



SPEAKERS' BIOS AND SESSIONS' DESCRIPTIONS

WELCOME REMARKS:

Daniel Pilon, Director General, National Accommodations, Domestic Procurement and Asset Management (SPD), Global Affairs Canada

Prior to joining GAC in 2018, Daniel held positions as Director of Contracts and Materiel Management at the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development; and Chief of Contracts at the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. He started his career in procurement in the late 90's as a Contracts Administrator working for the United States Department of Defense. Daniel was also co-chair of the PSPC Client Advisory Board from 2015 to 2019.

Mike Rainville, National Manager, Uniform & Equipment Program Operations, Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Mike started his career in the Federal Public Service in 2008 as a warehouse technician in the RCMP's Uniform & Equipment Program. He then moved to a client services representative role and also worked within the Program's Design & Technical Authority Section. In 2011, Mike began to take a particular interest in the procurement and material management aspects of the UEP and worked closely with the Forecasting, Accounting & Administration Section manager prior to her retirement. After successfully winning the competition for the position, Mike continued in this critical role which included material forecasting for all RCMP uniform supplied by UEP, managing the Program's budget, initiating requisitions for competitive solicitations and engaging in low dollar value purchases for both operations & maintenance and uniform. Mike took over as National Program Manager in June of 2024. Additionally, Mike has worked intimately across multiple modules with the RCMP's instance of SAP and is engaged with the RCMP's transition to S4HANA.

Carolyn Montague, Partner, Performance Management Network Inc and President, Canadian Institute for Procurement and Materiel Management (Volunteer)

Carolyn is the President of CIPMM as well as a Partner at Performance Management Network Inc, a management consulting firm located in Ottawa. Carolyn started in procurement in 1982 as an Intern Officer at what was called Supply and Services way back then. It is now PSPC. Over her 39 years in procurement, she has procured almost every type of service as well as software, hardware and many types of goods. She has delivered at one point or another all of the courses required for the Procurement and

Materiel Management certification program on behalf of CSPS as well as developing and delivering over 35 different courses for various federal departments and agencies.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 1

NEW COMMITMENTS IN THE GREENING GOVERNMENT STRATEGY TO REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF FEDERAL PROCUREMENT

This presentation will explore new procurement commitments in the Greening Government Strategy for suppliers to provide greenhouse gas life cycle assessment reports for high-value federal procurements and for departments to set procurement criteria for their categories of procurement with the highest environmental impact, with a focus on carbon.

Jane Keenan, Director, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Jane is the Director at the Centre for Greening Government within the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. She has also held leadership roles at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as well as at Environment and Climate Change Canada. In these roles she advanced domestic and international environmental policies related to climate policy and clean energy. Her outreach focused on the natural resource sector, Indigenous peoples as well as strategic engagement with the United States. Jane started her career with the Province of New Brunswick where she led the development of environmental legislation and regulations to improve air quality and reduce waste. Jane has a Masters in Environmental Studies from York University, a Bachelor of Law from Osgoode Hall Law School and a Bachelor of Arts from Saint Francis Xavier University.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 2

KEY CONSIDERATIONS IN WAREHOUSING

Come join this Panel discussing Warehousing considerations in government organizations. Holding and managing materiel is a critical activity to ensure the ability meet departmental mandates and protect governmental resources. Representatives from DND and RCMP will be joining us to share their knowledge.

Moderator:

Bronwynn Guymer, Section Head, DMPP 7, Materiel Policy and Procedures, Department of National Defence

Panelists:

- Mike Rainville, National Manager, Uniform & Equipment Program Operations, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Richard Quinn, Strategic Supply Chain Advisor, Department of National Defence
- Marvin (Chuck) Edwards, Manager, Supply Chain, Canadian Coast Guard

Bronwynn Guymer, Section Head, DMPP 7, Materiel Policy and Procedures, Department of National Defence

Bronwynn Guymer is the Senior Policy Analyst for Materiel Management in DND and the CAF. She has extensive Materiel Management experience from operational front line units up to corporate oversight and coordination. She has completed the Certified

Supply Chain Transformation Architect Training, is certified in Supply Chain Operations Reference Model and has led multiple change initiatives within DND.

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Richard Quinn, Strategic Supply Chain Advisor, Department of National Defence

Richard Quinn is a former senior military logistician with over 30 years of experience. As a Logistics Officer he has acquired all-embracing knowledge and experience in supply chain management which includes the acquisition, movement, accounting, storage and disposal of goods, business planning, performance measurement and budget management. He is well versed in the art of networking with departmental managers and executives to implement business objectives. He is an accomplished briefer and instructor. His various employment assignments have provided him with extensive experience in offering advice to senior officials and resolving complex and sensitive issues, either personal or business-related and has often served as the Subject Matter Expert in various fields of study such as Logistics Planning and Support, Change Management, Performance Management and Ethics.

Marvin (Chuck) Edwards, Manager, Supply Chain, Canadian Coast Guard

Marvin Edwards first joined the Canadian Coast Guard in 2022 as the Supply Chain Manager for Atlantic Canada, which included overseeing the national Materiel Identification and Cataloging section as well as warehouse located in both Nova Scotia and Newfoundland. Prior to joining the CCG he was an Aerospace Engineer with the Canadian Airforce working on the 124 Sea King, 148 Cyclone, and 149 Cormorant aircraft. Marvin has a Diploma in Industrial Electronics, Degree in Computer Science, and a Master's in Business Administration.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 3

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT 101- WHAT IS IT & HOW TO IMPLEMENT IT

Implementing Sustainable procurement, in a carbon constrained world, has never been more important, Simply put the actions we take in the next 5 years will resonate for thousands of years. But many Procurement professionals have no background in

sustainability – Come hear Frances Edmonds one of the country’s top sustainability professionals review the basics of Sustainable procurement – ask those niggling questions and get ready to start your journey up mount sustainability.

Frances Edmonds, Head of Sustainable Impact, HP Canada

Frances Edmonds is the Head of Sustainable Impact at HP Canada, where she is responsible for business development and oversees Corporate Social Responsibility programs nationally. With a focus on sustainable procurement, Frances is driving meaningful change cross-sector that supports a more circular and sustainable economic future for Canada. With more than 30 years of experience, Frances is recognized as one of Canada’s top sustainability professionals having received two [Clean 50 awards](#), is listed on the Canadian Women in the IT Channel Hall of Fame and has led HP to become the [most sustainable technology company in Canada](#).

CONCURRENT SESSION # 4

SOCIAL PROCUREMENT IN ACTION: CASE STUDIES FROM ACROSS CANADA

In this session we will look at several case studies of organizations that have moved their social procurement journey from awareness to policy to action. We will showcase their lessons learned and stories of success to inspire others to implement social procurement.

Every purchase has an economic, social, cultural, and environmental impact. Social procurement is about leveraging existing purchasing to capture those impacts and achieve institutional, governmental, and community goals that help shape inclusive, vibrant, and healthy communities.

Buy Social Canada works with all levels of government, institutions, corporations and non-profits to develop social procurement policies, programs, training, tools, and measurement frameworks.

Tori Williamson, Chief Operating Officer, Buy Social Canada

With a passion for understanding the systems around us and working collaboratively on community-centered solutions, Tori believes in people and the power of shifting perspectives and objectives to create monumental change. As Chief Operating Officer, she spearheads consulting services and works across the social procurement ecosystem. She sits on the Stronger Together Solidarity Working Group to help bring inclusion, diversity, equity, and access to the social innovation sector. Currently, she is the Project Manager for Wood Buffalo Social Procurement Implementation, Winnipeg Sustainable Procurement Action Plan, Edmonton Sustainable Procurement Tools and Procedures and the British Columbia Social Procurement Initiative.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 5

THE MARRIAGE OF MATERIAL MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY

The importance of the marriage of material and finance cannot be overstated. They are intertwined, interlinked and often confusing. This session will act help, like marriage

counselling, explain where those key communication and interconnection points are and how to navigate them for bliss and success.

Bronwynn Guymer, Section Head, DMPP 7, Materiel Policy and Procedures, Department of National Defence

Bronwynn Guymer is the Senior Policy Analyst for Materiel Management in DND and the CAF. She has extensive Materiel Management experience from operational front line units up to corporate oversight and coordination. She has completed the Certified Supply Chain Transformation Architect Training, is certified in Supply Chain Operations Reference Model and has led multiple change initiatives within DND.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 6

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE (B.I.) REPORTING FOR PROCUREMENT

This presentation discusses new approaches to managing procurement data using Business Intelligence (B.I.) reporting tools. The presentation will cover how these tools can help you achieve better quality assurance, better streamlining of information, and help you conduct easier data queries and reporting.

Anick Matthieu, Head, Strategic Procurement, Governance and Outreach, Environment and Climate Change Canada

The procurement world is vast and diverse; Anick has been working in the federal procurement field for 23 years. She started at HRDC (Human Resources and Development Canada), where she was first introduced to procurement. Anick left after 5 years to join the Department of National Defence Land Procurement team where she worked for 12 years. This experience exposed her to many facets of procurement, including procuring in support of tank projects, soldiers equipment, soldiers uniforms, rations and ammunition programs to name a few. In 2019, Anick moved to a smaller department, the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) where she learned to wear multiple hats, and it is where she learned to embrace innovation, especially with the CSPS Digital Academy. She also led the development and initial implementation of the CSPS Procurement Portal. In 2022, Anick moved to Environment and Climate Change Canada as the Head of Strategic Procurement, Governance and Outreach. The evolution of procurement in the last few years has been exponential including procurement accountability and reporting requirements. More than ever, innovation is key, especially procurement analytics, which is why ECC's Procurement reporting team has developed the BI reporting for their environment.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 7

TECH ADOPTION MADE EASY: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

In this session, Abrar will explore practical strategies designed to encourage the successful adoption of a new system. He will cover techniques that can help ease the transition, improve user engagement, and build familiarity with the system, ultimately leading to a smoother and more widely embraced implementation.

Abrar Khan, Business Analyst, Supply Chain Department, City of Vancouver

Abrar Khan is a Business Analyst in the supply chain department at the City of Vancouver. He has 15 years of experience in different aspects of the supply chain – procurement, inventory management and warehousing across multiple industries. He holds an MBA from the University of British Columbia and a Masters in Industrial & Systems Engineering from Northern Illinois University. Abrar is passionate about teaching and has taught supply chain related courses at UBC, BCIT and UCW. He is a long standing member of ASCM (Association of Supply Chain Management) and has led the Vancouver chapter as President from 2018 to 2021. Abrar has also been involved in mentoring new immigrants through the Immigration Employment Council of BC.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 8

PROCUREMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR MATERIEL MANAGEMENT

Materiel Management and Procurement functions are all part of the same supply chain process but too often they work in silos. This session will highlight a number of materiel management considerations that Procurement should incorporate into their work.

Moderator:

Carolyn Montague, CIPMM President

Panelists:

- Mike Rainville, National Manager, Uniform & Equipment Program Operations, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Minh-Khai Trinh, Director, International Procurement, Policy and Community Development (AAO), Global Affairs Canada
- Jean-Daniel Bourret, Chief, Contract Quality Assurance and Records Compliance Office, Public Services and Procurement Canada
- Niraj Nitheanandan, Regional Vehicle Fleet Manager, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

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Minh-Khai Trinh, Director, International Procurement, Policy and Community Development (AAO), Global Affairs Canada

Minh-Khai Trinh has 20 years of professional experience in procurement, assets and fleet management. As a Director of international procurement, policy and community development at Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Khai currently leads a division mandated to provide Real Property and Security Services procurement in support of GAC's vast Missions network. Prior to joining GAC, Khai had worked at CIDA, DND and PSPC (PWGSC) where he had the opportunities to lead and be involved in major IM/IT procurement initiatives and Defence projects/programs including the CF-188, the Snowbirds and the ammunition programs. Khai holds a science degree from l'Université de Montréal and a mini-MBA from McGill.

Jean-Daniel Bourret, Chief, Contract Quality Assurance and Records Compliance Office, Public Services and Procurement Canada

Jean-Daniel Bourret is the Chief, Contract Quality Assurance and Records Compliance Office for Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC). He has significant education and experience in both Procurement and Materiel Management. His 21-year career in the federal government includes 17 years in procurement, 12 years in Materiel Management and 14 years as an executive. In addition to PSPC, Jean-Daniel worked at Public Health Agency of Canada, Aboriginal Affaires and Northern Development Canada and more recently at Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Jean-Daniel is also the Treasurer of CIPMM.

Jean-Daniel holds a Bachelor in Business Administration with minor in Operations and Logistic from Université Laval, and the Supply Chain Management Professional (SCMP) designation.

Niraj Nitheanandan, Regional Vehicle Fleet Manager, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Niraj Nitheanandan is the Regional Vehicle Fleet Manager – Maritimes Region for Fisheries and Oceans Canada. Niraj joined the federal public service in 2019 with the Correctional Service Canada before joining DFO in 2022. He is also a Board member at CIPMM as the Youth Director – Materiel Management.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 9

AI – PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS FOR PROCUREMENT

Artificial Intelligence tools such as ChatGPT, Co-Pilot, Copy.ai, Grammarly, DALL-E, and others have made waves in the post-COVID era as the next leap in productivity. Society is gaining a greater understanding of the benefits and limitations of these tools in a variety of domains.

Join Drew Schlosser (VP Professional Services) and Kenny Holden (VP R&D) of Commerce Decisions as we explore the potential uses (and misuses) of AI in procurement. We will look at Evaluation Design, Market Research, Bid Response, and other areas. We will also showcase a prototype evaluator justification “sentiment analysis” tool being built into AWARD® that is helping procurement authorities avoid bidder challenges.

Drew Schlosser, Vice President Professional Services, Commerce Decisions Canada

Drew is a 23-year veteran of the Royal Canadian Navy, where he was involved in the procurement of a number of strategic projects, including the Canadian Surface Combatant. Since joining Commerce Decisions in 2019, Drew has provided thought leadership and expert advice to several multi-billion-dollar DND projects as well as training and evaluation design support to smaller projects in Defence, PSPC, and Crown Corporations. As Deputy Professional Services Director, he is responsible for leading Service Delivery across our global hubs in Ottawa, Canberra Australia, and Oxfordshire UK.

Kenny Holden, Vice-President Research & Development, Commerce Decision Canada

Kenny took leadership of both our Software Development and IT teams at the beginning of 2022 having previously worked in a similar role at OneFile, another company in the Harris Computer Corp family. Kenny is a software developer by trade – he started his career developing mobile phone games when the industry was in its infancy, before moving on to take up Head of Technology roles at a couple of software companies.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 10

PANEL DISCUSSION ON RECENT SUSTAINABILITY ISSUES FACING GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT / SUPPLIERS / SUPPLY CHAINS

Join experts for an insightful panel discussion on the latest challenges in sustainability. The panel will explore current policies, innovative practices, and strategies for integrating sustainable solutions within government and industry. Gain perspectives and discover actionable steps to enhance sustainability in your organization.

Moderator:

Jane Keenan, Director, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Panelists:

- Frances Edmonds, Head of Sustainable Impact, HP Canada

- Dr. Bob Willard, Founder and Chief, Sustainability Champion, Sustainability Advantage
- Jo-Anne St. Godard, Executive Director, Circular Innovation Council

Jane Keenan, Director, Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat

Jane is the Director at the Centre for Greening Government within the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat. She has also held leadership roles at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans as well as at Environment and Climate Change Canada. In these roles she advanced domestic and international environmental policies related to climate policy and clean energy. Her outreach focused on the natural resource sector, Indigenous peoples as well as strategic engagement with the United States. Jane started her career with the Province of New Brunswick where she led the development of environmental legislation and regulations to improve air quality and reduce waste. Jane has a Masters in Environmental Studies from York University, a Bachelor of Law from Osgoode Hall Law School and a Bachelor of Arts from Saint Francis Xavier University.

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Dr. Bob Willard, Founder and Chief, Sustainability Champion, Sustainability Advantage

Bob is a leading expert on sustainability justifications, frameworks, and sustainable procurement. Over the last 22 years, he has given over 1,700 presentations, has authored six books and published two white papers. He provides six [Master Slide Decks](#) and over a dozen free, open-source tools and resources for sustainability champions and procurement professionals.

Jo-Anne St. Godard, Executive Director, Circular Innovation Council

Jo-Anne St. Godard has served as Executive Director of Canada's premier environmental non-governmental organization, Circular Innovation Council (formerly Recycling Council of Ontario), since 2001. She has over 20 years of experience in the areas of public policy design, corporate strategy and compliance, research and pilot innovations designed to accelerate Canada's transition toward a circular economy.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 11

NAVIGATING GEN AI ADOPTION FOR PROCUREMENT

Generative AI (GenAI) has everyone buzzing and GenAI in procurement is expected to reach nearly \$2Bn by 2032. When used effectively, GenAI technologies can help automate routine procurement tasks and provide richer intelligence on assessing supplier

performance, negotiating contracts, and optimizing costs. However, implementing GenAI technologies for procurement requires careful consideration of several factors including ensuring data quality, eliminating bias, and managing change. This session will discuss a responsible AI approach to adopt GenAI for procurement.

Anjana Raman, Program Director, e-Procurement Program, Infosys Public Services

Anjana has 27+ years of experience in procurement, transit, financial services, manufacturing across a wide spectrum of industries including government. As the Program Manager, Anjana is leading the EPS and CanadaBuys program on the Infosys side, supporting and enhancing the implemented solution. The CanadaBuys website supports the needs of all Canadians and meets the requirements for Accessibility and CETA compliance.

Lalith Kumar Nimmala, Lead Consultant, Digital Supply Chain - Procurement, Infosys Limited

Lalith Kumar is a certified consultant and an architect for digital transformation projects. He had the opportunity to serve clients across North America, Europe, and APAC regions in projects ranging from rollout of digital procurement platforms, data migration, information systems decommission, data archival, sustainment, and continuous improvements. He is currently leading a value realization and continuous improvement program with the objective of maximizing client value from their digital procurement platform.

CONCURRENT SESSION # 12

STREAMLINING PROCUREMENT: HARNESSING THE POWER OF ROBOTIC PROCESS AUTOMATION

RPA has emerged as a game-changer in procurement, offering the ability to automate manual, repetitive tasks, reduce human error, and increase overall operational efficiency. This presentation focuses on how RPA can revolutionize your procure to pay operations. You will gain an understanding of the benefits, challenges, and best practices associated with RPA in procurement, allowing you to harness the power of automation to optimize your processes and achieve greater efficiency and cost savings. Real-world case studies will showcase successful RPA implementations, highlighting benefits such as reduced errors, faster cycle times, and improved accuracy. We'll also address key challenges like security, compliance, and ROI measurement, ensuring a smooth implementation journey. Whether you're a procurement professional or a business leader, discover how RPA can revolutionize your operations and drive tangible results. Join us to explore the transformative power of RPA bots in procurement processes.

Erin Mitchell, Director of Procurement, Georgia Institute of Technology

Erin Mitchell is the Director of Procurement at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She has over 12 years of procurement experience and 10 years at Georgia Tech. Erin's focuses include ERP implementation, process improvement, and automation in higher education. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Georgia and an MBA from Kennesaw State University.

SESSION # 13

CHATGPT ADVANTAGE: SMARTER SOLUTIONS FOR PROCUREMENT AND MATERIEL MANAGEMENT

It was like getting hit by a Mac truck. One day we're happily spending hours and hours writing emails and marketing copy, the next - ChatGPT swoops in and changes the entire industry.

Join us for an exciting conversation where we'll explore the incredible potential of ChatGPT, in revolutionizing the way we interact and engage with customers, clients, and stakeholders. Designed for those new to the concept, we'll delve into what ChatGPT is and why it's becoming a game-changer in procurement and materiel management practices. This session is perfect for those seeking a concise yet comprehensive introduction to the world of AI-driven communication tools.

Learning Objectives:

- Understand what ChatGPT is, its origins, core functionalities and common pitfalls
- Design ideal primers that precede your queries so that ChatGPT creates results that look and sound like you and your organization.
- Explore a framework to create ideal prompts that help garner better results from ChatGPT
- Watch ChatGPT in action! Together let's play with the tool and test its limitations - you'll be inspired to try it all!

Leanne Calderwood, Trainer & Speaker, LinkedIn and Personal Branding SIMPLIFIED

Leanne Calderwood, CMP is one of Canada's most preeminent LinkedIn experts, and one of Canada's top voices in the meetings and events industry. She is a trainer, speaker and a 20+ year industry veteran.

Leanne built her successful business in meetings and events using her personal brand and LinkedIn savvy to help create that coveted "know, like and trust" factor with her community. Now she shines a light on these best practices and helps professionals break through the clutter and stand out from their competition through her blog posts, YouTube channel and LinkedIn content.