

CANADIAN
CIRCULAR ECONOMY
SUMMIT 2025

EVENT SUMMARY **REPORT**

20
25





A Solution Space by
Generate Canada

Circular Economy Leadership Canada (CELC) was launched in 2018 as a network of corporate leaders, non-profit think tanks, and academic researchers. CELC is part of a broader family of organizations under the umbrella of Generate Canada, a not-for-profit charity, focused on advancing a “strong and inclusive economy that thrives within nature’s limits”. Tapping into a network of Partner organizations across the country, CELC provides thought leadership, technical expertise, and collaborative platforms for accelerating systems change and the transition to a low carbon, circular economy in Canada.

www.circulareconomyleaders.ca



Circular Innovation Council (CIC) is a national, not-for-profit, membership-based organization with over 40 years of experience delivering programming that educates and empowers Canadians to take action on the circular economy and its environmental, economic and social benefits. In concert with our members and partners, we leverage our experience and expertise to deliver on the broad gains inspired by the circular economy through research, policy, programs, and pilots. Our mandate is to accelerate Canada’s transition toward a circular economy by putting concepts into action.

www.circularinnovation.ca

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ABOUT THE Canadian Circular Economy Summit 2025

Co-hosted by Circular Economy Leadership Canada (CELC) and Circular Innovation Council (CIC), the second bi-annual Canadian Circular Economy Summit (CCES) was held on April 15-17, 2025, at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth in Montréal.

The event brought together over 950 leaders in-person from across sectors and industries alongside the public sector to collaborate on efforts and activities in order to actively advance projects, investments, collaborations, and to inform policies that will reshape our current linear economic model into a circular one.

CCES 2025 Objectives

- Identify and showcase the broad and wide-ranging benefits of the circular economy for Canada, including innovation, productivity, affordability, and economic development benefits.
- Highlight existing and leading-edge examples of circular economy in practice, including projects, initiatives, organizations, and best practices.
- Bring partners and networks together across material streams and industry sectors through rich, interactive, outcome-focused programming and match-making.
- Engage with a broad group of stakeholders beyond the traditional circularity and sustainability communities.
- Map progress toward the critical enablers and priority actions required for advancing a circular economy aligned with the Circular Economy Action Plan for Canada.
- Engage in business-to-business transactions, inform policy, and create new relationships

CCES 2025 Partners & Sponsors

The CCES 2025 was a collaborative effort between co-hosts CELC and CIC, as well as the City of Montréal, Centre d'études et de recherches intersectorielles en économie circulaire (CERIEC), Réseau de recherche en économie circulaire (RRECQ), and RECYC-QUÉBEC.

In addition, a Textiles & Apparel Track was organized in partnership with Fashion Takes Action. The Canada Plastics Pact (CPP) also hosted its annual CPP Partners Summit in conjunction with CCES 2025, which took place on Day 1 of the event.

The organization of CCES 2025 was further supported by a Planning Committee made up of 12 leading organizations involved in advancing circular economy efforts across Canada, providing a diversity of perspectives. In addition, 57 event sponsors provided financial and in-kind support.

See Appendix A for the full list of CCES 2025 Planning Committee members, sponsors, and event partners.



We partnered with Sparx Publishing Group to release the inaugural issue of Circular Economy Magazine, which explores opportunities and leading initiatives focused on advancing the circular economy in Canada.

This first edition was developed in the lead up to and launched at CCES 2025.

[Check out the digital magazine!](#)



We were very pleased with the CCES 2025 event - from the highly engaged participants, the traffic at our booth, the dynamic panels, and the amazing organizational support provided to our team by the CCES 2025 team in setting up a linked side event.

– Robert Cumming, Head of Sustainability, Environment, and Public Affairs, Lafarge Eastern Canada

Delegate Participation

The wait-listed event brought together delegates from geographic regions across Canada, as well as Europe and the United States. Delegates represented a diversity of organizations and sectors, including:

- Businesses (corporates, SMEs, start-ups)
- Governments (all levels and jurisdictions) and policy-makers
- Investors and funders
- Innovators (emerging business models, cleantech, researchers)
- Academia
- Non-governmental organizations
- Climate leaders
- Industry associations and chambers of commerce
- Economic development agencies
- International trade partners and solution providers

In total, 970 delegates registered for the event from 589 organizations, including more than half of the organizations (53%) coming from the private sector (see Figure 1). Thirty-one percent (31%) of participating organizations were from the Province of Québec. See Appendix B for a full list of registered organizations.

Academic / Applied Research	48	8%
Corporate (incl. SMEs and Start-ups)	296	50%
Financial / Investor / Insurance	18	3%
Government (Fed / Prov / Local)	73	12%
NGOs	121	21%
Industry Association	33	6%
TOTAL	589	100%

Figure 1: Breakdown of Participating Organizations

We have been able to meet the right people to help us partner and move forward. Because of CCES, we're connecting to the circular economy in a totally different way.

– Rashmi Prakash, CEO & Co-Founder, Aruna Revolution



Innovation Expo & Espace Québec

The CCES 2025 Expo consisted of 35 booths representing a diversity of innovative businesses and leading organizations from across Canada and internationally. Delegates had a chance to browse the expo hall, connect with exhibitors, and set up meetings with representatives through Swapcard, the event networking app.

In addition, RECYC-QUÉBEC hosted an Espace Québec (Quebec Pavilion) at CCES 2025, providing a dedicated space highlighting the leadership, innovation, and contributions made by local Québec organizations towards accelerating the circular economy in the province.

Under a theme of “experience the circular economy through your five senses”, RECYC-QUÉBEC invited the CCES 2025 delegates to discover concrete and inspiring circular initiatives by following a journey that allowed delegates to **see** the circular economy in action, **listen** to the experience of visionary partners, **taste** and **smell** circular food and other items, **touch** and **feel** some of the solutions and their effects.

Québec Circulaire also hosted their annual Circular Initiatives Awards at the closing of Day 1, which celebrated six groundbreaking Québec- based initiatives across a variety of sectors, industries and issue areas.



Language Accessibility

In order to enhance the accessibility of CCES 2025 and its content for delegates, the event was offered in both of Canada’s official languages (English and French). Through simultaneous AI translation software ([Wordly](#)) sponsored by RECYC-QUÉBEC, delegates could read the real-time transcript and/or listen to audio translation for all sessions in the language of their choice. Not only did this allow CCES 2025 to be a fully bilingual event by allowing speakers to present in the language of their choice, it also supported international delegations to participate in a dozen additional languages.

Inclusivity

This year, six CCES 2025 sponsors stepped up to champion inclusivity, collectively contributing a total budget of \$10,500 to support inclusivity-sponsored delegates. Funds were allocated to where they were most needed, including delegate passes, accommodations, and per diems, ensuring meaningful access and engagement.

CCES inclusivity sponsorship directly supported:

- Hotel stays for 10 entrepreneurs / SMEs from underrepresented communities who would have otherwise been unable to attend CCES
- Honorarium and per diem for our Indigenous keynote speaker, elevating Indigenous knowledge as it relates to the circular economy
- Waived or discounted fees for 15 diverse delegates from under-represented backgrounds and communities

This commitment to creating inclusive spaces helped to create an environment where new voices can be heard, connections can be forged, and real opportunities for change can emerge, with delegates leaving CCES 2025 inspired, empowered, and better equipped to contribute to Canada's circular economy movement.

As someone working in sustainable finance, attending the Circular Economy Summit in Montreal was a truly inspiring experience. The sessions offered practical, forward-looking insights, and the opportunity to connect with academics, policymakers, and business leaders across sectors was invaluable. I left energized by the growing momentum behind circular solutions and reassured that circularity is important to the success of the sustainable finance movement.

– Maya Saryyeva, Acting Director, Institute for Sustainable Finance, Queen's University





CCES 2025 Program Highlights

Delegates had the opportunity to participate in **57 sessions across a variety of interactive formats**: from keynotes, to panel discussions and armchair dialogues, workshops and working sessions, breakfast and evening networking events, site tours, and other action-oriented programming. A dedicated Textiles & Apparel Track was hosted by Fashion Takes Action.

CCES 2025 featured more than 180 speakers, including 24 international subject-matter experts, who shared their knowledge and passion for addressing barriers and advancing the opportunities around circularity and innovation. Considered thought leaders and the leading practitioners of our time, speakers challenged, inspired, and explored the connections between circular economy and climate action, encouraging delegates to engage on a deeper level.

A more detailed program agenda can be found in Appendix C, as well as more fulsome session summaries including links to speaker presentations and session recordings from the Plenary Room.

Day 1 Highlights: Collaboration, Local Action, and Innovative Business Models

Day 1 of CCES 2025 (Tuesday, April 15), highlighted how diverse stakeholders can – and must – unite efforts to accelerate Canada's transition to a circular economy. The day underscored that this transition isn't just an environmental imperative, but a powerful driver for economic competitiveness, social well-being, and climate resilience.

The day's sessions collectively highlighted the critical enablers for circularity: information, collaboration, innovation, progressive policy, and strategic investment, while celebrating local action, innovative business models, the role of SMEs, and strategic partnerships.

A National Vision, Local Commitment, and Policy Frameworks for Circularity

The day kicked off with a powerful Opening Plenary, co-hosted by Paul Shorthouse (Circular Economy Leadership Canada) and Jo-Anne St. Godard (Circular Innovation Council), setting an ambitious agenda for collaboration and action. An Indigenous keynote by Ka'nahsohon Kevin Deer provided a vital perspective on stewardship and interconnectedness, grounding the circular economy in principles of balance and respect for nature. Welcome addresses from Benoit Charette (Minister of Environment, Quebec) and Luc Rabouin (City of Montreal) underscored the commitment of different levels of government, while program partners RECYC-QUÉBEC and ÉTS / CERIEC / RRECQ showcased institutional support.



Echoing this overarching vision, the session "Act Local: The Critical Role of Local Governments for Enabling a Circular Economy" highlighted the indispensable role of municipalities. A diverse panel of local government leaders from North America and Europe shared their experiences implementing circular policies, incentives, planning, and services. This session showcased how local governments are becoming hubs for innovation and catalysts for change, uniquely positioned to facilitate collaboration between businesses, consumers, and community organizations. Collectively, these sessions made a decisive contribution to uniting diverse stakeholders around a shared national and local vision, demonstrating how the circular economy is being embraced at all levels to tackle urgent challenges from climate change to housing and food security.

Further enriching the policy discussions, the "EPR Success Stories: How to Prepare and Operationalize EPR in Canada" session provided crucial insights into existing Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs in various geographies. This discussion, involving experts from Clear Strategy Inc., American Apparel & Footwear Association, and Gap Inc., prepared the Canadian fashion industry for implementing effective EPR for textiles, showcasing vital lessons for policy adoption in resource recovery.

The Circular Economy: A Driver for Innovation and Competitiveness

The day also highlighted the economic potential of the circular economy and strategies to leverage it. The session "Circular Value Creation: Driving Competitiveness & Productivity through the Circular Economy" explored how the circular economy serves as a model for value creation, inspiring eco-innovation, and enhancing productivity. Experts highlighted diverse innovation ecosystems, showing how governments and businesses are adopting bold strategies to thrive in a circular economy.

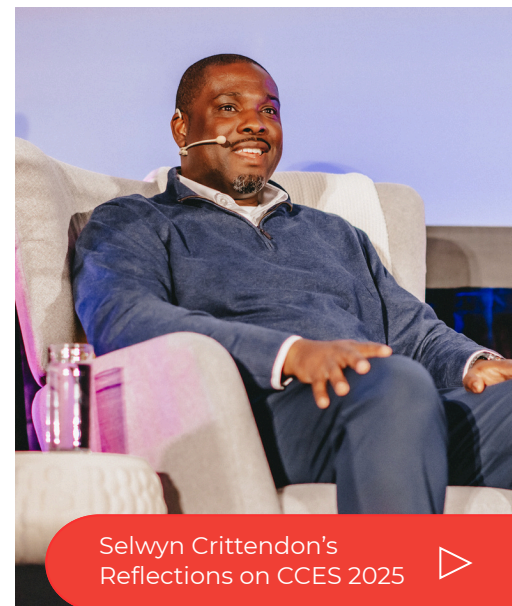
To further support these arguments, the "Living Proof: Canadian Circular Economy Business & Community Case Studies" session celebrated Canada's emerging leadership by presenting concrete circular initiatives and their promising potential. By showcasing innovative solutions and engaging collaborations across various sectors and regions, these sessions contributed to demonstrating the tangible economic benefits of circularity and encouraging its widespread adoption.

The "CEO Spotlight: Pioneering Leadership in the Circular Economy" session brought together inspiring leaders like Selwyn Crittendon (IKEA Canada), Guy Wakeley (Reconomy), and Nuha Siddiqui (erthos). They shared their strategic priorities and approaches to integrating circular practices within their businesses and value chains.

This discussion was crucial for demonstrating commitment from top corporate leaders and inspiring other businesses to embrace circularity as a competitive advantage. This theme was powerfully reinforced by the "Scaling Circular Business Models: Rethinking Revenue Generation" session, featuring insights from H&M and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. This session specifically demonstrated how the fashion industry is leveraging circularity to redefine value creation by decoupling revenue from production and resource use, providing a tangible example of economic innovation.

Strategic Resource Management, Climate Impact, and Sustainable Design

The day also delved into more focused themes, emphasizing the crucial links between circularity and major environmental challenges. The session "Maximizing the Supply of Critical Minerals & Metals through Circular Economy Strategies" explored how circular strategies—such as designing for circularity, recycling, and reuse—can secure a sustainable supply of essential minerals. This discussion provided strategic insights into resource security and reducing reliance on virgin extraction, particularly for Canada. Concurrently, the "Pathways to Net Zero: Linkages between Circular Economy & Climate Change" session highlighted the critical understanding that achieving net-zero climate targets requires addressing the 45% of carbon emissions attributed to product production and use. This session made a vital contribution by firmly establishing the circular economy as an indispensable strategy for climate action, underscoring how regenerative design reduces both upstream and downstream emissions.



Selwyn Crittendon's
Reflections on CCES 2025



Within this critical domain of resource management and design, the Textiles Track provided a focused deep dive. The keynote "Identity Crisis: The First Step in Solving for Textile Circularity" by Amelia Eleiter (Debrand) pinpointed the core challenge facing the industry: understanding the complex composition and construction of modern textiles.



Solving this "identity crisis" through innovation and collaboration was presented as fundamental to unlocking circular solutions. Building on this, the session "Driving Circularity: Exploring ESPR, Digital Product Passports, and Circular Design Certifications" highlighted the role of Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR), certifications, and digital product passports in fostering transparency and meeting new requirements for textiles, thereby supporting more sustainable product lifecycles. Furthermore, "Key Enablers to Circular Innovation Within Traditional Supply Chains" explored the transformative

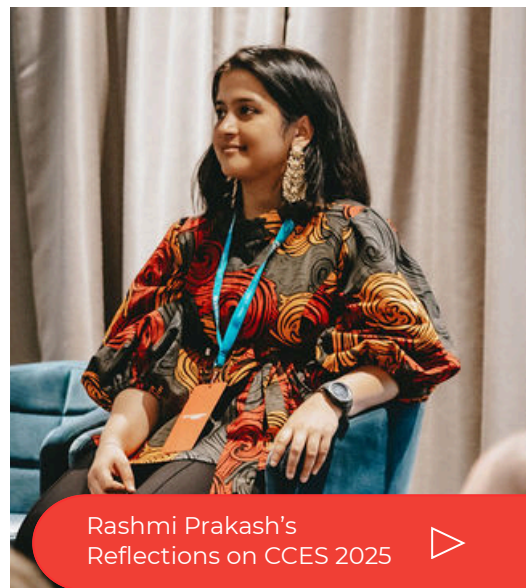
potential of Next Gen materials like hemp and strategies for integrating these sustainable alternatives into existing textile supply chains, emphasizing risk mitigation and environmental benefits.

New Frontiers, Practical Applications, and the Essential Role of SMEs

Finally, the day explored emerging fields, practical applications, and the fundamental role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The session "[Nature's Blueprint: Advancing Opportunities in the Circular Bioeconomy and through Regenerative Product Innovation](#)" inspired the audience by presenting product innovations derived from nature-based feedstocks, opening pathways for regenerative product design and exciting new applications. This session broadened the scope of circularity by promoting the sustainable use of biological resources. This spirit of practical application was echoed by the "[Designing for Circularity: A Hands-On Workshop for Circular Fashion](#)," a key initiative of the Canadian Circular Textiles Consortium (CCTC), which offered participants actionable tools and knowledge to apply circular design principles directly to garments, fostering a regenerative fashion industry.

Recognizing SMEs as the backbone of Canada's economy and significant contributors to emissions and waste, the parallel sessions "[SME Showcase: Canada's Circular Economic Engine](#)" and "[SME Workshop: Supporting Canada's Circular Economic Engine](#)" were dedicated to them. The showcase featured SME leaders successfully implementing circular practices to grow market share and profitability, while the workshop offered practical guidance on accessing programs, resources, and funding. Together, these sessions were crucial for empowering the vast SME sector, providing them with the knowledge, tools, and inspiration to become a driving force in Canada's circular economy.

Lastly, the "[The Recipe for Advancing Canada's IC&I Circular Food Economy Workshop](#)" addressed the significant issue of food loss and waste, exploring the design of circular food systems within the Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector—a key element for ensuring food security and reducing waste.



In Conclusion

Day 1 of CCES 2025 was a comprehensive and action-oriented start, successfully uniting diverse perspectives from government, industry leaders, local innovators, and researchers around the central theme of accelerating Canada's circular economy transition. It emphasized the critical interconnections between policy, innovation, investment, and localized action, all underpinned by a collaborative spirit to build a more sustainable and prosperous future.



CCES 2025 was for growing the circular economy in Canada because it brings together the leading minds and organizations that are advancing the circular economy. We are coming together to learn from each other, build momentum, establish collaboration, and advance and proliferate the use of circular technologies.

– Michael Leering, Director, Environment & Business Excellence, CSA Group

The connections made [at CCES 2025] will greatly impact mine and my team's work going forward. Further, the global connections through the event have enabled worldwide connections to address complex circularity issues and initiatives.

– Abby Armstrong, Project Manager, Environmental Programs, City of Ottawa



This circular economy event really showcased the brightest ideas and the thought-provoking ways to really help people AND planet, and how we can come together to find the right answers for many Canadians... We as business, government, and individuals can all make a difference, but we have to do this together.

– Selwyn Crittendon, CEO & Chief Sustainability Officer, IKEA Canada

Day 2 Highlights: Operationalizing Circularity: From Principles to Action

Day 2 of CCES 2025 (Wednesday, April 16) focused on operationalizing the circular economy, emphasizing the practical steps, strategic alliances, and transformative tools required for its widespread adoption. The day underscored that moving beyond conceptual understanding necessitates concerted effort across sectors, fueled by innovation, robust financing, and precise measurement.



Maya Colombani's Reflections on CCES 2025 ▶

Fostering Cross-Sector Collaboration and Guiding Principles for a Just Transition

The day opened with a powerful emphasis on the indispensable nature of collaboration and systemic transformation. The session "[Closing the Gap: Innovative Collaboration to Advance the Circular Economy](#)" showcased successful partnerships across sectors, value chains, and academia. It highlighted how pre-competitive alliances are co-creating circular solutions, proving that collaboration across disciplines and geographies is essential for building a functional and inclusive circular economy in Canada.

This idea of purposeful collaboration was further explored in "[Blueprint for Transformation: Principles to Guide a Just, Equitable & Sustainable Circular Economy](#)." This session delved into the core tenets necessary for a truly transformative shift, emphasizing how ecological imperatives, social justice, and economic viability must coexist through innovative governance, inclusive policies, and alternatives to consumption-driven growth. It provided a guiding framework for all circular initiatives, ensuring that the transition benefits people, planet, and prosperity alike. Moreover, the "[Unifying Efforts to Advance a Circular Economy: A Case Study on Collaboration within Canada's Resource Recovery Sector](#)" session specifically highlighted the crucial role of collaboration and harmonization among various actors in establishing an efficient and effective circular economy across Canada, particularly concerning resource recovery for packaging and paper products. This spotlighted unique partnerships, such as between Circular Materials and Éco Entreprises Québec (EEQ), demonstrating how collaborative approaches accelerate systems change.

Within the textile sector, this collaborative spirit was also evident in the "[Textiles Lab: A Living Laboratory To Accelerate Textile Circularity In Quebec](#)" session, which presented the initial results of co-creation workshops. This initiative brings together the entire value chain of Quebec's textile industry – from researchers and manufacturers to thrift stores and recyclers – to collaboratively identify and test structuring solutions for resource circularity, directly demonstrating multi-stakeholder engagement for systemic change.



Michael Leering's Reflections on CCES 2025 ▶

Driving Economic Growth through Strategic Financing & Business Model Innovation

A crucial enabling factor for this transformation is financing and investment. The session "[Financing the Shift: De-risking Investments to Scale Circular Economy Solutions](#)" explored how financial institutions can de-risk investments in circular businesses, projects, and infrastructure, ultimately unlocking the capital needed to scale solutions and drive long-term value creation.

Complementing this, the "[Special Breakfast: Boosting Your Business Through the Circular Economy](#)" offered inspiring real-world testimonies from entrepreneurial companies including FoodHero, KSM Fertilizers, and Ecotri - Groupe Desourdy. These panelists vividly illustrated how integrating circular economy principles directly translates into business success, cost savings, new revenue streams, and enhanced employee engagement across diverse industries. This served as a powerful call to action, showcasing the tangible economic benefits for businesses of all sizes. The session "[Unlocking Sustainable Value: The Transformative Power of Product-as-a-Service Models](#)" further demonstrated innovative revenue generation. By shifting focus from ownership to the value of services, PaaS models encourage circular design and maximize asset utilization across industries like electronics, shipping, and construction, driving both economic and environmental benefits.

Further emphasizing business model innovation, the "[Unlocking Circular Business Model Capabilities in Canada](#)" session, hosted by Deloitte, guided participants in evaluating their organization's current position to identify strengths and opportunities for enhancing capabilities through innovative practices, strategic partnerships, and smart investments. This interactive session underscored the direct link between CBMs and driving sustainability within Canadian businesses. Within the fashion sector, the "[Scaling Circular Business Models: Rethinking Revenue Generation](#)" session, featuring insights from H&M and the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, provided a concrete example of this. It demonstrated how the industry is leveraging circularity to redefine value creation by decoupling revenue from production and resource use, providing a tangible pathway for economic innovation.



Rethinking Product Lifecycles: Design, Repair, Reuse, and Material Innovation

Day 2 also saw a significant focus on reimagining products and their lifecycles for a circular future. "[Designing for Loops: Products & Packaging Fit for a Circular Economy](#)" delved into the core principles of circular design, showing how products and packaging can be reimagined to reduce waste, maximize product lifecycles, and minimize unintended consequences. This underscored the importance of design thinking as a foundational element of the circular economy.

Building on this, the "[Repair Centre: Exploring Right to Repair & Value-Retention Processes to Drive Circularity](#)" session emphasized ensuring products remain in use as long as possible. Experts discussed policy advancements, consumer attitudes, and business models finding profitability through repair, directly challenging planned obsolescence.

Complementing repair, "[The Reuse Revolution: Expanding the Reuse Economy Through Policy, Technology & Market Drivers](#)" explored the rapid global growth of reuse systems. Discussions covered evolving policy and regulatory frameworks at all government levels, and how municipal initiatives, technology, and market drivers are

enabling reuse at scale, fostering a crucial shift away from single-use mentalities. This was powerfully reinforced by "[How Reuse is Driving the Future of Fashion](#)," where Tony ShumPERT of Value Village shared how the thrift economy redefines relationships between people, planet, and profit, demonstrating a thriving retail model based on secondhand shopping. Additionally, "[Exploring the Potential of Secondhand Apparel Wholesale](#)" delved into the untapped opportunities in extending the life of sellable clothing items through wholesale, highlighting its crucial role in the circular textile model before other recycling pathways are considered.



Transforming Key Industries & Sectors: From Construction to Textiles



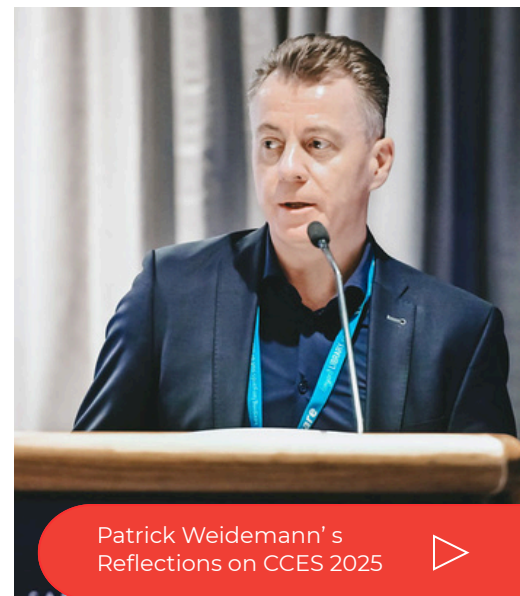
CCES 2025 also delved into practical applications and sectoral deep-dives, demonstrating how circularity is being integrated into specific, high-impact areas. The "[Scaling Circularity Strategies in the Construction & Real Estate Sector](#)" workshop brought together circular economy practitioners and built environment stakeholders to co-develop solutions for systemic challenges in this critical sector. By focusing on real-world innovation challenges, it fostered collaboration and identified enabling conditions, barriers, and partnerships for advancing circular projects, standards, and capacity building. This session exemplified the move from discussion to actionable solutions within a key industry.

Similarly, "[Creating Circular Demand: Using Procurement to Shape Circular Markets](#)" showcased the potential for significant emissions reduction, cost savings, and fair supply chain practices through the power of collaborative procurement, highlighting practical tools applicable across purchasing categories. The "[Circular Breakfast for Friends & Allies of the Circular Plastics Taskforce \(CPT\)](#)" also provided a focused exchange on plastic circularity, highlighting ongoing projects and future endeavors within a key material stream.

Furthermore, "[Scaling Regeneration and Circularity in Fashion](#)" saw Canopy and Bast Fibre Tech discuss collaborating with brands on the future of sustainable fashion, emphasizing Next Gen fibre innovation and strategies for overcoming obstacles to inspire broader industry adoption. This commitment to sustainable material management was further detailed in sessions like "[Processing Textiles for Insulation Panels Pilot](#)," which showcased a high-volume solution for textile waste by recycling surplus into insulation panels, and "[CCTC Thermal Recycling Pilot](#)," which investigated innovative alternative pathways for textile-to-textile recycling through pyrolysis to produce materials that enhance soil health and sequester carbon.

The Need for Data, the Role of Technology, and Achieving Systems Change

Crucially, Day 2 also focused on the enabling infrastructure and data-driven decision-making necessary for scaling circularity. The "[Leveraging Data for Circular Economy Decision-Making Workshop](#)" directly tackled the "data dilemma," providing participants with insights into necessary data categories and resources to overcome barriers to circularity uptake. This was reinforced by "[Metrics Matter: Pioneering Standardization in Circular Economy Measurement](#)," which highlighted the growing importance of standardized and harmonized approaches to measuring circular performance to support diverse objectives, from financial returns to environmental impact. These sessions collectively emphasized that robust data and technological integration are non-negotiable for building a scalable and effective circular economy.



"[Tech-Driven Transformation: Harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution for a Circular Economy](#)" illustrated how digital, physical, and biological technologies—from AI and robotics to blockchain and bio-based materials—are essential for accelerating the transition. These technologies enhance efficiencies, reduce waste, improve data sharing, and support circular design, demonstrating the crucial role of advanced tools.



CCES 2025 also recognized the broader systemic shifts required, as seen in "[Roadmaps for Success: Policy & Industry Alignment to Support a Thriving Circular Economy](#)." This session explored the critical role of national, provincial, and municipal roadmaps in guiding stakeholders, aligning investments, and setting ambitious goals for a coordinated circular approach. "[Global Perspectives: Insights from Circular Economy Efforts Around the World](#)" broadened the scope, showcasing leaders from international organizations and governments and providing valuable context and inspiration for Canada's efforts.

This idea was further explored in "Blueprint for Transformation: Principles to Guide a Just, Equitable & Sustainable Circular Economy," which delved into the core tenets necessary for a truly transformative shift. This session emphasized how ecological imperatives, social justice, and economic viability must coexist through innovative governance, inclusive policies, and alternatives to consumption-driven growth, providing a guiding framework for all circular initiatives.

Day 2 also explored a compelling argument presented in "We Can't Afford Not To: The Power of the Circular Economy to Address Today's Rising Cost of Living." This session starkly connected the dots between the costs imposed by the linear economy (resource scarcity, food insecurity, climate impacts) and the ability of circular economy strategies to alleviate these burdens, providing a powerful economic and societal rationale for accelerated action on all fronts.

In conclusion

From de-risking financial investments and leveraging cutting-edge technology to designing for longevity and scaling solutions in key sectors, Day 2 of CCES 2025 highlighted the multifaceted and interconnected nature of building a resilient, equitable, and prosperous circular economy in Canada.



The fact that we have a big event like this that invigorates this movement for good is really important because we can scale our impact, we can share best practices, we can learn from each other, and we make Canada a powerful source of innovation internationally for the circular economy.

– Maya Colombani, Chief Sustainability & Human Rights Officer, L'Oréal Canada

Day 3 Highlights: Site Tours

CCES 2025 offered optional half-day site tours on Day 3 (Thursday, April 17) of the event to various locations in the Montreal area under several themes related to CCES 2025:

- Full Circle Construction: Circular Strategies for the Built Environment
- Cirque de Soleil & Vestechpro Tour
- Urban Roots & Circular Routes: Inside Montreal's Circular Agrifood Scene
- Circular Plastics: Innovations in Resource Recovery
- Deloitte Smart Factory

These site tours served as a way to see the circular economy in action and learn more about the cutting edge innovation happening in Montréal's backyard. Full descriptions of the tours can be found in Appendix D.

CCES 2025 served as a catalyst for several side events and meetings for various stakeholder groups, including:

- IURC delegation with full-day program and tours for 15 European and US cities
- Arup networking reception
- Lafarge breakfast on recycled aggregates
- National Research Council full-day workshop for Eureka Program
- Natural Products Canada pitch event and networking reception

The Canadian Circular Economy Summit was a great success, with energizing, enriching, and valuable three days of programming. The site tours were the perfect way to round off the week, allowing the opportunity to see ideas in practice. I was able to make new contacts and strengthen existing ones, and came away with lots of food for thought as well as seeds for follow-up conversations.

– Adrienne Yuen, Manager, Strategic Initiatives & Innovation, Standards Council of Canada





Our Impact

Our Footprint

The organizers of CCES 2025 were dedicated to minimizing the footprint of the event while maximizing the positive impacts and benefits for the local community through proactive planning and strategic reduction of waste and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This included using electric buses when possible for the site tours, securing a partnership with VIA Rail to incentivize rail travel over flying or driving, encouraging taking public transit for local delegates through pre-event communications, virtual speaker and delegate gifts, and featuring a fully vegetarian menu. CCES 2025 is purchasing carbon offsets to mitigate the GHG emissions generated from the event.

Food & Hospitality

The Fairmont Queen Elizabeth was chosen as the venue for CCES 2025 due to its emphasis on sustainability and their extensive waste reduction efforts and programs.

The menu of CCES 2025 was intentionally chosen to be fully vegetarian in order to reduce the environmental impact of the food provided. FoodSteps conducted a Food & Beverage Impact Report for CCES 2025 and identified that a total of 9.39 tonnes of CO₂e was generated through the production of the meals supplied, earning an overall score of 'B = Low Carbon'. 87.9% of recipes were 'Very Low Carbon' or 'Low Carbon', only 3% of recipes were 'High Carbon', and 0% of recipes were considered 'Very High Carbon'.

A total of 736 kilograms (kgs) of food was left over from the event, and was diverted from landfill through the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth's partnership with Tablée des Chefs. The food redistributed from CCES 2025 was able to feed 2,453 people in need.

The food waste generated from the event that could not be donated was processed using Solucycle digestors which was then sent to the Centre de traitement de la biomasse de la Montérégie (CTBM) to generate biogas. The biogas is purchased and sold

by Energir, the main gas supplier in Québec. Farmers in the province are able to use the digestate left as nutrient-rich fertilizer, meaning that no food ended up in the landfill, the carbon footprint was reduced, and none of the value of the resources were wasted. These efforts are a key example of putting circular logistics into action to make the most of our resources and extract as much value as possible.

Transportation

A carbon footprint analysis was conducted by the Conseil québécois des événements écoresponsable (CQEER), a women-led non-profit organization, to determine the impact of delegates' travel using the information provided at registration as well as the site tours on Day 3 (April 17th).

The GHG emissions generated by delegate's travel was calculated to be approximately 240.8 tonnes of CO₂e and the GHG emissions generated by the site visits was calculated to be approximately 170 kg CO₂e, for a total of 241 tonnes of CO₂e. For more information, please see the [full report](#).

Partnering with Unwrapit and IKEA Canada

By partnering with [Unwrapit](#) to provide zero-waste speaker gifts and to delegates who completed the post-event survey, CCES 2025 supported:

- 136 trees planted
- 527 meals for food-insecure Canadians
- 320 kilowatt hours of clean energy added to the grid
- \$850 in donations to Canadian charities

[IKEA Canada](#) created a networking lounge for delegates to enjoy on the mezzanine floor using IKEA products. These pieces of furniture were generously donated after the event to those in need through the [Welcome Collective](#).

Purchasing Carbon Offsets

In addition to many delegates purchasing carbon offsets as part of their travel through their individual airlines, CELC and CIC purchased 142 tonnes of carbon offsets through [Veritree](#) to reduce the GHG emission impacts from CCES 2025. The offset project chosen is the Great Bear Rainforest (verified carbon offsets as part of Great Bear Carbon).

From a business standpoint, this was the best financial investment I have made in a long time... Exceptional is all I can say!

- Claude Plourde, President & Founder, CF Packs



Broader Impact & Benefits Coming from CCES 2025

CCES 2025 partnered with [MEET4IMPACT](#) and Tourisme Montréal to conduct an impact analysis on how CCES 2025 contributed to the emergence of a more connected and impactful circular economy ecosystem. Early results of the analysis illustrate how CCES 2025 moved beyond dialogue to deliver tangible steps toward a more circular and collaborative future for Canada, supported by qualitative narratives and emerging quantitative indicators.

Specific areas of impact include:

- **Stakeholder Engagement and Economic Development.** CCES 2025 created a dynamic space for economic actors—from SMEs to global corporations, municipal leaders to financiers—to exchange and explore actionable circular solutions. Business-to-business (B2B) and business-to-government (B2G) meetings flourished through structured matchmaking and informal exchanges.

Delegates actively used the platform to explore cross-sector collaborations, with over 600 structured meetings initiated and hundreds of informal connections logged via Swapcard. 82% of app users joined at least one scheduled networking interaction, showing a high level of engagement and highlighting relationship building as a key outcome of CCES 2025.

Many organisations—including SMEs, investors, and public agencies—reported new conversations and follow-ups around CE investment models, procurement alignment, and innovation testing. Post-event surveys indicated multiple reports of B2B follow-ups and partnerships that came about as a result of CCES 2025, with notable mentions of cross-sector exploration.

Government bodies used the event to position their work and identify collaborators. In addition, several sectors not traditionally central to the circular economy space participated, highlighting an expanded reach and broader engagement and interest in the circular economy.

CCES 2025 created fertile ground for stakeholder mobilisation and economic dialogue. Government agencies, private investors, SMEs, and startups reported interest in CE partnerships and procurement pilots, particularly in sectors such as construction, packaging, and fashion reuse. Several exhibitors reported new leads or rekindled partnerships, and interview data suggests participants gained sector-specific contacts to explore investment, procurement, and implementation opportunities.

- **Showcasing Circular Solutions.** The Québec Pavilion, site tours, and breakout sessions featured concrete circular case studies—bringing innovations off the page and into action. Montréal and Québec-based innovations were front and centre, earning recognition from national and international delegates alike, with 90% of attendees rating their experience of the site tours as useful for understanding Montréal's leadership in the circular economy space. Montréal-based actors played key roles in programme content and community-focused initiatives, reinforcing local leadership.

Hands-on workshops and innovation showcases were the most engaging session formats, particularly those that blended technical content with peer exchange. Beyond discussion, several projects were initiated—ranging from policy pilots to procurement experiments and coalition-building.



- **Knowledge Transfer & Capacity Building.** CCES 2025 was intentionally designed to support learning through workshops, roundtables, and site-based discovery. Sessions drew strong interest for their applied focus—particularly in construction, local government leadership, and data tools.

Delegates valued practical case studies, concrete strategies, and the opportunity to ask questions directly to solution providers and city representatives. Learning themes consistently revolved around circular metrics, innovative procurement, and ecosystem collaboration. Attendees included both practitioners and policymakers, suggesting CCES 2025 succeeded in fostering multi-directional learning.

The analysis highlighted notable attendance from youth, underrepresented sectors, and new circular economy entrants, showcasing a significant step towards achieving widespread support and adoption of the circular economy.

Through high-quality content, dynamic networking, and immersive experiences, CCES 2025 generated tangible business leads, seeded policy alignment, and laid the groundwork for systemic collaboration.

The Canadian Circular Economy Summit raises the most important issues of our time and brings together decision-makers to discuss and find potential avenues for collaboration and, in a practical way, bring the circular economy forward in Canada.

- Kari Herlevi, International Program Director for Circular Economy, Sitra

This "Summit" was the perfect name—you really took the conversation on the circular economy to new heights! CCES 2025 was such an inspiring space to connect, learn, and build momentum. It was an energizing and meaningful experience.

- Cathy Baptista, Coordonnatrice scientifique, RRECQ



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: CCES 2025 Partners & Sponsors

Below is a list of our Planning Committee partners and sponsors for the inaugural Canadian Circular Economy Summit 2025.

CCES 2025 Planning Committee Members

- Centre d'études et de recherches intersectorielles en économie circulaire (CERIEC)
- Circular Economy Leadership Canada
- Circular Innovation Council
- City of Montréal
- CSA Group
- Environment and Climate Change Canada
- Fashion Takes Action
- Generate Canada
- Ivey School of Business
- National Zero Waste Council (NZWC)
- RECYC QUÉBEC
- Réseau de recherche en économie circulaire (RRECQ)
- Smart Prosperity Institute
- Synergy Foundation

CCES 2025 Collaborating Partners



CCES 2025 Sponsors

Circular Legends



Circular Champions



Circular Heroes



Circular Advocates



Textile Track Sponsors

Circular Leaders



Session Sponsors



CCES 2025 was supported by



APPENDIX B: Participating Organizations

2 Degrés	Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA)	Cascades
3Z Brothers Inc.	Axipolymer inc.	Cascades Recovery +
5REDO	Bank & Vogue Ltd	Cascadia Seaweed Corp.
Acadia University	Bast Fibre Technologies	CBRE Limitée
Accademia Qualitas	Bell Canada	Cégep de Jonquière
Adrem Brands Inc	Belron Canada	Centre de recherche sur les milieux insulaires et maritimes (CERMIM)
Aduro Clean Technologies Inc.	Berga Recycling Inc	Centre de transfert technologique en écologie industrielle (CTTEI)
Aéroports de Montreal	Berger	Centre for Building Sustainable Value
Agence de la transition écologique (ADEME)	Beverage Container Management Board	Centre québécois de développement durable (CQDD)
Agriculture & Agri-food Canada	Beyond21 Academy	CESolutions2022 Inc.
AgriRÉCUP	Bimbo Canada	Chambre de commerce et d'industrie de Laval
Aisen	Biosphere Institute of the Bow Valley	Chambre de commerce et de l'industrie du Haut-Richelieu (CCIHR)
Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC)	Brique Recyc	Chantier de l'économie sociale
Alberta Plastics Recycling Association	Brookstone Strategy	ChapTec
Alberta Recycling Management Authority	Bureau de Normalisation du Québec (BNQ)	Chemistry Industry Association of Canada (CIAC)
American Apparel & Footwear Association	Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC)	CHEP Canada
Amhil	Call2Recycle	Chevallove
AndProsper	CalRecycle	CHROMA conseil
Anthesis Group	Canada Plastics Pact	Circular Builders (interim name)
Arc'teryx	Canadian Bottled Water Association	Circular Economy Coalition
Architecture Without Borders Quebec	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC)	Circular Economy Leadership Canada
Ardene	Canadian Construction Association	Circular Innovation Council
Arkell Solutions	Canadian Health Food Association	Circular Innovation Fund
Aruna Revolution	Canadian Produce Marketing Association	Circular Materials
Arup	Canadian Product Stewardship Council	Circular Partners / Viking Recycling
Ash Grove	Canadian Tire Corporation	Circular Plastics Taskforce / GAPC
Aspect Structural Engineers	Canadian Wood Council	Circular Regions
Association des constructeurs de routes et grands travaux du Québec (ACRGTO)	Canopy	Circulr Inc.
Association of Plastic Recyclers	CanSustain	Cité de l'innovation circulaire et durable
Association québécoise de récupération des contenants de boissons (AQRCB) / Consignation	Carbonova	Citoyenne
	Cardwell Grove Inc.	City of Albuquerque, USA
	Carton Council of Canada	

City of Ann Arbor, USA	Communauté Métropolitaine de Montréal	Danone Canada
City of Atlanta, USA	Communautique	Davey Textile Solutions
City of Austin, USA	Compétence Emballage Flexible Inc.	Debrand Services
City of Braga, Portugal	Concertation Montréal	Delegation of the European Union to Canada
City of Calgary	Concordia University	Deloitte
City of Dublin, Ireland	Conseil de développement économique de la Nouvelle-Écosse	Delphi
City of Edmonton	Conseil économique et coopératif de la Saskatchewan (CÉCS)	Desjardins
City of Essen, Germany	Conseil Patronal de l'Environnement du Québec (CPEQ)	Destination Greater Victoria
City of Guelph	Conseil québécois du commerce de détail	Destrier Electric
City of Milan, Italy	Conseil régional de l'environnement de la Montérégie	Dhana Inc.
City of Mississauga	Conseil régional de l'environnement de Laval	Dillon Consulting
City of Murcia, Spain	Consortium de recherche et innovations en bioprocédés industriels au Québec (CRIBIQ)	Dispersa
City of Nanaimo	Consortium de recherche et innovations en bioprocédés industriels au Québec (CRIBIQ)	District of Squamish
City of Ottawa	Consulate General of the Netherlands	Divert NS
City of Richmond	COOP des 7 vies - Cégep Marie-Victorin	Dollarama
City of Rome-Lancia, Italy	Coopérative Incita	Earthub
City of San Antonio, USA	Coordonnateur Atlantique en développement durable	ECD Compliance
City of San Francisco, USA	Copol International Ltd	Éco Entreprises Québec (EEQ)
City of Sofia, Bulgaria	Corporation de développement économique de Chapais	Ecocert Canada
City of St. Albert	County of Wellington	Ecofaune boreale
City of Toronto	CRE Capitale Nationale	Ecofuel Funds
City of Valencia	CRE Laval	Ecojustice Canada
City of Victoria	CSA Group	École de technologie supérieure - CERIEC
City of Vila Nova de Famalicão, Portugal	CTFutures	econext
CLD Brome-Missisquoi	Cycle Momentum	Écoscéno
Cleanfarms	Cyclone Lighting	EcoTank Canada
Clear Strategy Inc.	Cyrc Design	Ecotime
Climate Smart Buildings Alliance	Dairy Processors Association of Canada	Edelman
Co-operators		EFS-plastics Inc.
COALIA		Elastochem Specialty Chemicals Inc
COESIO		Ellen MacArthur Foundation
Colgate-Palmolive		Ellio Inc.
Collective Détour		Ellis Don
Collège LaSalle		Élyme Conseils
Colour Alchemist Canada Inc		Emissions Reduction Alberta (ERA)
Comité 21 Québec		emmasegal.co
Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)		Emterra Group

Encore! Biomatériaux	Fondaction	Groupe AGÉCO
Encorp Atlantic	Fondation Jarislowsky	Groupe Canam
Encorp Pacific (Canada)	Fonds Climat du Grand Montréal	Groupe Coderr
Energy Futures Lab	Food Health & Consumer Products Canada (FHCP)	Groupe PureSphera
enim	FoodHero Market Inc	GSI Canada
Entosystem	FoodMesh	H&M
Enviro Connexions	Fresque de l'Économie Circulaire	Halifax Regional Municipality
Enviro-Stewards Inc.	Friendlier	Halton Region
EnviroCentre	Furniture Bank	Harricana
EnviroCulture Consulting	Gap Inc.	HelloFresh Canada
Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Gay Lea Foods Co-operative Limited	Hilti North America
Environmental Defence Canada	Generate Canada	Holcim
Environnement Côte-Nord	Genest Design	Horizon économique de Terre-Neuve-et-Labrador Inc.
Environnement Mauricie	Geocycle Canada Inc.	HP Canada
Envirotech	GI Quo Vadis	Hydro-Québec
EON	Giero Consulting	Ice River Sustainable Solutions
Equiterre	GiveRise	IDDPNQL (Institut de développement durable des Premières Nations du Québec et du Labrador)
Ernst & Young LLP	Glasaigh Consulting Ltd	Idea Construction
erthos	Global Affairs Canada - Trade Commissioners Service	IKEA Canada
Esplanade Québec	Global Electronics Council	Inkee
Estrie Aide	Go Boldly Consulting	Insertech
Eunomia Research & Consulting	Goodwill Industries, Ontario Great Lakes	Insightful Prosperity Inc.
European Union City Gateway Programme	Google X Moonshot for Circularity	Institut national de la recherche scientifique (INRS)
Excellence industrielle Saint-Laurent	Gouvernement du Québec (MEIE)	Institute and Faculty of Actuaries
Exxel Polymers inc	Gouvernement du Québec (MELCCFP)	Institute for Sustainable Finance
Fanshawe College	Government of British Columbia	Institute of the Environment, uOttawa
Fashion Revolution Canada	Government of the Northwest Territories	Intact Financial Corporation
Fashion Takes Action	Granby Industriel	Intep - Integrated Planning LLC
Federal Ministry of Education and Research	Green Circle Salons	Interchange Recycling
Federated Co-operatives Limited	Green Salvaged Materials	Investissement Québec
Fédération des travailleurs et des travailleuses du Québec - FTQ	Green Standards	Irving Consumer Products
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)	Greenhouse Juice Company	IURC North America
Fenigo Inc.	GreenNugde Solutions Inc.	Joe Fresh
FGF Brands	Greenstreets Environmental Resources Ltd	John Abbott College
Flaura, cuir végétal		

Joseph Ribkoff	Light House	MRC de Memphrémagog
Jour de la Terre	Lindura Inc.	MRC du Val Saint-François
JTL Squared Consulting	Lithion Technologies	MRC HAUTE YAMASKA
Julie Dickson Communications	Loblaw Companies Ltd.	MTY Group
Kal Tire	Logistik Unicorp	Multi-Material Stewardship Board (MMSB)
Kelleher Environmental	Loop Industries	Multy Home
KenDor Textiles	LOOP Mission	MVT Environmental Corp
Keurig Dr. Pepper Canada	Loop Resource	Mycélium Remédium
KIIMA	Love Environment Inc	Mycotechnologies
Kinaxis	Low Carbon Business Action (LCBA) Initiative	MycoFutures
Kind Atom Strategies	lululemon	National Association for Charitable Textile Recycling
KIT-PTKA (Germany)	Machinex Industries	National Research Council of Canada (NRC)
KPMG	Magali Depras Services Conseils inc	Natural Products Canada
KrownCORP Inc.	Malpack	Natural Resources Canada
KSM Inc.	Mantle Developments	Nature's Path Organic Foods
l'Association des professionnels de la construction et de l'habitation du Québec (APCHQ)	Mark's	Natures Touch
L'Oréal Canada	Marketrotters	NEI Investments
La Fresque de l'Économie Circulaire	Martin Brower of Canada	Nespresso
La Maison Simons	Mass Impact Consulting	Nestlé Canada
La Tablée des Chefs	Materia Bioworks	Netherlands Economic Affairs
La Transformerie	Materials Efficiency Research Group (MERG)	Netherlands Infrastructure & Water Management
La Vie en Rose Boutique Inc.	McDonald's Canada	New Brunswick Environment & Climate Change
Lactalis Canada	McMaster University	New West Gypsum Recycling
Lafarge Canada	Memorial University of Newfoundland	New York City Economic Development Corporation
Lambton College	Memorial University, Grenfell Campus	Next Chance
Lavergne Groupe	Merlin Plastics	North York General Hospital
Lazuli marketing conseil	Metro Vancouver	Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)
Le Collectif Bienvenue - The Welcome Collective	Mind Your Plastic	NOVA Chemicals
Le Grenier des aubaines de Boucherville	Ministry of Economic Affairs (Netherlands)	Novisto
Le Ninety	Mobius PRO Services	NRC-IRAP
Le Support	Mohawk Trail Longhouse	Nutrien Ltd
Les Emballages Carrousel	MONDO America Inc	Ocean Legacy Foundation
Les Emballages PickPack	Montréal Économique	Offgrid Works
Les Fermes PB	MPR	Oligomaster Inc.
Les Investissements Yves Noel	MRC de la Vallée de l'Or	
Lichens		

One Earth Living	Recycle New Brunswick	Schneider Electric
One37	Recycling Council of Alberta	Scotiabank
OneEarth Living	Recyclo-Centre	Seneca Polytechnic
Ontario Genomics	Reeve Consulting	Share Reuse Repair Initiative
ONYM Group	Region of Peel	Sharewares
Origyn	Regroupement national des conseils régionaux de l'environnement du Québec (RNCREQ)	Shift & Build
Ottawa Tourism	RELOOP PLATFORM	SHIFT Switzerland
PAC Global	Renaissance Québec	Shriners Hospital for Children - Canada
Parici 9e Vie	Renewal Development	Sitra
Partage Club	Réseau de développement économique et d'employabilité du Nouveau-Brunswick (RDÉE NB)	Sixone
Pattison Food Group / Save-On-Foods	Réseau de recherche en économie circulaire du Québec (RRECQ)	SK Recycles
Peer Ledger	Resilient Partners LLC	Smart Prosperity Institute
PepsiCo	Resource Productivity and Recovery Authority	SMK Environnement Stratégique
Pet Food Association of Canada	Retail Council of Canada	Sobeys Inc.
PLAEX Building Systems	Rethink Sustainability Initiatives	Société Alimentaire les Fermes PB
PME MTL Centre-Est	Reworld Waste	Société de développement de l'avenue du Mont-Royal (SDAMR)
PME MTL Est-de-l'Île	Rights360	Société de gestion des huiles usagées
Polystyrene Recycling Alliance (PSRA)	Rijkswaterstaat (Netherlands)	Société des alcools du Québec
Polystyvert Inc.	Rio Tinto	Société du Palais des Congrès de Montréal
Polytechnique Montreal	RITMRG (Régie matières résiduelles Gaspésie)	Société québécoise du cannabis (SQDC)
PopCycle	RLG	Soles4Souls Canada
Pratt & Whitney Canada (PW&C)	Roots	Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA)
PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC)	Rümker	Solinov Consultation
PRIMA Québec	Ryze Solutions	Sonnevera International Corp.
PureSphera	Ryzome	Sparx PG
Purolator Inc.	SADC Barraute-Senneterre-Quévillon	Standards Council of Canada
Pyxera Global	SADC Chibougamau-Chapais Inc.	State of Bavaria (Montreal Office)
Quantum Lifecycle Partners	SADC d'Abitibi-Ouest	Statistics Finland
RBC	SADC de Matagami	Stay Focus Limited
RDÉE Canada	SADC du Kamouraska et de la MRC de Rivière-du-Loup	StrategyMakers Consulting Inc.
RDÉE IPÉ	SAP	Strathcona County
Re2 Global Solutions	Sapphire Americas	Stratzer Conseil
Realizse, Inc.	Savvy Sustainability Inc.	Suppli
Reclay StewardEdge		SURCY
Reconomy		
RECYC-QUÉBEC		
Recycle BC		

Surfrider Foundation Canada	UN Global Compact Network Canada (UNGC)	Waste Connections
Sussex Strategy Group	Unbelts	Waste Robotics
Sustainability Advantage	Unel	Waste Solutions Canada
Sustainable Edge Consulting	Université de Montréal	WDI Sustainability Solutions
Sustainable Kingston	Université de Sherbrooke	WeRcircular
Sustana	Université Laval	Westview Co-op
Synergie Bas-Saint-Laurent	Université McGill	World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
Synergie Bellechasse-Etchemins	Universite Saint Joseph de Beyrouth	WRAP
Synergie Économique Laurentides	University of BC (Sauder's Centre for Climate and Business Solutions)	York Region
Synergy Foundation	University of Guelph	Zero Emissions Innovation Centre (ZEIC)
Taille & Retailles	University of International Business and Economics	Zylotex
TCO Development	University of Ottawa	Waste Connections
TD Bank	University of Prince Edward Island	Waste Robotics
TechniTextile Québec	University of Quebec in Montreal	Waste Solutions Canada
Teknion	University of Sussex	WDI Sustainability Solutions
Telfer School of Management, uOttawa	University of Victoria	WeRcircular
Testex / OEKO-TEX	University of Western Ontario, Ivey School of Business School	Westview Co-op
The Atmospheric Fund	Unwrapit	World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
The Charity Hub	Valorisation Bernardin Inc.	WRAP
The Coca-Cola Company (Canada)	Value Village	York Region
The Good Swap	Van Rossem Consulting	Zero Emissions Innovation Centre (ZEIC)
The Thingery	Vancouver Airport Authority	Zylotex
TOMRA Canada	Vestechpro	
TOMRA Recycling	Victaulic	
Toronto & Region Conservation Authority (TRCA)	Ville de Gatineau	
Toronto Metropolitan University	Ville de Laval	
Town of Okotoks	Ville de Montréal	
Tradle	Ville de Montréal-Arr. Le Sud-Ouest	
Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS)	Ville de Montréal, arrondissement Ahuntsic-Cartierville	
Tred'si Inc	Ville de Prévost	
Trent University	Ville de Sherbrooke	
Tricentris, la coop	Ville de Terrebonne	
Trioworld	Virginia Tech	
Twenifor	Visa	
U.S. Plastics Pact	VITO (Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek)	
Umalia Engagement Sociétal		

APPENDIX C: Detailed Agenda & Session Summaries

Program Matrix

DAY 1 : TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 2025								
TIMING	FORMAT	TOPIC						
7:30	FOYER	REGISTRATION						
8:45-10:00	PLENARY	Welcome to Day 1						
10:00-10:45	BREAK	NETWORKING BREAK						
10:45-12:00	BREAKOUTS	Living Proof: Canadian Circular Economy Business & Community Case Studies	Act Local: The Critical Role of Local Governments for Enabling a Circular Economy	Nature's Blueprint: Advancing Opportunities in the Circular Bioeconomy and through Regenerative Product Innovation	A Pathway to Net Zero: The Link between Circular Economy and Climate Change	SME Showcase: Canada's Circular Economic Engine	CPP PARTNER SUMMIT	Identity Crisis: The First Step in Solving for Textile Circularity EPR Success Stories: How to Prepare & Operationalize EPR in Canada
12:00-12:45	LUNCH	NETWORKING LUNCH						
12:45-1:35		Lunch Plenary: Circular Value Creation: Driving Competitiveness and Productivity through the Circular Economy						
1:45-4:00	WORKSHOPS	The Recipe for Advancing Canada's Circular Food Economy	Empowering Local Governments Workshop: Solutions for Successful Circular Economies	Maximizing the Supply of Critical Minerals & Metals through Circular Economy Strategies	Practical Engagement Tools for Mainstreaming Circularity	SME Workshop: Supporting Canada's Circular Economic Engine	CPP PARTNER SUMMIT	Scaling Circular Business Models: Rethinking Revenue Generation Driving Circularity: Exploring ESPR, Digital Product Passports, and Circular Design Certifications Key Enablers to Circular Innovation Within Traditional Supply Chains Designing for Circularity: A Hands-On Workshop for Circular Fashion
4:00-4:15	BREAK	BREAK						
4:15-5:30	PLENARY	Closing Plenary: CEO Leadership Panel & Quebec Awards						
5:30-8:00		NETWORKING RECEPTION						

DAY 2 : WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2025								
TIMING	FORMAT	TOPIC						
7:00	FOYER	REGISTRATION						
7:45-8:45	BREAKOUTS	Breakfast Sessions						
9:00-10:15	PLENARY	Welcome to Day 2 Global Perspectives: Insights from Circular Economy Efforts Around the World						
10:15-10:45	BREAK	NETWORKING BREAK						
10:45-12:00	BREAKOUTS	We Can't Afford Not To: The Power of the Circular Economy to Address Today's Rising Cost of Living	Financing the Shift: De-risking Investments to Scale Circular Economy Solutions	Unifying Efforts to Advance a Circular Economy: A Case Study on Collaboration within Canada's Resource Recovery Sector	Tech-Driven Transformation: Harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution for a Circular Economy	Metrics Matter: Pioneering Standardization in Circular Economy Measurement Sharing	Unlocking Sustainable Value: The Transformative Power of Product-as-a-Service Models	Processing Textiles for Insulation Panels Pilot How Reuse is Driving the Future of Fashion Scaling Circularity in Fashion
12:00-12:50	LUNCH	NETWORKING LUNCH						
12:50-1:50		Lunch Plenary: Blueprint for Transformation: Principles to guide a just, equitable, and sustainable circular economy						
2:00-3:00	BREAKOUTS	Roadmaps for Success: Policy and Industry Alignment to Support a Thriving Circular Economy	Repair Centre: Exploring Right to Repair and Value-Retention Processes to Drive Circularity	The Reuse Revolution: Exploring an Expanding Reuse Economy	Scaling Circularity Strategies in the Construction & Real Estate Sector	Creating Circular Demand: Using Procurement to Shape Circular Markets (Part 1 Panel / Part 2 Workshop)	Leveraging Data for Circular Economy Decision-Making Workshop	Textiles Lab: A Living Laboratory to Accelerate Textile Circularity in Quebec
								Transforming Textiles: A Case Study for Advancing Circular Fashion in Canadian Retail
								CCTC Thermal Recycling
3:00-3:20	BREAK	BREAK						BREAK
3:20-4:20	BREAKOUTS	Communications for the Win! Accelerating the CE through Education & Awareness	Designing for Loops: Products, Services, and Packaging Fit for a Circular Economy	Addressing the Gap: Innovative Collaboration to Advance Circularity				Unlocking Circular Business Model capabilities in Canada
								Exploring the Potential of Secondhand Apparel Wholesale
4:30-5:00	PLENARY	Closing Plenary						

Session Summaries

Click on the session titles to view the full session summaries. Click on speakers' names to view their slide decks. Plenary room sessions were recorded and can be accessed on [YouTube](#).

DAY 1

Welcome to Day 1

WATCH THE RECORDING

The Opening Plenary of CCES 2025 kicked-off this pivotal event. The session involved hearing from the organizers and program partners, an Indigenous keynote presentation, welcome addresses from the City of Montreal and the Province of Quebec:

Co-hosts

- **Paul Shorthouse**, Managing Director of Circular Economy Leadership Canada
- **Jo-Anne St. Godard**, Executive Director of Circular Innovation Council

Indigenous Keynote

- **Ka'nahsohon Kevin Deer**, Faithkeeper, Mohawk Trail Longhouse

Welcome Address

- **Benoit Charette**, Ministre de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs, Government du Québec
- **Luc Rabouin**, Membre du comité exécutif, responsable du développement économique et de l'enseignement supérieur et Maire du Plateau-Mont-Royal, Ville de Montréal

Program Partners

- **Emmanuelle Géhin**, Présidente / Directrice Générale, RECYC-QUÉBEC
- **Daniel Normandin**, Directeur & Co-fondateur, ÉTS / CERIEC / RRECQ

Aligning with Canada's Circular Economy Action Plan, CCES 2025 highlighted the critical enablers of information, collaboration, innovation, policy, and investment to set an ambitious agenda focused on collaboration, action, and outcomes.

This event united a diverse array of stakeholders—business leaders, policymakers, academics, and community advocates—committed to harnessing the circular economy as a dynamic solution to Canada's most pressing challenges, from affordability and climate change to housing, and food security.

Living Proof: Canadian Circular Economy Business & Community Case Studies

Canada is gaining recognition for its leadership in the rapidly growing global circular economy. The country showcases leadership, innovative solutions, and engaging collaborations across various sectors and regions, highlighting the alignment between Canadian values and the benefits of a circular economy. From large-scale transitions to innovative incubators, Canada has become a welcoming environment for circular ideas and groundbreaking initiatives. This opening session set a significant tone for the Summit by featuring a range of new circular initiatives and their promising potential for the future.

Speakers

- **Bruce Taylor**, President, Enviro-Stewards (moderator/speaker)
- **Behnoush Maherani**, Senior Director, R&D, Food Safety & Innovation, Greenhouse
- Gil Yaron, Managing Director, Circular Innovation, Light House
- **Andy Delisi**, Vice President, Sales, Envirotech Office Systems

Nature's Blueprint: Advancing Opportunities in the Circular Bioeconomy and through Regenerative Product Innovation

Nature's principles and basic building blocks are delivering opportunities to rethink our products and materials within a circular bioeconomy. Be inspired by product innovation from nature-based feedstocks - from forests, plants, fungi, algae, bacteria, and more - which collectively unlock opportunities for regenerative product design, material innovation, and exciting new applications.

Speakers

- **Shelley King**, CEO, Natural Products Canada (moderator and speaker)
- **Nivatha Balendra**, Founder & CEO, Dispersa
- **Geoffroy Renaud**, CEO, Mycélium Remédium Mycotechnologies
- **Fannie Laroche**, CEO & Co-Founder, Flaura Cuir Végétal

SME Showcase: Canada's Circular Economic Engine

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of Canada's economy. They contribute over 50% to the nation's GDP, employ most of our workforce, and act as critical innovation enablers. SMEs are also collectively responsible for a significant share of the country's carbon emissions and waste.

Canada's successful advancement to a circular economy will largely depend on the participation and strength of its SME sector. Resilient SMEs of the future will need to respond to market demands and regulatory pressures for low-carbon goods and services and reduce the risks and costs associated with business models built on linear supply chain models.

This session featured various Canadian SME leaders who successfully employ circular practices and deliver environmental value while growing market share and profitability. Delegates learned about innovators leveraging circularity to raise capital, mitigate risks and costs, and develop their competitive edge.

Speakers

- **Andrew Telfer**, Director, Circular Innovation Council (moderator)
- **Rashmi Prakash**, CEO & Co-Founder, Aruna Revolution
- **Rob Napoli**, Chief Financial Officer, Cascadia Seaweed
- **Mohika Tremblay**, CEO, Tred'si
- **Daniel Martinez**, Co-Founder, Cyrc
- **Barbara Campbell**, Regional Director, Atlantic Canada, Natural Products Canada

Pathways to Net Zero: Linkages between Circular Economy & Climate Change

WATCH THE RECORDING

There is growing understanding that reaching net zero climate targets will require addressing the 45% of carbon emissions attributed to the production and use of products. Governments and businesses alike are beginning to acknowledge the opportunity, requiring carbon disclosure of suppliers both at an organizational and product level. This panel explored how a circular economy through its regenerative design reduces both upstream and downstream emissions.

Speakers:

- **Annie Levasseur**, Professeure, École de technologie supérieure - CERIEC (moderator)
- **Tom Rommens**, Materials Management & Circular Economy, VITO
- **Alasdair Hedger**, Senior Expert in Circular Economy Measurement & Reporting, Ellen MacArthur Foundation
- **Monique Lempers**, Chief Impact Officer, Fairphone (virtual)

Act Local: The Critical Role of Local Governments for Enabling a Circular Economy

This session gathered local governments of various sizes and locations to profile their circular leadership and innovations. A diverse panel discussed circular economy initiatives across North America and Europe, moderated by **Corey Pemberton**, Advisor of Learning & Partnerships at the Canadian Federation of Canadian Municipalities and featured:

Speakers

- **Chandra Farley**, Chief Sustainability Officer at the City of Atlanta
- **Manuel Valls Sevilla**, Deputy Head and Municipal Engineer at the City of Murcia
- **Chantal Marcotte**, Advisor, Learning and Partnerships at the City of Gatineau
- **Laura Wittenzelner**, Outreach Sustainability Coordinator at the District of Squamish
- **Jennifer Cass**, Senior Vice President, Sustainability and Resilience at the NYCEDC

With over 80 per cent of Canada's population living in cities, local governments play a crucial role in advancing a circular economy. Through locally focused policies, incentives, planning, services and programming they are well poised to become hubs for innovation and catalysts for change. As powerful convenors they have a unique ability to facilitate collaboration between businesses, consumers, and community organizations, to create a supportive ecosystem for circular economy initiatives, driving both environmental and economic resilience.

Identity Crisis: The First Step in Solving for Textile Circularity

Each year, 100 billion garments are produced, overwhelming the planet with millions of tons of waste. Modern day textiles are incredibly diverse, made of complex blends and embellished designs which pose significant challenges for reuse and recycling. In this keynote, Amelia explored the root of the issue: identifying what garments are made of and how they're constructed. By solving this "identity crisis" through innovation and collaboration, we can unlock circular solutions and pave the way for a sustainable future in the apparel, fashion, and textile space.

Speaker: **Amelia Eleiter**, Debrand

EPR Success Stories: How to Prepare and Operationalize EPR in Canada

What can the Canadian fashion industry learn from existing EPR programs? Olivia Barker, Vice President at Clear Strategy Inc., Chelsea Murtha, American Apparel & Footwear Association,, and Jennifer Liu, Gap Inc., discussed their experience with EPR across different geographies, next steps for implementing the first EPR for textiles program in California, and shared insights on the crucial takeaways as the fashion community considers what successful EPR for textiles could look like in Canada.

Speakers

- **Olivia Barker**, Clear Strategy
- **Chelsea Murtha**, AAFA
- **Jennifer Liu**, Gap

Circular Value Creation: Driving Competitiveness & Productivity through the Circular Economy

WATCH THE RECORDING

This session delved into the topic of circular economy as a model for circular value creation that inspires eco-innovation, drives competitiveness, and enhances productivity. This dynamic discussion highlighted the diverse innovation ecosystem advancing a circular economy in Canada and globally, touching on approaches and bold strategies that governments and businesses are adopting to drive and thrive in a circular economy, creating value while minimizing waste and pollution.

Speakers

- **Jean-François Houle**, Vice-President, Engineering, National Research Council of Canada (NRC) (moderator)
- **Henning Krassen**, Director, German Federal Ministry of Education & Research
- **Maya Ezzeddine**, Global Sustainability Leader, Schneider Electric
- **Heather Stephens**, Chief Operating Officer, Emissions Reduction Alberta

Scaling Circular Business Models: Rethinking Revenue Generation

Boosting revenue doesn't have to mean increasing production. To foster a circular economy in fashion, it's essential to decouple revenue from production and resource use by embracing circular and innovative business models. This session explored how H&M, in collaboration with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation and The Fashion ReModel project, is leveraging circularity to redefine how value is created in the industry.

Speakers

- **Randi Marshall**, H&M
- **Danielle Holly**, Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Empowering Local Governments Workshop: Solutions for Successful Circular Economies

Local governments play an essential role in shaping and advancing circular economies, acting as the convenors at the nexus of key infrastructure, policy, and business decision-making. Designed for local government representatives and their most immediate collaborators, this session featured dynamic SPARK Talks from circular economy champions followed by small group discussions where delegates explored proven practices, generated innovative solutions, and strengthened networks that drive measurable impacts.

This session brought together with representatives from local governments across Canada, the United States, and Europe with experience in implementing circular practices and policies alongside other collaborators (e.g., researchers, federal and provincial governments, non-government organizations, business innovators) to exchange knowledge, explore innovative solutions, and foster partnerships that accelerate circular economy adoption.

Speakers

- **Corey Pembleton**, Advisor, Learning & Partnerships, Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- **Matthias Wechsler**, Consultant, Advisory Services, Arup
- **Alice Rabisse**, Project Manager, CERIEC
- **Marieke Cloutier**, Senior Director, Programs, Green Municipal Fund
- **Monika Norkute**, Program Officer, Foreign Policy Instruments, Americas, European Union Delegation to Canada

SME Workshop: Supporting Canada's Circular Economic Engine

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are the cornerstone of Canada's economy, generating over 50% of the nation's GDP and representing over 99% of all businesses. Also, SMEs collectively account for a significant share of Canada's carbon emissions, highlighting the urgent need to shift toward a climate-smart circular economy.

This workshop focused on how and where SMEs can access programs, resources, and support to tackle environmental challenges and unlock substantial economic opportunities.

This comprehensive session featured exercises designed to provide insights into various supports available to help SMEs transition to circular practices. These supports include funding opportunities, strategic planning resources, measurement tools, research initiatives, and collaborative partnerships. The workshop concluded with a fun and structured networking activity, as expanding contacts is vital to the success of the SME sector. By utilizing these resources, SMEs can enhance efficiency, mitigate risks, and strengthen their position in a changing and challenging marketplace.

Speakers

- **Andrew Telfer**, Director, Circular Innovation Council (moderator)
- **Chrystal Healy**, AVP, Sustainability, BDC
- **Kookai Chaimahawong**, Executive Director, Centre for Climate & Business Solutions
- **Emilie Roy**, Trade Commissioner, Global Affairs Canada
- **Georgia Lavender**, Managing Director, Synergy Foundation
- **Mathieu Sasseville**, Director, Sustainable Investments and Impact, Fondation
- **Chantal Rossignol**, Coordinator, ETS

The Recipe for Advancing Canada's IC&I Circular Food Economy Workshop

Food and food waste loss in Canada has an estimated value of \$58 million dollars and is a main contributor to disposal and carbon emissions. This interactive panel / workshop combination examined the challenges and opportunities in designing circular food systems within Canada's Industrial, Commercial, and Institutional (ICI) sector, key to solving food system losses.

Emphasizing the power of local and collaborative networks to address barriers and unlock opportunities, an expert panel set the stage by drawing from living case studies, sharing practical experiences and expertise focusing on three essential enablers for advancing circular food economies: financing, policy, and governance. A 'roll up your sleeves' workshop followed where participants posed their own questions and solutions to redesigning a circular food system for Canada.

Speakers

- **Matthew Lynch**, Staff Director, Centre for Building Sustainable Value, Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario
- **Maggie Bain**, Project Manager, ICI Circular Food Economy, Circular Innovation Council
- **Savina Caporali**, Principal Consultant, Savvy Sustainability
- **Jessica Regan**, CEO, FoodMesh
- **Catherine Tays**, Manager, Strategic Initiatives, CSA Group

Maximizing the Supply of Critical Minerals & Metals through Circular Economy Strategies

WATCH THE RECORDING

Critical and strategic minerals (CSMs) like copper, nickel, lithium, and rare earth elements are essential for advanced electronics, medical devices, and renewable energy technologies. With global demand expected to surge, sustainable sourcing and responsible resource management are increasingly urgent. Challenges include limited mining sources, environmental impacts, and geopolitical control over supply.

Circular economy strategies—such as waste reduction, product redesign, and recycling—can help ease supply pressures. Canada, which produces 21 of its 31 critical minerals, has an opportunity to strengthen domestic supply chains, but regional approaches are key to cost-effective implementation.

Shifting North American policies, trade barriers, and tariffs will impact cross-border partnerships, creating both challenges and opportunities. This session brought together industry and policymakers to explore how circular economy strategies can secure a sustainable CSM supply for Canada, considering regional and geopolitical factors. Discussions addressed global competition, innovative sourcing strategies, and circular supply chain design.

Topics covered include:

1. **Designing for Circularity:** One of the most effective ways to maximize the supply of critical minerals and metals is through the design of products that are easier to repair, upgrade, and recycle.
2. **Recycling and Reuse of Critical Minerals and Metals:** These approaches can not only reduce reliance on primary mining but also help lower costs and improve efficiency in recovering valuable materials from end-of-life products.
3. **The Role of Innovation and Technology:** Technological innovation is pivotal in realizing circularity in mineral and metal supply chains.
4. **Business Models and Policy Frameworks for Circular Supply Chains:** In light of evolving geopolitical dynamics in North America, how might business models and circular supply chains be enabled or impacted by evolving trade and policy frameworks.

Speakers

- **Alan Young**, Principal, Materials Efficiency Research Group (MERG) (moderator / host)
- **Geoff McCarney**, Executive Director, Smart Prosperity Institute
- **Bryony Clear Hill**, Director of Innovation, International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM)
- **John Holm**, Senior Vice President, Partnership Development, Pyxera Global
- **Brian Nicholson**, Director, Government Relations & Lead, Western Battery Hub, Energy Futures Lab
- **Isabel Cyr**, Public Affairs & Communications Director, Lithion Technologies Inc.
- **Paul Steenhof**, Manager, Strategic Initiatives - Environment & Business Excellence, CSA Group

Driving Circularity: Exploring ESPR, Digital Product Passports, and Circular Design Certifications

Ecodesign plays a key role in making products more sustainable, repairable, and recyclable. This session dove into the Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR) for apparel and textiles, exploring how certifications and digital product passports can support brands in meeting these new requirements while fostering transparency and circularity.

Speakers

- **Lucy Murphy**, Testex
- **Natasha Franck**, EON
- **Dacie Meng**, Ellen MacArthur Foundation

Designing for Circularity: A Hands-On Workshop for Circular Fashion

This interactive workshop, a key initiative of the Canadian Circular Textiles Consortium (CCTC), offered participants the opportunity to explore and apply the principles of circular design in fashion. Participants analyzed garments—such as winter jackets, jeans, and shoes—against circularity criteria like disassembly, durability, repairability, recyclability, and material impact. Through group discussions, participants will identify design improvements, rate garment circularity, and brainstorm strategies for integrating circular principles into the design process.

This workshop provided actionable tools and knowledge to support the transition to a regenerative fashion industry, making it ideal for designers, manufacturers, and sustainability advocates committed to driving change.

Speaker: Marianne-Coquelicot Mercier, CHROMA Conseil

Key Enablers to Circular Innovation Within Traditional Supply Chains

Davey Textile Solutions identified the need to mitigate supply chain risks while reaping the environmental benefits of sourcing alternative fibres. Based in Alberta, surrounded by abundant hemp resources, the company set out to leverage this material to establish a circular supply chain. This session explored the transformative potential of Next Gen materials like hemp and others, highlighting their environmental advantages, strategies for securing future fibre supply, and practical approaches to integrating these materials into traditional supply chains.

Speakers

- **Joshua Katcher**, Canopy
- **Dan King**, Zylotex
- **Lauren Degenstein**, Davey Textile Solutions Inc.
- **Stephanie Lipp**, MycoFutures

CEO Spotlight: Pioneering Leadership in the Circular Economy

WATCH THE RECORDING

This engaging plenary armchair discussion on leadership heard from an inspiring group of Canadian and international CEOs driving circular economy efforts within their businesses and value chains. The CEO panel discussion was moderated by **Jo-Anne St. Godard**, Executive Director at the Circular Innovation Council, and featured three prominent CEOs in the circular economy space:

Speakers

- **Selwyn Crittendon**, CEO and Chief Sustainability Officer of IKEA Canada, a globally recognized home furnishing retailer;
- **Guy Wakeley**, CEO of Reconomy, a leader in enabling the circular economy and resource management; and
- **Nuha Siddiqui**, Co-founder and CEO of erthos, a climate tech company specializing in next-generation biomaterials.

DAY 2

Circular Breakfast for Friends & Allies of the Circular Plastics Taskforce (CPT)

During this in-person networking breakfast event, the Circular Plastics Taskforce (CPT) and partners shared highlights from their upcoming projects and exciting news about its future endeavours. Hosted by **Marie-Anne Champoux-Guimond**, Senior Manager of Sustainability at Keurig Dr. Pepper Canada, the panel featured:

Speakers

- **Sam Baker**, Executive Director, Recycle BC & SK Recycles
- **Pierre Benabidès**, Conseiller senior, GAPC / Lichens
- **Baltej Gill**, VP, Data Management & Program Delivery, Circular Materials
- **Erik Grisé**, Director, Circular Economy Development, Cascades

[Link to Slide Deck](#)

This engaging session put plastic circularity at the forefront of dynamic exchanges between leaders from across Canada.

Special Breakfast: Boosting Your Business Through the Circular Economy

This in-person networking breakfast event, sponsored by Desjardins and moderated by **Nancy Goudreau**, Managing Director and Head of Sustainable Financing for Desjardins, featured the testimonies of three entrepreneurs who have successfully integrated the circular economy into their operational model and made it a success factor in each of their industries.

Speakers

- **Jonathan Defoy**, Président et fondateur, FoodHero
- **Jay Hussey**, Directeur commercial, KSM Fertilizers
- **Louis Desourdy**, Propriétaire, Ecotri - Groupe Desourdy

During this session, key successes and challenges were explored, as well as how various decisions can influence the implementation of circular economy initiatives for SMEs. Discussions also centered around the innovation demonstrated by our three panelists to make these projects sustainable and generate clear and lasting economic benefits.

Global Perspectives: Insights from Circular Economy Efforts Around the World

[WATCH THE RECORDING](#)

Global efforts to advance a circular economy have gone mainstream. In fact, the 2024 Circularity Gap Report highlights circular economy has attained 'megatrend status', with a nearly tripling of activity over the past five years. What trends and best practices are emerging? What learnings have come from efforts around the world, how do these efforts compare, and where has real progress been made? This session heard from a diverse group of global leaders from industry, government, and civil society on leading and emerging circular economy efforts around the world.

Speakers

- **Jonquil Hackenberg**, CEO, Ellen MacArthur Foundation (keynote and moderator)
- **Peter Chauvel**, Strategy & Operations Lead, Moonshot for Circularity, Google X
- **Kari Herlevi**, Programme Director, International Programmes, Sitra
- **Philippe Masset**, Director, Europe & International, Agence de la transition écologique (ADEME)

Processing Textiles for Insulation Panels Pilot

In collaboration with multiple industrial and research partners, the CTTEI set out to test the recyclability of the Recyclo-Centre's textile surplus through a high-volume solution in the building materials sector, where textiles are recycled into insulation panels. The project was part of a sorting and processing pilot carried out by the thrift store itself and CHROMA Conseil, to evaluate the costs and resources involved in manually sorting and detrimming textiles. The pilot also explored alternative pathways, including a high-value option in the crafts sector, where textiles are upcycled into quilting products.

Speaker: Maxime Saint-Denis, Centre de Transfert Technologique en Écologie Industrielle, CTTEI

Unlocking Sustainable Value: The Transformative Power of Product-as-a-Service Models

This session highlighted how Product-as-a-Service (PaaS) models are transforming industries by shifting the focus from ownership to the value of services. From electronics to shipping to construction equipment, these innovative models drive both economic and environmental benefits by encouraging circular design and maximizing asset utilization. This interactive session at CCES 2025, sponsored by CHEP Canada, featured real-world examples and insights into the benefits of PaaS models, and showed how transformative business models can unlock sustainable value!

Speakers

- **Monica Da Ponte**, Independent Consultant, Shift & Build
- **Eli Browne**, Head of Sustainability, CHEP Canada
- **Frances Edmonds**, Head of Sustainable Impact, HP Canada
- **Rush Nathan**, Sustainability Manager, HILTI North America

Metrics Matter: Pioneering Standardization in Circular Economy Measurement

When it comes to accelerating circular economy efforts and action, metrics matter. It's important to be able to measure the benefits to support a variety of objectives, from economic and financial performance, to environmental and social impact. While performance measurement for circular economy-related efforts is still in its infancy with a range of approaches and methodologies in practice today, standardization and harmonized approaches to measurement and reporting are growing as a result of international initiatives and efforts by the UNECE and OECD, WBCSD's Global Circularity Protocol, the recently published ISO 59020 on Measuring and Assessing Circularity Performance, and material flow analyses. Find out about the latest efforts to support standardization in CE measurement and reporting.

Speakers

- **Walter Jager**, Principal, ECD Compliance (moderator)
- **Johanna Pakarinen**, Senior Advisor, Statistics Finland & Chair, UNECE Task Force on Measuring Circular Economy
- **Bethany Edwards**, Circular Products & Materials, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
- **Adriana Shu-Yin**, Project Manager, Environment & Climate Change, CSA Group
- **Etienne Angers**, Chef d'équipe, économie circulaire et réduction à la source, RECYC QUÉBEC

Unifying Efforts to Advance a Circular Economy: A Case Study on Collaboration within Canada's Resource Recovery Sector

The "Unifying Efforts to Advance a Circular Economy" session at CCES 2025 focused on the crucial role of collaboration and harmonization among various actors in establishing an efficient and effective circular economy across Canada, particularly concerning resource recovery for packaging and paper products. The session was moderated by **Isabelle Faucher**, Managing Director of the Carton Council of Canada, and featured a panel consisting of:

Speakers

- **Allen Langdon**, CEO, Circular Materials
- **Maryse Vermette**, President & CEO, Éco Entreprises Québec (EEQ)
- **Erik Grisé**, Director, Circular Economy Development, Cascades
- **Marie-Anne Champoux-Guimond**, Senior Manager, Sustainability, Keurig Dr. Pepper Canada
- **Sophie Langlois-Blouin**, Project Director, Deposit & Circular Economy, Machinex
- **Catherine O'Brien**, Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Regulatory, Government Relations & Sustainability, Nestlé Canada

Canada's vast geography and current patchwork of recycling policies and regulations requires new models of collaboration and harmonization across value chains to enable an efficient and effective circular economy across the country. This engaging session shone a spotlight on a unique partnership between two of Canada's largest producer responsibility organizations (PROs), Circular Materials and Éco Entreprises Québec (EEQ), including in areas such as material management and infrastructure investment.

The session also brought forward a discussion amongst value chain actors highlighting what can be learned from collaborative approaches to systems change, including eco-design, that accelerate a more circular economy, while digging into some of the challenges that have yet to be overcome.

Financing the Shift: De-risking Investments to Scale Circular Economy Solutions

The circular economy offers a major opportunity for the financial sector to deliver on climate commitments and other environmental and social objectives, while benefiting from sources of new investment and long-term value creation. This session will explore work underway in Canada to better understand the role of the finance sector in supporting the scale up of solutions, and the potential to further de-risk the flow of capital and insurance to circular economy businesses, projects, and infrastructure.

Speakers

- **Garrett Jones**, Vice President, Corporate Sustainability & Finance, Delphi (moderator)
- **Patrycja Drainville**, Director, Sustainable Finance, Scotiabank
- **Chad Park**, Vice President, Sustainability & Citizenship, Co-operators
- **Mathieu Sasseville**, Director, Sustainable Investments & Impact, Fondation
- **Chrystal Healy**, AVP, Sustainability, BDC

We Can't Afford Not To: The Power of the Circular Economy to Address Today's Rising Cost of Living

WATCH THE RECORDING

Living within a linear economy while exceeding our planet's boundaries has imposed significant costs on both our environment and society. Severe weather patterns, resource scarcity, and food insecurity are directly impacting our ability to maintain our way of life. During this session, experts will explore these risks and their associated costs from various perspectives, including those of governments, businesses, and citizens and how circular economy strategies can alleviate them.

Speakers

- **Chantal Rossignol**, Coordinator, ÉTS / CERIEC
- **Dan Duguay**, Sustainability Lead, CPMA
- **Lucy Saye**, Sustainability Board Member, Institute and Faculty of Actuaries
- **Alec Hay**, Chairman / Principal, Rethink Sustainability Initiatives / Southern Harbour Ltd.

How Reuse is Driving the Future of Fashion

For over 70 years, Value Village has been a leader in the circular economy, redefining the relationship between people, planet and profit. In this session, Tony shared how Value Village has leveraged the thrift economy to drive positive change, blending social responsibility, environmental stewardship, and business success. He shared how shopping secondhand is not just sustainable, but a thriving retail model that consumers embrace.

Speaker: **Tony Shumpert**, Value Village

Scaling Regeneration and Circularity in Fashion

Canopy and Bast Fibre Tech held a solutions-driven fireside chat focusing on Bast's work collaborating with brands on the future of sustainable fashion, the Next Gen fibre innovation opportunity, and strategies for overcoming obstacles--all with the goal of inspiring and empowering other brands to do the same.

Speakers

- **Sophia Yang**, Canopy
- **Fergus Hall**, Bast Fibre Technologies Inc.

Blueprint for Transformation: Principles to Guide a Just, Equitable & Sustainable Circular Economy

WATCH THE RECORDING

This transformative session explored the core principles needed to guide a just, equitable, and sustainable transition to a circular economy. Thought leaders addressed how ecological imperatives, social justice, and economic viability can coexist through innovative governance models, inclusive policies, and alternatives to consumption-driven growth. Uncover the blueprint for a future where circular economy principles drive systemic change that benefits people, planet, and prosperity.

Speakers

- **Michael Leering**, Director, Environment & Business Excellence, CSA Group (keynote)
- **Paul Shorthouse**, Managing Director, Circular Economy Leadership Canada (moderator)

- **Alec Hay, Chairman**, Rethink Sustainability Initiatives (RSI) & Principal, Southern Harbour Ltd.
- **Maya Colombani**, Chief Sustainability & Human Rights Officer, L'Oréal Canada
- **Jorge 'Daniel' Taillant**, Executive Director, Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)
- **Melissa Gorrie**, Law Reform Manager & Circular Economy Project Lead, Ecojustice

Textiles Lab: A Living Laboratory To Accelerate Textile Circularity In Quebec

This session presented the results of the first year of co-creation workshops lead by the Textiles Lab of the Center for Intersectoral Studies and Research on the Circular Economy (CERIEC) at École de technologie supérieure (ÉTS), which started in spring 2024. The Textiles Lab is a co-creation, research and field experimentation project that will be rolled out over three years. It brings together interested parties from the entire value chain of Quebec's textile industry, such as university and college researchers, manufacturers, brands, thrift stores, recyclers, cities and municipalities, as well as various provincial ministries. The objective of the first year was, through workshops attended by 135 interested parties, to co-create structuring solutions to overcome the obstacles to resource circularity, and to co-develop project pathways to test the solutions in the field. Years 2 and 3 will be devoted to framing, implementing and documenting the experimental projects. Ultimately, the new knowledge and new practices generated by the projects will be shared with the sector's interested parties.

Speaker: Marianne-Coquelicot Mercier, Centre D'études Et De Recherches Intersectorielles En Économie Circulaire CERIEC

Leveraging Data for Circular Economy Decision-Making Workshop

What data and information do organizations need to be collecting and analyzing to build the case for their circular economy strategies, programs, and initiatives? Researchers and practitioners have found themselves asking: why with a compelling business case and demonstrated benefits, is uptake of the circular economy still at an overall low in Canada? Data is often cited as a critical barrier in response to this question.

This 2.5 hour, hands-on workshop, explored topics related to data needs, measurement approaches, and reporting to support strategic decision-making at an operational and/or product level.

It provided participants with the opportunity to better understand the circular economy data dilemma and identify key resources and solutions to give business the data and information they need to accelerate uptake of the circular economy. As part of the workshop, participants had the opportunity to engage in discussions guided by experts in the field who shared more technical tools and resources across the three key data categories.

Speakers

- **Matthew Lynch**, Staff Director, Centre for Building Sustainable Value, Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario (Co-facilitator)
- **Carly MacArthur**, Research Associate, Centre for Building Sustainable Value, Ivey School of Business, University of Western Ontario (Co-facilitator)
- **Fabien Hammerer**, Chief Technology Officer, 5REDO
- **Melissa Zbacnik d'Antonio**, Project Manager, CTTÉI
- **Bethany Edwards**, Circular Products & Materials, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
- **Alasdair Hedger**, Senior Expert in Circular Economy Measurement & Reporting, Ellen MacArthur Foundation
- **Patrick Wiedemann**, CEO, Reverse Logistics Group (RLG)

Creating Circular Demand: Using Procurement to Shape Circular Markets

This panel and workshop combination showcased the power of collaborative procurement to shift the market towards low carbon products and solutions. Using Construction and ICT as a high impact categories, panelists and workshop discussions focused on circular strategies and practical tools, applicable across purchasing categories, that are delivering low carbon, cost-effective circular solutions. The panel highlighted examples from Canadian and Dutch practitioners highlighting their leading approaches and achievements on scope 3 emissions reduction, cost savings and fair supply chain practices. Workshop participants chose 2 topics to dive deeper into circular procurement strategies and tools to accelerate buying circular solutions at their organizations.

Speakers

- **Katie Motta**, Director, Circular Innovation Council
- **Jack Bolland**, Program Leader, City of Toronto
- **Johan Rodenhuis**, Strategic Sustainability Advisor IT
- **Mervyn Jones**, Senior Circular Economy Advisor, Netherlands Infrastructure and Water Management
- **Stéphanie Leclerc**, Program Manager, Sustainable Procurement, Université McGill

Scaling Circularity Strategies in the Construction & Real Estate Sector

This interactive workshop brought together circular economy practitioners and built environment stakeholders to co-develop solutions to some of the most pressing systemic challenges in Canada's construction and real estate sector. Designed around real-world Innovation Challenges and on-the-ground circular projects, the session encouraged collaboration through hands-on breakout discussions and a mix of global and Canadian perspectives. The objective was to surface enabling conditions, identify barriers to circularity, and foster partnerships to advance demonstration projects, standards development, and capacity-building efforts across the sector.

Speakers

- **Raphael Lopoukhine**, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Circular Economy Leadership Canada (session host)
- **René Sigg**, Managing Director, Intep (Switzerland)
- **Stephanie Phillips**, Senior Manager, Circular Economy & Deconstruction, City of San Antonio (USA)

Panel

- **Hortense Montoux**, Project Lead, CERIEC (moderator)
- **Natalie Volland**, President, GI Quo Vadis
- **Bruno Demers**, Executive Director, Architecture Without Borders Québec / RÉCO
- **Dwayne Torrey**, Director, Workforce Development, CSA Group

The Reuse Revolution: Expanding the Reuse Economy Through Policy, Technology & Market Drivers

The reuse economy is experiencing rapid global growth, with Canada emerging as a hub of innovation in this space. This session offered a forward-looking exploration of the future of reuse systems in Canada and beyond, examining the evolving policy and regulatory frameworks that support reuse at the federal, provincial/state, and municipal levels. In addition to single-use plastics bans and extended producer responsibility (EPR) regulations, panelists explored municipal-scale initiatives such as eco-levers and local bylaws that directly incentivize or mandate

reuse and serve as crucial proof-of-concept for future legislation. The discussion also addressed the challenges of standardization across jurisdictions and highlighted opportunities to develop cohesive, cross-level policies that enable reuse at scale.

Speakers

- **Clarissa Morawski**, CEO & Co-Founder, Reloop (moderator)
- **Lucia Pereira**, Head of Legal and Regulatory Affairs, Réseau Vrac et Réemploi (virtual)
- **Clara Vazeix**, Deputy Director, California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (virtual)
- **Andréanne Fiola**, Environmental Advisor, City of Terrebonne
- **Joey Leckman**, Municipal Councillor in Environment, City of Prévost

Repair Centre: Exploring Right to Repair & Value-Retention Processes to Drive Circularity

Ensuring products remain in use for as long as possible reduces demand for new goods and as such is a vital circular economy strategy. For this to succeed changes to product and system designs including improving durability, repairability and facilitating reuse are essential. Many consumer goods are marketed as single use and convenient, designed for planned obsolescence or even protected by proprietary technology. Experts in this session will discuss how to shift markets and consumers towards investing in repairability. Presentations will include the latest research on consumer attitudes and behaviours, and global policy advancements as well as feature leading product designers and businesses finding new ways toward profitability and consumer loyalty through repair.

Speakers

- **Clayton Miller**, VP Business Development - Recycling, Quantum Lifecycle Partners
- **Jennifer Russell**, Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech
- **Julie-Christine Denoncourt**, Project Manager in Source Reduction, Equiterre

Roadmaps for Success: Policy & Industry Alignment to Support a Thriving Circular Economy

WATCH THE RECORDING

The "Roadmaps for Success" session at CCES 2025 delved into the critical role of roadmaps in guiding stakeholders toward a thriving circular economy, fostering innovation, and driving investments that yield both environmental and socio-economic benefits. This session shares some of the best practices, benefits, and learnings that have come from strategies and roadmaps developed by governments and industry to align policies and support a thriving circular economy. Moderated by **Cathy Baptista**, Scientific Coordinator at the Réseau de recherche en économie circulaire du Québec (RRECQ), the session showcased diverse perspectives on developing and implementing circular economy roadmaps at national, provincial, and municipal levels:

Speakers:

- **Kari Herlevi**, Programme Director, International Programmes, Sitra
- **Sabrina Cholette**, Circular Economy Advisor, Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs, Gouvernement du Québec
- **Natacha Beauchesne**, Economic Development Commissioner, Circular Economy, Ville de Montréal
- **Marcos Alejandro Badra**, Program Manager, Circular Economy, City of Richmond
- **Cher Mereweather**, Managing Director, Canada Plastics Pact

Transforming Textiles: A Case Study for Advancing Circular Fashion in Canadian Retail

In this session, Shannon O'Hara from Bank & Vogue and Cécile Branco from La Maison Simons discussed their collaborative efforts to advance the circular economy in Canada's textile industry. They covered key areas such as resale, reuse, and remanufacturing, highlighting innovative approaches to upcycling and sustainable product creation. The conversation addressed the importance of overcoming challenges related to sorting post-consumer materials, labor, and the financial barriers in order to make sustainable fashion more accessible to mainstream consumers

Speakers

- **Shannon O'Hara**, Bank & Vogue
- **Cécile Branco**, La Maison Simons

CCTC Thermal Recycling Pilot

Investigating innovative alternative pathways for textile-to-textile and fiber-to-fiber recycling, with a focus on sustainable solutions that benefit the Canadian agricultural sector. This session will delve into thermal recycling (pyrolysis) of end-of-use textiles to produce a material that enhances soil health, sequesters carbon, and contributes to circular economy initiatives.

Speaker: Jennifer Wright, Fanshawe College

Unlocking Circular Business Model Capabilities in Canada

Unlock the potential of Circular Business Models (CBMs) in Canada by joining us for an engaging and interactive breakout session hosted by Deloitte! Dive into the essential value chain capabilities that drive CBMs, starting with exclusive insights from a recent study by Fashion Takes Action. This dynamic workshop will be a guide to evaluate your organization's current position, identify strengths, and uncover exciting opportunities to enhance your capabilities through innovative practices, strategic partnerships, and smart investments. Don't miss this opportunity to drive sustainability and take a step towards a circular future!

Speaker: Jessica Iida, Manager, Sustainability & Climate Change, Deloitte

Addressing the Gap: Innovative Collaboration to Advance the Circular Economy

Collaboration is a key enabler of a circular economy and is central to making meaningful progress at a pace needed for rapid development and adoption. This session profiled successful and innovative collaborations between sectors and their value chains, academia with research, design start-ups, and others that have partnered pre-competitively to co-create circular solutions for their industry and beyond. Panelists explored how collaboration across sectors, disciplines, and geographies is essential to realizing a functional and inclusive circular economy in Canada.

Speakers

- **Shannon Lavalley**, Director, Circular Innovation Council
- **Shegufa Shetranjiwalla - Merchant**, Assistant Professor Memorial University of Newfoundland
- **Chloe Dubois**, Executive Director & Co-Founder, Ocean Legacy Foundation

Designing for Loops: Products & Packaging Fit for a Circular Economy

This session dived into the principles of circular design, showing how products and packaging can be reimaged to reduce waste and maximize product lifecycles. Attendees gained practical insights into design considerations and innovative best practices, while considering ways to minimize unintended consequences. Delegates learned how to design smarter, more sustainable solutions that fit the circular economy, where every product and package has a second life.

Speakers

- **Curt Cozart**, Chief Operations Officer, Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR)
- **Kent Wootton**, Manager, Circular Material Innovations, Canadian Tire Corporation
- **Brant Wunderlich**, Team Leader – Application Development & Circular Economy, NOVA Chemicals

Communications for the Win! Accelerating the Circular Economy Transition through Education & Awareness Building

WATCH THE RECORDING

The nature of many successful circular economy business models necessitates new and innovative approaches to consumer engagement. This session will profile three different circular business models: (resource recovery, product-as-a-service, and sharing platforms) to explore how each employs unique and evolving tools and approaches to engaging consumers, building loyalty, and optimizing participation. The presenters will discuss the core elements of their business models, the factors that influenced their designs, and the mechanisms and incentives they use to foster consumer participation and long-term loyalty. What will it take to sustain and expand their success in the future?

Speakers

- **Caitlin Perry**, Manager, Education and Engagement Programs, Circular Innovation Council
- **Lori Koebel**, Director, Sustainability & Stakeholder Relations, Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation
- **Chris Diplock**, Founder, The Thingery
- **Geneviève Côté**, VP Integrated Brand, Edelman Canada
- **Amisha Hira**, Global Sustainability Solutions Director, Visa

Exploring the Potential of Secondhand Apparel Wholesale

Every year, millions of sellable clothing items and accessories end up in landfills, despite their quality and potential value. Before we upcycle, transform, dismantle, or grind these textiles, we must prioritize extending their life in their original state. This breakout session will explore the untapped opportunities in secondhand apparel wholesale and its role within the circular textile model.

Speakers

- **Myriam Laroche**, Collective Détour
- **Mariouche Gagné**, Harricana
- **Cédric Comte**, Le Ninety
- **Bev Kobe**, Goodwill Industries - Ontario Great Lakes

APPENDIX D: Site Tours

CCES 2025 offered optional half-day site tours on Day 3 (April 17th) of the event to various locations in the Montreal area under several themes related to CCES 2025. Tour descriptions and itineraries can be found below.

Full Circle Construction: Circular Strategies for the Built Environment

CCES 2025 Delegates will have the opportunity to join a special tour to two innovative buildings and spaces in the Greater Montreal area focused on showcasing circular design and construction strategies in action.

- **Stop 1: RÉCO.** RÉCO is a circular economy center specializing in the recovery and resale of new and old architectural components and construction materials. It offers consulting services for deconstruction and reuse projects as well. RÉCO is one of Quebec's flagship stores for the salvage of built heritage, and one of the few specializing in social, solidarity-based, ecological and circular economy principles. During this tour, you will be able to enjoy the experience of the path taken by donated materials, from their arrival in the backstore to their resale in the various sections of the store with its neatly arranged rows of items, as well as the little story behind this promising initiative.
- **Stop 2: Le Phénix.** Architecture firm Lemay's [circular award-winning](#) office building in Montreal is home to 300 professionals working within a true experimental laboratory for the firm's innovations in sustainable development and workspace design. Instead of designing a new building, Lemay chose to adopt circular design principles and strategies to transform a neglected warehouse from the 1950s into offices for its expanding trans-disciplinary team.

Cirque de Soleil & Vestechpro Tour

This experience is ideal for fashion professionals and organizations, and for those who work in textile innovation, and circular design. Whether you're a designer, material scientist, waste management expert, or simply a fan of Cirque du Soleil, this event offers an inside look at how one of the world's most iconic performance companies approaches costume design.

- **Stop 1: Cirque de Soleil.** At Cirque du Soleil Headquarters, we will tour the Atelier where more than 400 artisans work to make the 25,000 items needed for the shows, including every hat, shoe, and headpiece. Discover the craftsmanship behind costume creation, from textile innovation to intricate dyeing techniques, all designed to bring their performances to life.
- **Stop 2: Vestechpro.** At Vestechpro, we will tour their mechanical recycling facility to see how textiles are defiberized, carded and needle punched to be transformed into new materials. In addition, we will visit their lab where they conduct longevity testing and assess a garment's durability, performance and resistance.

Urban Roots & Circular Routes: Inside Montreal's Circular Agrifood Scene

Join us for an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of a coop of trailblazing organizations revolutionizing the food industry in Montreal. This immersive experience will take you deep into the heart of the circular food economy, showcasing how innovative approaches to food production, distribution, and resource optimization are paving the way for a more sustainable future.

- **Centrale Agricole.** Explore Canada's largest urban agricultural cooperative, where collaboration and sustainability intersect. Discover how this vibrant hub brings together farmers, food artisans, and circular economy innovators to share resources, reduce waste, and grow food sustainably. From vertical farming to composting initiatives, you'll see firsthand how shared infrastructure is transforming the local food system while fostering community resilience.

Circular Plastics: Innovations in Resource Recovery

CCES 2025 Delegates will have the opportunity to join a special tour to two resource recovery and recycling facilities in the Greater Montreal area to learn about the latest systems, innovative technologies, processes, challenges, and emerging trends.

- **Stop 1: GFL Material Recovery Facility (MRF)** (presented by [Machinex](#)). Be one of the first to tour GFL's state-of-the-art MRF, developed to strengthen curbside recycling activities in the Montréal area. The new residential single-stream system has the ability to process up to 52 tons per hour of material. The new system is capable of sorting fiber, ferrous and nonferrous metals, glass, and several types of plastic, including polyethylene terephthalate (PET), high-density polyethylene (HDPE), and mixed plastics. Machinex has installed some of the most advanced equipment and cutting-edge sorting technologies in the new MRF, including MACH Hyspec optical sorters, ballistic separators, eddy current separators, and other devices.
- **Stop 2: Lavergne's Recycling Plant.** Join in on an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of Lavergne's plant, where we transform used materials like electronic waste and water bottles into high-quality recycled plastics that meet the standards of leading global corporations. Experience each step of our innovative process, from advanced sorting and contaminant removal to precision blending and proprietary additives mixing at our cutting-edge facility. You'll also witness the reactive compounding process, where base polymers and additives are expertly combined to create premium recycled plastic pellets, and visit our state-of-the-art laboratory, where every batch undergoes rigorous testing to ensure exceptional quality. Discover how Lavergne is driving circularity in plastics while reducing environmental impact—an inspiring look at the future of plastics.

Deloitte Smart Factory Tour

The growing regulatory pressures and environmental concerns demand innovative strategies for reducing wastes and costs in supply chains.

During the visit to the **Smart Factory** in Montreal, we will examine how integrating circular economy principles can improve supply chain sustainability by addressing the following questions:

- What challenges do industries currently face regarding packaging and tracking goods?
- How will existing and future regulations influence companies' actions?
- What technologies are available to address these current challenges?

By showcasing practical examples at the facility, we will explore existing market solutions, including right-sizing, alternatives to plastic bagging and plastic reduction, advanced tracking through RFID, and automated solutions to enhance reverse logistics.

Visitors will be guided through various tour-stations sharing innovations that are relevant to circular economy and sustainability. These stations will allow the tour participants to learn more about these technologies, how they are currently used today, and how they can help different industries reduce their overall GHG emissions.