

PHD SYMPOSIUM | APRIL 26, 2023
DAPHNE COCKWELL COMPLEX (7TH FLOOR)
TORONTO METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY

Bridging the sustainability gap: policy, industry and academia

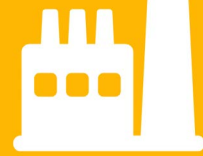


Bridging the Sustainability Gap: Policy, Industry, and Academia

Program

9:30 am	Mix & Mingle <i>Coffee, tea, bagels</i>
10:00 am	Welcome <i>Janine LeFort and Subrina Buly, Masters of Ceremonies</i> Land acknowledgement <i>Jacob Ventura</i>
10:15 am	Packaging: Bridging the gap for waste management and the circular economy <i>Kent Wootton, Manager, Circular Material Innovations, Canadian Tire Corporation</i> <i>Catrina Huyer, Chemical Process Engineering Associate, Genecis Bioindustries</i>
11:15 am	Break
11:30 am	Responsible supply chains: Bridging the gap for improved working conditions and environmental footprints <i>Aparna Moitra, Program Manager, Ulula</i> <i>Jean-Claude LeBlanc, Sustainability Director, Celestica</i> <i>Sam Anderson, CEO, CarbonGraph</i>
12:30 pm	Lunch
1:30 pm	Public Health: Bridging the gap for improved public health - Toronto Public Health's Food Safety Program: T.O. Inspections and Beyond <i>Brian Thompson, Manager, Healthy Environments, City of Toronto</i> - Primary Health Care: Redesigning Public Health Education for Achieving SDGs to Ensure Health for ALL. <i>Dr. Shafi U. Bhuiyan, MBBS, MPH, MBA, PhD, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto</i> - Food Security and Garments Industry in Bangladesh <i>Mr. Md. Lutfor Rahman Consul General of People's Republic of Bangladesh, Toronto</i>
2:45 pm	Break
3:00 pm	Housing: Bridging the gap for affordable housing <i>Fernando Carou, Manager, Renewable Energy and Net Zero Development, City of Toronto</i> <i>Jack Bolland, Program Manager, Public Energy Initiatives – New Development Team, City of Toronto</i> <i>Geoff Cape, CEO, R-Hauz</i>
3:45 pm	Wrap-up <i>Janine LeFort and Subrina Buly, Masters of Ceremonies</i> Mix & Mingle <i>Wine & Shareables</i>
4:30 pm	Close





Session overview

Welcome

Welcome Masters of Ceremony, Janine LeFort, and Subrina Buly welcome attendees to the 14th Annual Environmental Applied Science & Management Graduate Symposium. This year's Symposium explores how as a society we can bridge the gap between policy, industry, and academia.

Land Acknowledgement

We will first acknowledge the Indigenous land that we find ourselves upon with Toronto Metropolitan University's Land Acknowledgement presented by Jacob Ventura.

Packaging: Bridging the Gap between the Circular Economy and Waste

- Canadian Tire is a leader in promoting the circular economy. Kent Wooton discusses how Canadian Tire is adapting and leading in the face of increased regulatory waste reduction requirements by implementing sustainable product packaging improvements.
- Genecis Bioindustries is an award winning start-up that is turning food waste into sustainable, biodegradable materials, offering a circular economy solution for products. They will discuss the challenges of taking a biotechnology concept from bench-scale to commercialization and the potential of bioplastics to address the challenge of plastic waste.

Responsible Supply Chains: Bridging the Gap between moving product and carbon footprint/employee engagement

- Ulula is an award winning B-Corp that uses technology to get direct feedback from workers and local communities in supply chains to reduce risk, respond to challenges, exceed compliance requirements, improve productivity and help advance working conditions around the world. Learn more at www.ulula.com. Aparna Moitra will discuss the changing requirements for corporations to responsibly manage their supply chains and how technology can help to improve working conditions.
- Celestica fosters a company-wide culture of sustainability. Two areas for discussion include greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and waste reduction. Key themes will include how emission reduction targets are achieved and the overall challenges maintaining a 90% waste diversion rate in a global organization. Explore the challenges associated with certifying a facility to a zero-waste-to-landfill standard (UL2799) through the examination of one of Celestica's global operational sites. Learn more at <https://www.celestica.com/about-us/sustainability/overview>
- CarbonGraph is a start-up that has developed a carbon footprint calculator to collect the Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions of products, provide sustainability reporting for customers, investors and internal stakeholders, and help companies reduce their emissions. Founder Sam Anderson will talk about the growing opportunities to help companies meet emerging carbon reporting regulations. Learn more at <https://carbongraph.io/>.

Session overview, continued

Public Health: Bridging the gap for improved public health

- Toronto Public Health (TPH) has focused on protecting and promoting the health of Toronto residents since 1883 by preventing the spread of disease, promoting healthy living and advocating for conditions that improve health for Toronto residents. Brian Thompson will be speaking on how TPH supports public health through their food safety program. His focus area will be evaluating and monitoring the food safety in the city through inspection and follow up actions.
- Dalla Lana School of Public Health (DLSPH), University of Toronto is an internationally recognized community of scientists, teachers, students, practitioners, policy makers and citizens, creating new knowledge, educating change makers, advancing practice and guiding the way to better, more equitable outcomes in population health and health systems – locally, nationally and globally. Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan will be speaking on Primary Health Care: Redesigning Public Health Education for Achieving SDGs to Ensure Health for ALL.
- Consulate General of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Toronto is serving the Bangladeshi citizens, Bangladeshi Canadians, and travelers to Bangladesh from Canada. They serve on behalf of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to maintain diplomatic relationships between countries and provide information and consultation. Mr. Md. Lutfor Rahman will be speaking on the status of food security and garments industry in Bangladesh while he will be discussing the importance and impacts of those two sectors.

Housing: Bridging the Gap for affordable housing

- R-Hauz is addressing Toronto's affordable housing challenge by providing prefabricated mass timber laneway suites and townhomes that can be built quickly, sustainably and affordably. Learn more at www.r-hauz.ca. Geoff Cape will discuss the challenges of municipal housing regulations and developing a new supply chain to modernize how we purchase and construct new affordable housing.
- City of Toronto is driving sustainability with a triple bottom line motive to create economic growth, environmental & energy resilience, and social equality in the 4th largest city in North America. Recognizing we can not build the future of Toronto alone, we leverage strategic partnerships with external stakeholders to develop innovative business models and catalyze solutions for sustainable urbanization.

Wrap-up

Closing remarks with Masters of Ceremony Janine LeFort and Subrina Buly. Join us in thanking our speakers, event organizers, and department for their efforts in delivering a successful and engaging 14th Annual PhD Symposium.



Bridging the Sustainability Gap: Policy, Industry, and Academia

Speakers

(presented in speaking order)

Kent Wootton, Manager, Circular Material Innovations, Canadian Tire

As Manager of Circular Material Innovations, Kent's role is to manage and promote circular economy partnerships and to implement sustainable product packaging improvements. Throughout Kent's 12 years with the Canadian Tire Corporation, he has held multiple different progressive positions. Kent is currently the Co-Chair of the Canada Plastic Pact Recycled Content Working Group and a member of the Canada Plastic Pact Flexible Packaging Working Group. Kent has over 30 years of business experience, including roles with the Ontario's Ministry of Labour, the Ontario Pension Regulator, Sr Positions managing Bank Compliance and has been a member of multiple different industry advisory groups. Kent plays an important role in making Life in Canada Better by being part of the solution to reduce landfill waste in Canada and by driving circular economic opportunities for Canadian businesses, by being a leader promoting the circular economy.



Cat Huyer, Chemical Process Engineering Associate, Genecis

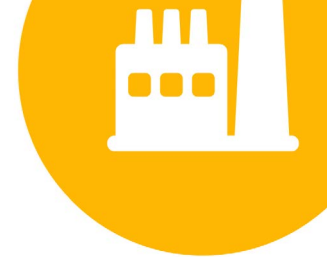
Cat works on bioprocess technology development to scale up Genecis' food waste to bioplastics technology to achieve product quality and yield targets. She leads technology transfer activities with international partner facilities. She has a degree in Biotechnology Engineering Technology from McMaster University and a Masters in Engineering from McGill University.



Aparna Moitra, Program Manager, Ulula

Aparna works as a Program Manager at Ulula where she leads different projects through their lifecycle while coordinating with internal stakeholders and communicating with external partners and clients. She has a Ph.D. in Information and Communication Technologies for Social Development. Her award-winning doctoral research explored the use of decentralized Interactive Voice Response (IVR) systems among diverse low-literate and resource-poor communities in India to create a hyper-local information infrastructure and grievance resolution platform. She also has a Postdoc from the University of Toronto where she researched the socio-cultural factors inhibiting women in South Asia from utilizing tech platforms to report instances of sexual harassment. At Ulula, Aparna is further exploring the intersections of technology and human rights within global supply chains.





Speakers, continued

Jean-Claude (JC) LeBlanc, Sustainability Director, Celestica

After graduating from the University of New Brunswick with a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Electrical), JC started at Celestica full-time. After progressive roles in Celestica's Toronto operations, he contributed to the launch of Celestica's corporate sustainability program in 2013. Originally focused on Celestica's recycling and diversion from landfill program, his role has since expanded to include the management and leadership of the small but passionate and dedicated Corporate Sustainability Team. The team monitors ESG and sustainability trends and issues, develops short, medium, and long-term strategies for the company, coordinates all sustainability-related reporting, and collaborates with key stakeholders including employees, customers, and suppliers on sustainability-related projects.



Sam Anderson, CEO, CarbonGraph

Sam is the co-founder and CEO of CarbonGraph where he leads a team developing a platform that lets companies calculate & share the carbon footprint of their products or services in a standard format to ensure that carbon emissions are transparent across supply chains and international markets. He has a BSc, Mathematics and Engineering from Queen's University and 4 years working as a mining engineer including strategic planning for a mine decarbonization project and detailed engineering for an arctic solar farm.



Mr. Md. Lutfor Rahman, Consul General of Bangladesh in Toronto

Mr. Rahman graduated from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Dhaka in 1995. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Bangladesh in February 1998. He served in Bangladesh Embassy in Hanoi, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission in Karachi, Bangladesh Mission in Riyadh, Bangladesh Embassy in Rabat, Deputy High Commissioner of Bangladesh in Mumbai and currently serving as a Consul General of Bangladesh in Toronto since 11 January 2022.



Bridging the Sustainability Gap: Policy, Industry, and Academia

Speakers, continued

Dr. Shafi Bhuiyan, PhD, MBBS, MPH, MBA

Dr. Bhuiyan is an internationally-recognized leader in global public health and education initiatives, with diverse experience in both developed and developing countries. He is an Asst. Professor of clinical public health at the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Co-creator of MScCH pilot program for internationally trained physicians at DLSPH, U of T, co-founder of the innovative Bridge Training Programs for IEHPs and Inaugural Board of Directors of Association for Global Health (CAGH) and served in many more health organization. Dr. Bhuiyan holds positions as Adjunct Professor at Faculty of Community Services at Toronto Metropolitan University, Canada and Bangladesh University of Health Sciences.



Brian Thompson, B.A.Sc., C.P.H.I., Associate Director for Healthy Environments, City of Toronto

Brian began his career at Toronto Public Health in 1999. Initially, he was a Public Health Inspector (PHI), conducting Food Safety, Health Hazard and Tobacco Control inspections in the West Region. Brian served as a Coordinator, Emergency Planning and assisted in the development of the TPH Pandemic Influenza Plan, manager of Healthy Environments, TPH Liaison Team, TPH Reopening and Recovery Committee, School Liaison Team and worked with private and independent schools to ensure the necessary COVID-19 mitigation strategies were in place in order to protect the students and staff. Currently, as the Associate Director for Healthy Environments, Brian oversees the City of Toronto's Food Safety Program.



Fernando Carou, Manager, Renewable Energy & Net-zero Development, City of Toronto

A renewable energy and sustainability professional with progressive experience developing, managing, and delivering energy and sustainability programs both in the public sector in Canada and private sector in North America, Europe, and Asia.



Bridging the Sustainability Gap: Policy, Industry, and Academia

Speakers, continued

Jack Bolland, Manager of the Environment and Energy Program Administration, City of Toronto

Responsible for thought leadership and developing best-in-class programs in the areas of Sustainable Development, Community Energy Planning, and the strategic development of Low-carbon Thermal Energy Networks. Through the development of business, financing, technical, and policy frameworks alongside holistic stakeholder engagement, the division serves to deliver on the TransformTO goal of Zero Emission Development and Resilient Neighborhoods by 2030.



Geoff Cape, Chief Executive Officer, R-Hauz

Geoff has a history of working on urban planning, policy, innovation with a focus on clean tech and environmental services including 32 years as CEO of Evergreen Brick Works and 6 years on the Board of Directors of Sustainable Development Canada. Geoff participates in extensive international networks associated with urban innovation, planning and smart cities. He has a BA in Urban Issues from Queen's University and a Masters of Management from McGill University.





Event team

The 14th annual Environmental and Applied Science Management PhD Symposium is presented to you by the following event team members.

Subrina Buly (she, her) is a first year Ph.D. student in the Environmental Applied Science and Management program at TMU. She previously served as a university lecturer of Anthropology in Bangladesh and a research assistant for various UNDP projects related to Disaster Management, Risk Reduction, Climate Change, and Sustainable Community Development in the country. She also collaborated with Volta, the innovation hub for start-ups in Atlantic Canada and also served as an associate at Venture Grade, a student-run Venture Capital fund based in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Her Ph.D. research aims to explore the role of sustainability within the governance system of Bangladesh's ready-made garments industries and its impact on both people and the planet.



Jannatul Islam (he, him) is a first-year Ph.D. student, in the Environmental Applied Science and Management program. His previous experiences include founding several nonprofit organizations in the UK, Canada and Bangladesh, working with grassroots organizations in Canada with a focus on equity and sustainability. His research interests are focused on community development while his PhD research focused on "Food Safety in Bangladesh: A policy study for a safe food system".



Janine LeFort (she, her) is a first-year Ph.D. student, in the Environmental Applied Science and Management. She has experience in the supply chain and international business arena. Her research focus is on the sustainability of the Canadian pallet industry and its role in global trade.



Wayne McPhee (he, him) is a first-year PhD student, in the Environmental Applied Science and Management program, who is researching how corporate sustainability departments are organized and how they can improve performance. He has experience in environmental engineering, sustainability consulting and technology innovation.



Jacob Ventura (he, him) is a first-year PhD student in the Environmental Applied Science and Management Program. He has previous experience working in environmental compliance in an industrial capacity and much of his academic work has concentrated on climate change policy. His current research is focused on investigating environmental risk and rewards and the potential benefits and drawbacks associated with adaptation on Manitoulin Island in Ontario, Canada.



Land Acknowledgement

Toronto Metropolitan University's Land Acknowledgement

Toronto is in the 'Dish With One Spoon Territory'. The Dish With One Spoon is a treaty between the Anishinaabe, Mississaugas, and Haudenosaunee that bound them to share the territory and protect the land. Subsequent Indigenous Nations and peoples, Europeans, and all newcomers have been invited into this treaty in the spirit of peace, friendship, and respect."

The "Dish", sometimes called the "Bowl", represents what is now southern Ontario, from the Great Lakes to Quebec and from Lake Simcoe into the United States. We all eat out of the Dish, all of us that share this territory, with only one spoon. That means we have to share the responsibility of ensuring the dish is never empty, which includes taking care of the land and the creatures we share it with. Importantly, there are no knives at the table, representing that we must keep the peace.

The dish is graphically represented by the wampum pictured here.

This was a treaty made between the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee after the French and Indian War. Newcomers were then incorporated into it over the years, notably in 1764 with The Royal Proclamation/The Treaty of Niagara.

