucie Ménard has been appointed Vice-Rector for Research, Creation and Dissemination for a five-year term.
- She holds a PhD in Language Sciences from the University of Grenoble III-CNRS and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Linguistics at UQAM in 2002–2003.
- She has been a professor and researcher at UQAM for more than 20 years and has been a full professor in the Department of Linguistics since 2011.
- From 2020 to 2023, Lucie Ménard served as Associate Dean of Research in the Faculty of Human Sciences. A researcher at CHU Sainte-Justine since 2012, she is currently Interim Chair of the Department of Linguistics.
- Her expertise will enable her to contribute actively to UQAM's strategic directions, including supporting and promoting research and creation.

## Christopher MacLennan

Deputy Minister of International Development, Government of Canada



- Deputy Minister of International Development since January 2022, leading Canada's international assistance and humanitarian response.
- Former Associate Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Assistant Deputy Minister in various roles advancing development and humanitarian efforts.
- Served as Prime Minister's G20 Sherpa (2020–2024) and Canada's G7 Foreign Affairs Sous-Sherpa (2017–2020).
- Previously held senior positions at the Privy Council Office, including Acting Assistant Secretary for Priorities and Planning and ADM of Policy Innovation.
- Holds a Ph.D. from Western University in constitutional development and international human rights; Fulbright Visiting Scholar at Stanford University (2012–2013).

### KEYNOTE SPEAKER

## François Audet

Director, Institute of International Studies of Montreal



- François Audet is a Full Professor at the School of Management (ESG), Université du Québec à Montréal.
- He is the Founder and Executive Director of the Canadian Observatory on Crises and Humanitarian Action (OCCAH) and also serves as Director of the Montreal Institute of International Studies.
- He holds a PhD from the École nationale d'administration publique (ENAP), where his research focused on the decision-making processes of international humanitarian organizations in relation to strengthening local capacities.
- His research interests include innovative humanitarian practices, the effectiveness of humanitarian action for refugees, and Canada's international development aid policy.

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES | MODERATOR

## Omayra Issa

Journalist | Anchor



- Omayra Issa is an award-winning journalist and anchor, who has built a rich and diverse portfolio over 15 years in broadcasting. Omayra's work led to impactful changes in education policy and garnered several RTDNA Canada, celebrating the best in Canadian journalism, and Digital Publishing Awards.
- Omayra has been named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2024, one of Canada's Top 100 Black Women to Watch and nominated for a YWCA Woman of Distinction.
- Fluent in five languages, Omayra is a sought-after moderator in Canada and globally who has interviewed heads of states, business leaders, and community builders.

## PANELISTS - ROUNDTABLE

### Sébastien Hamel

International Development Executive, Nexus Cooperation



- Experienced executive with a demonstrated history of working in the municipal government sector in Canada and over 45 countries overseas.
- Skilled in Municipal Affairs, Program Design and Management, Government Relations, International Relations, and Organizational Development.
- Master's Degree focused on Land Use Planning and Regional Development.
- One of **TAP-EDM's Expert** team who worked on two initiatives with the Côte d'Ivoire's Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development on the coordination of global aid.

### Michèle Asselin

Executive Director, AQOCI



- Recognized for her leadership and commitment, Michèle Asselin has been active in the Quebec women's movement for more than 30 years.
- Since 2010, she has also been engaged in the fields of international cooperation and solidarity.
- She has served as Executive Director of the Quebec Association of International Cooperation Organizations (AQOCI) since 2015.
- She has also dedicated many years to the World March of Women, an international network she helped to establish.

### Shanae Smith

Investigative Techniques and Criminal Intelligence Expert



- Shanae Smith is a certified criminal intelligence analyst with nearly a decade of experience specializing in organized crime, gangs, drugs, and corruption investigations.
- She has developed training programs, enhanced intelligence workflows, and improved operational efficiency for law enforcement agencies in Canada and internationally.
- Shanae holds a master's degree in Development Studies and multiple certifications in criminal intelligence analysis.
- One of **TAP-EDM's Expert**, she collaborated with the Ministry of the Interior in Paraguay to strengthen the Ministry's criminal intelligence team, review investigation techniques, and support the production of intelligence reports and strategic recommendations.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### **Carmela Prinzo**

Deputy Director, Canadian Partnerships, Global Affairs Canada



- Deputy Director, Canadian Partnerships, International Assistance Partnerships and Strategic Coordination Bureau, International Assistance Partnerships and Programming Branch.
- Ms. Prinzo is an accomplished international management professional with over 20 years of experience at the former Canadian International Development Agency and Global Affairs Canada.
- She has held various roles spanning communications, international development project management, operations, and foreign socio-economic and development policy.
- Currently serving as Deputy Director in the Canadian Partnerships Division of Global Affairs Canada, she leads the Technical Assistance Partnership and Small and Medium Organizations for Impact and Innovation Unit.

### **Tanya Salewski**

Vice-President Program Delivery, Alinea International



- Tanya Salewski is a senior international development leader with 30 years of experience managing projects and teams in collaboration with Canadian partners, local institutions, governments, and UN agencies across Africa, Asia, and Central America.
- She is currently Vice-President for Program Delivery at Alinea International. With expertise in global health, governance, and gender equality, she has served as Project Director for a major governance initiative in Ukraine and as Field Manager for a maternal and child health project in Tanzania.
- She has also worked with the Canadian Nurses Association and the Canadian Public Health Association on health policy, capacity development, and gender equality.
- Tanya holds a BA in History and an MA in International Development.

### **Christopher Yeomans**

TAP-EDM Project Director, Alinea International



- Christopher Yeomans is an international development leader with more than 25 years of experience, including long-term overseas postings.
- He has worked in over 30 countries, leading interdisciplinary teams with an intercultural and inclusive approach to achieve sustainable change.
- He currently serves as Project Director and Governance & Human Rights Advisor for the TAP-EDM Project at Alinea International.
- Previously, he was Project Director of CISAL with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, a six-year municipal strengthening initiative in the Americas.