OEMC

2025 Ontario East Municipal Conference

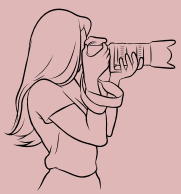
Where Innovation Meets Opportunity

September 17-19

Ottawa Conference and Event Centre

Pocket Program

Stay current with the program! Visit our website for full details, updates, speaker profiles, shuttle details for Wednesday evening, and more!



New This Year! Headshot Booth

Take advantage of our complimentary Headshot Booth, available during Wednesday's Exhibit Hall hours!

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

8:30 AM	**Registration Open | Morning Refreshments in *Exhibit Hall*** Sponsored by ENBRIDGE			
10:00-10:30 AM	**OEMC Opening Remarks & Government Address *Room 118 CDE***			
10:30-11:15 AM	**Opening Plenary Panel: Dealing with Change – Supporting Manufacturing & Jobs in a New Trade World *Room 118 CDE***			
11:20-12:20 PM	**Opening Keynote: Laugh it Off with Jessica Holmes *Room 118 CDE*** Sponsored by DEVCORE			
12:30-1:30 PM	**Lunch | Pick up your food in *Exhibit Hall*** Sponsored by ieso			
	Room 118 A	**Room 118 B**	**Room 106 FG**	**Room 106H**
1:30-2:30 PM	Lights, Camera, Action: Behind the Scenes in a Film-Friendly Town	Beginners Guide to Effective Funding Proposals | First Impressions Community Exchange Program	Canadian Immigration Toolbox and Economic Growth	Alto's High Speed Rail Project
2:30-3:00 PM	**Refreshment Break in *Exhibit Hall*** Sponsored by Welch LLP			
3:00-4:00 PM	Catalyzing Growth: Government Funding Strategies for Economic Development	Conservation Authorities and Municipalities – Partnerships in Action	Rural Inclusion Pilot Project: Collaborative Workforce Solutions for Growing Communities	Maximizing AI Impact in Local Government: From Strategy to Implementation
4:00-4:10 PM	**Transition**			
4:10-5:10 PM	Building Global Connections: Tactical Approaches to Attracting Investment in Eastern Ontario	Land (Un)Locked: Using Spatial Analysis to Unlock the Potential of Underused Public Lands	Collaborating for Prosperity: Uniting Communities to Create the Eastern Ontario Rail Trail Loop	
5:10-6:30 PM	**President's Reception in *Exhibit Hall*** Sponsored by ALTO			
6:30 PM	**Free Night! OEMC has partnered with Ottawa Tourism and Coventry Connections to make exploring the city easy and fun!** This year, delegates again have access to **Ottawa Tourism's Flash your Badge** program, and OEMC has teamed up with **Coventry Connections** to provide delegates **complimentary shuttle service and discounted taxi options**. COVENTRY CONNECTIONS INC			

Thursday, September 18, 2025

8:00-9:00 AM	**Breakfast in *Room 118 CDE***			
9:00-10:00 AM	**Morning Remarks in *Room 118 CDE*** Presentation by Sonya Shorey, President & CEO, Invest Ottawa ***Doug Ellis** EDO of the Year* **Award Presentation – Sponsored by** RESEARCHFDI Includes remarks from Steve Clark, MPP Leeds-Grenville-Thousand Islands and Rideau Lakes, and Dave Paul, HLM, Ontario East Economic Development Commission.			
10:00-10:30 AM	**Refreshment Break in *Exhibit Hall***			Sponsored by GEMTEC
	Room 210	**Room 212**	**Room 106 FG**	**Room 106 H**
10:30-11:30 AM	Universities as Engines of Growth	Optimizing the Environmental Assessment (EA) Process: Best Practices for Efficiency and Impact	Municipal Law Update	Facilitating Economic Development and Evidence-based Decision Making for Rural Communities
11:30-11:40 AM	**Transition**			
11:40-12:40 PM	HealthPulse Shuttle: Supporting Skill & Workforce Development Through Regional Partnerships	Gateway to Government Session	Tourism is big business in Eastern Ontario! *and* Regional Tourism Organization (RTO) Update	Tax Incremental Financing and Other Tools to Revitalize Distressed Areas within a Community
12:40-1:45 PM	**Lunch | Pick up your food in *Exhibit Hall***			Sponsored by Invest Ontario, Invest Ottawa, Investir Ottawa
1:45-2:45 PM	Envisioning Eastern Ontario's Electricity Future	Preserving our Past: Navigating the Changes to the Ontario Heritage Act Through Partnership	Workforce Housing: Emerging Solutions from Rural and Small Urban Municipalities (CMHC)	Finding Opportunities in Times of Upheaval: A Regional Perspective
2:45-3:15 PM	**Refreshment Break in *Exhibit Hall***			Sponsored by INNOVATION CLUSTER
3:15-4:15 PM	Driving Economic Growth: Harnessing the Power of BR+E with Prosper Belleville Insights	Warming Up to Climate Change: Municipal Resilience in Eastern Ontario	Practical Strategies for Rural Economic Development	Incenting ARU Development in Rapidly Growing Rural Areas: An ARU Initiative Case Study and Toolkit
5:30 PM	**Banquet & Entertainment - Reception begins at 5:30 p.m.** *Dinner & Entertainment to follow. Featuring **The Chesterfields**!*			Sponsored by CAMBIUM

Friday, September 19, 2025

8:30- 9:30 AM	Sponsored by envirocentre **Morning Refreshments and Closing Speaker in Room 118 AB** **How is Eastern Ontario's Economy Faring Amid Renewed Trump Uncertainty?** Sébastien Labrecque, Executive Director and Chief Economist of the StrategyCorp Institute of Public Policy and Economy Sponsored by StrategyCorp

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