

30TH ANNUAL

# Sea *TO* Sky



## EVENT PROGRAM

[www.seatoskyconference.ca](http://www.seatoskyconference.ca)  
[www.ac-ada.ca](http://www.ac-ada.ca)

# WELCOME TO SEA TO SKY 2023!



## Above and Beyond *Celebrating our past, Building our Future*

This year we celebrate three decades of Sea to Sky. The 2023 conference program will inspire and assist Atlantic Canadian aerospace, defence and marine industry members to build upon the impressive record of being world class contributors to this critically important sector. Join us to hear about how Atlantic Canada has, and continues to, go *above and beyond* in the sector.



**#S2S23**



**@ac-ada**



**@ACADA\_Atlantic**

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD



On behalf of the Atlantic Canada Aerospace and Defence Association and the Board of Directors, I want to extend a warm welcome to Sea to Sky!

This year marks the 30-year anniversary of the Sea to Sky conference, held annually in PEI. Sea to Sky has been a pillar event for the industry in PEI during this period, and one of ACADA's signature domestic events since 2017, bringing together industry, government, and stakeholder partners from across Atlantic Canada for a unique networking opportunity.

This year, the conference takes place in beautiful Summerside, PEI, on the doorstep of where the industry began in Slemon Park. The industry in PEI has grown from its modest beginnings, to being positioned as a regional leader in MRO Services, manufacturing, and the development of green technology in the aerospace, defence, and marine sector.

The theme of this year's conference is ***Above and Beyond: Celebrating our Past, Building our Future.*** The program will guide attendees through the past, present, and future of the aerospace, defence, and marine industry in Atlantic Canada, and offer best practices to ensure continued success.

In closing, I wish to acknowledge all members, retired and currently serving, in our collective Armed Forces, Coast Guard, and Military. This conference is possible thanks to the support from the Government of Canada, Government of PEI, and our many sponsors. Thank you to all the registrants, sponsors, and speakers for your valuable contribution and the gift of your time.

Best wishes for an informative and productive conference,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Willis Jacobs." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Willis Jacobs**  
**Chair**

# THANK YOU SPONSORS



PLATINUM:



GOLD:



SILVER:



PRE-CONFERENCE BBQ:



BREAKFAST:



COFFEE BREAK:



SITE TOUR:



## TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

*The Oval, Credit Union Place Summerside*

6:00 – 8:00 pm      **Welcome Reception and Barbecue**  
*Sponsored by Skills PEI*

## WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

*Conference Rooms B & C – Credit Union Place*

8:00 am              **Breakfast**  
*Sponsored by Innovation PEI*

8:45 am              **Official Welcome**  
*Victoria Belbin (Chief Executive Officer, ACADA)*  
*MP Heath MacDonald (Member of Parliament, Malpeque, PEI)*

8:55 am              **Opening Prayer and Smudging Ceremony**  
*Elders Jimmy Bernard and Joe John Sanipass*  
*(Lennox Island First Nation)*

9:15 am              **Reaching New Heights in Atlantic Canada**  
*Harvey Doane (Chief Operating Officer, Maritime Launch)*

The presentation will cover the who, what, and why of Maritime Launch, the benefits to the local economy, and look at the timeline ahead.

10:00 am             **Health Break**  
*Sponsored by Holland College*

10:15 am             **Mental Health in the Workplace, A Shared Responsibility**  
*Charlie Marr (Community Educator, Canadian Mental Health Association)*

In this informative session, we will delve into the critical topic of "Mental Health in the Workplace" and explore how it is a shared responsibility among employers, employees, and the organization as a whole. With a focus on nurturing a supportive and mentally healthy work environment,

we will discuss various strategies and best practices that can be implemented collaboratively to ensure the well-being of everyone in the workplace.

10:45 am

**Open Collaboration in a Dual Use Ecosystem**

*Patrick Edwards-Daugherty (Founder & CEO, Spiri Robotics)*

Looking at how to develop through open standards and provide open software and hardware development kits, intending specifically to support and participate in cross-pollination within our robotics corner of the defence and civilian research ecosystems.

11:15 am

**Youth Panel – “Looking Ahead, Our Future Industry Leaders”**

**Panelists:** *Louise Regalado (Bench Operator, StandardAero), Duy Nguyen (Graduate Student of Science in Robotics and Automation, UPEI), Izaak Dalton (Repair and Overhaul Technician, Action Aero), Darren Machado (Marketing Coordinator, AKA Energy Systems)*

12:10pm

**Greetings from the Mayor of Summerside**

*Mayor Dan Kutcher*

12:20 pm

**Lunch**

1:05 pm

**Harnessing the Power of Artificial Intelligence: From the Workplace to Outer Space**

*Arad Gharagozli (Chief Executive Officer, Scio Logica)*

In this session, Arad Gharagozli CEO of Scio Logica and GALAXIA Mission Systems will talk about the work these two companies are doing to further AI development in the workplace and in space. Scio Logica’s Nesso software personalizes large language models by training them on a companies’ own data. GALAXIA is bringing edge-computation and AI solutions to space, with the MÖBIUS platform.

1:45 pm

**Continuous Improvement to Ensure an Engaged Workforce**

*Gary Cox (Senior Associate, Barrington Consulting Group)*

In a world where continuous improvement is necessary to empower the workforce, we will explore the impact of such practice on cultivating an engaged and motivated workforce. In this dynamic session we will delve into the strategies and practices that drive ongoing growth and development within organizations, fostering a culture of innovation and enthusiasm among the workforce.

2:30 pm

**Health Break**

*Sponsored by Holland College*

3:00 pm

**Industry Panel – “Looking Back – A Celebration of Our Success”**

**Moderator:** Brian Thompson (Former President, Vector Aerospace Engines Atlantic) **Panelists:** Don McDougall (Former President of Labatt’s) Sue LeFort (PEI’s First Female Red Seal Machinist), Shawn McCarvill (President, Slemon Park Corporation), Dave Trainor (Founder and President, Action Aero)

A captivating industry panel which features distinguished experts and pioneers who have played pivotal roles in shaping the sector. During this special session, our esteemed panelists will share their personal stories, experiences, and insights, taking us through the transformative moments that have defined the course of aerospace and defence advancements. From groundbreaking technological innovations to historic missions and collaborations, we will relive the moments that have made this industry a beacon of progress and excellence.

4:15 pm

**Cyber Compliance – Protecting Your Information and Your Future**

*Brendan Dunphy (Project Manager, Sapper Labs)*

Maintaining robust cybersecurity practices to safeguard your organization’s sensitive data is imperative to protect against potential breaches. During this engaging session, we will guide you through the latest cybersecurity regulations, best practices, and risk mitigation strategies.

5:00 pm

**Program Concludes**

- 6:00 pm                    **Reception – Refreshments and Hors d’oeuvres**  
*The Oval – Credit Union Place*
- 6:50 pm                    **Greetings from the Province of PEI**  
*The Honorable Gilles Arsenault (Minister of Economic Development,  
Innovation and Trade)*
- 7:00 pm                    **Signature Lobster and Steak Dinner**
- 8:00 pm                    **Keynote Address**  
*Cpl Avery Arsenault (Aviation Systems Technician, Canadian Armed Forces)*

## Thursday, August 10

### *Site Tours sponsored by Slemon Park*

- 7:30 am                    **Delegates on their own for Breakfast**  
*Five Eleven West Restaurant, Credit Union Place*
- 8:20 am                    **Delegates depart Credit Union Place by car for travel to Slemon Park**
- 8:45 am                    **Delegates meet at StandardAero**  
*800 Aerospace Blvd., Slemon Park*
- 9:00 am                    **Delegates in groups move to StandardAero and MDS Coating for Tours**
- 10:15 am                   **Delegates cross over from StandardAero and MDS Coating for Second  
Tour**
- 10:30 am                   **Second tour begins**
- 11:45 am                   **Delegates move to Slemon Park Corporation for lunch and presentation**
- 12:00 pm                   **Lunch and Presentation by Slemon Park Corp**  
*12 Redwood Ave., Slemon Park Anson’s Restaurant, Harvard Room,  
Slemon Park Hotel and Conference Centre*
- 1:15 pm                    **Conference ends, delegates depart from Slemon Park**

## THE HONOURABLE GILLES ARSENAULT

### **Minister, Economic Development, Innovation and Trade**

Named Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Trade and Minister responsible for Acadian and Francophone Affairs in April 2023, Gilles has had a long career of giving back to Prince Edward Island.

He has worked for nearly thirty years as a teacher, school principal, President of the PEI Teachers Federation (PEITF) and Superintendent of the Commission scolaire de langue française (CSLF).

Gilles knows what it's like to start and run a small business, having owned and operated several ventures over the years.

Gilles has chaired the board of the Evangeline Rec Centre and the Evangeline Co-op Funeral Home. He sat on Abram's Village municipal council, was Vice President of the Organizing Committee for les Jeux de l'Acadie, and actively volunteered for the Acadian Festival.

Gilles, his wife Leonie, and their sons André, Alain and Martin call Abram's Village home.

Gilles was elected as the MLA for District 24, Evangeline-Miscouche, on April 3rd, 2023.

## AVERY ARSENAULT

### **Aviation Systems Technician | Canadian Armed Forces**

Avery grew up in Kinkora and went to Three Oaks Senior High. Her interest in aviation began while taking the introduction to aviation elective course offered at Three Oaks. During this time, she decided that she would like to pursue a career within the aviation industry. Upon graduating from Three Oaks, she applied to join the Canadian Armed Forces as an Aviation Systems Technician (AVN) in 2017. After completing basic training in St. Jean, QC, Avery was sent to CFB Borden to complete her basic aviation trade training before being posted to 431 Air Demonstration Squadron in Moose Jaw Sk in 2019. Within this time, she has been working on the CT114 Tutor for the Snowbirds Airshow team. She has been a member of the traveling airshow detachment for the 2022 and 2023 seasons.

## GARY COX

### **Senior Associate – Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt | Barrington Consulting Group**

Gary Cox is a Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Master Black Belt with Barrington Consulting Group, he is a Senior Associate. Gary brings more than 18 years of Black Belt project execution experience to the team and received his Master Black Belt training in 2010 during his 35-year career at Canada Post where he held the position of National Director of Process Engineering. He has saved organizations over \$25 million in leading and coaching continuous improvement projects and trained over a thousand people in LSS during his career.

Gary's most recent engagements are with AC-ADA members, Standard Aero, MDS Coating, Action Aero, and Leonardo DRS Pivotal Power. He has supported a diverse portfolio of industries driving continuous improvement; in the past few years he has supported NS Farmers through Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, Eden Valley Poultry, and provided Lean Six Sigma to Saint Mary's University faculty.

## IZAAK DALTON

### **Repair and Overhaul Technician | StandardAero**

Izaak grew up in Summerside and went to Three Oaks Senior High where he was first introduced to aerospace through the elective class offered there. After spending 2 years in the class and winning a gold medal in the SkillsPEI aerospace competition, he decided this could be a career path for him. Next, I applied for the Aircraft Turbine Technician course at Holland College and spent one year studying there. With the skills he'd learned, he landed a job at Action Aero in Charlottetown, where he has continued to work, and expand his skills and knowledge, for the past 4 years.

## HARVEY DOANE

### **Chief Operating Officer | Maritime Launch Services**

Harvey Doane is the Chief Operating Officer of Maritime Launch Services. With a wealth of experience in organizational leadership, operations, and international business development, Harvey is a valuable asset to the senior management team at Maritime Launch Services. Having worked many years in foreign direct investment, Harvey brings a unique perspective and a broad international network to the table. He is committed to shaping the future of the company and driving its success on a global scale.

At Maritime Launch Services, Harvey, as part of the senior leadership team, is instrumental in the development of Canada's first commercial launch facility. This innovative project has huge implications for the Canadian space sector and is a reflective of Harvey's forward-thinking and innovative approach to leadership. He is dedicated to ensuring that the project is completed on time and on budget, while also meeting the highest standards of operational efficiency.

As Chief Operating Officer, he is responsible for safeguarding that the facility design and construction meets the highest standards of safety and quality, as well as ensuring compliance with all environmental regulations. Harvey is committed to making sure that Maritime Launch Services is a leading player in the global space industry.

## BRENDAN DUNPHY

### **Project Manager | Sapper Labs Group**

Brendan has been working in the IT field for over 10 years, consulting on many projects relating to compliance framework requirements in Canada for both government and private sector initiatives. In initial stages of his career, Brendan was integral in the development of Canadian standards and frameworks, for the secure provisioning of IT systems. Having initially assisted in the build of the compliance framework for Cyber Essentials Canada, Brendan also supported the Government of Canada's certification initiative – CyberSecure Canada.

Brendan served as Program Manager for development, launch and management of ACADA's MACH Atlantic initiative, a unique regional program opportunity for sponsor and participant companies to elevate, engage and attain supply chain innovation and continuous improvement levels acknowledged by Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM's) and defence Primes globally.

Brendan now serves as Project Manager with Sapper Labs Group, a veteran-owned, intelligence and cyber company focused on provision of special products, services, solutions, and training to trusted clients and partners.

## PATRICK EDWARDS-DAUGHERTY

### **Founder and Chief Executive Officer | Spiri Robotics**

Patrick Edwards-Daugherty is the founder, CEO, and technical lead of Spiri Robotics Inc. He studied mathematics and theoretical physics (McGill to 1997, Cambridge to 1998) prior to founding his first company. Spiri Robotics was spun off in 2015 to focus on the autonomous systems business. He has led research and development teams for twenty-two years and has led robotics research teams for ten.

## ARAD GHARAGOZLI

### **Chief Executive Officer | Scio Logica**

Arad Gharagozli (BEng'20, MASC) is CEO and founder of GALAXIA Mission Systems, a Halifax-based space computation startup. GALAXIA was recently awarded a \$1.7 million contribution from the Canadian Space Agency to demonstrate the MÖBIUS platform, a commercial constellation of AI-powered nano-satellites.

He is also CEO of Scio Logica Corp., which provides cybersecurity solutions for businesses in Atlantic Canada. Scio Logica is currently developing Nesso, an AI software that harnesses the capabilities of large language models and personalizes them with a company's own data.

## MAYOR DAN KUTCHER

### Mayor | City of Summerside

Dan Kutcher was elected Mayor of the City of Summerside on November 7, 2022. He is a father and husband, lawyer, entrepreneur, volunteer, and former political advisor.

Mayor Kutcher is an active Rotarian with the Summerside Rotary Club and a former board member with Easter Seals PEI and The Free Store. He has also served as President of the Harbourfront Theatre Board of Directors, President of the Greater Summerside Chamber of Commerce and as a director with Downtown Summerside Inc. and Summerside Regional Development Corporation. Mayor Kutcher received a Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for his community volunteering.

A graduate of Acadia University (BA hon., 2003) and the Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University (JD, 2011), Mayor Kutcher earned his Law Degree with a specialization in Environmental Law. He is a recipient of the Dalhousie James Hendry Memorial Prize for International Environmental Law and has an International Food Law certificate from Michigan State University.

Prior to entering politics, Mayor Kutcher practiced law with the firm Cox and Palmer in St. John's Newfoundland and Summerside PEI and has appeared before the Supreme Court of NL and PEI and the PEI Court of Appeal. He also previously established and operated South Central Kitchen & Provisions, a successful restaurant in downtown Summerside, and has served as a political advisor to the Minister of Industry (Canada) and Premier of Ontario and served as Chief of Staff to the Minister of Environment (Ontario).

Mayor Kutcher and his wife Dr. April MacPhee, Department Head of Pediatrics at the Prince County Hospital in Summerside, have made and call Summerside home along with their two busy kids, Ayrton and Emilia.

## SUE LEFORT

### PEI's First Female Red Seal Machinist in Aerospace and Defence

Sue LeFort attended Holland College in the early 80's taking Welding Fabrication and Machining, she was their first female graduate, and was awarded the Holland College Distinguished Alumni Award in 2014. Sue was hired directly from college, working for the private sector in the aerospace industry from the shop floor to senior management over 25 years, attaining many skills including her Red Seal Endorsement as a machinist. Over the last 15 years, Sue worked for the province of PEI managing Apprenticeship Training and Certification, and then with Innovation PEI supporting the aerospace and defence Industry through business development.

Sue recently retired, but continues volunteering extensively provincially, nationally, and internationally with Skills Canada, and WorldSkills supporting youth with career exploration in trades and technologies. She currently serves as Board President with Skills Canada PEI, Board Vice President of Skills Competences Canada and was recently appointed as Lead Skill Advisor with WorldSkills.

Sue is considered a trailblazer in the aerospace industry.

## DARREN MACHADO

### Marketing Coordinator | AKA Energy Systems

Darren Machado grew up in India and completed High School in New Zealand. He then moved to Prince Edward Island in 2018 to study here at the UPEI where he graduated with a Bachelor of Business Administration 2 years ago. Darren joined AKA Energy Systems' team as the Marketing Coordinator a little more than 6 months ago. He has over 3 years' experience in sales and marketing in several industries on PEI but has recently entered the marine and sustainable engineering industries through AKA. Darren strongly believes in making a positive difference, whether it is with people or in our environment and is committed to doing so here in PEI with AKA, his other businesses, volunteer work, and day-to-day life.

## CHARLIE MARR

### Community Educator | Canadian Mental Health Association, PEI Division

Charlie Marr is a 'Community Educator' with the Canadian Mental Health Association – PEI Division. Charlie delivers learning experiences on mental health topics across a wide demographic. This has in recent weeks included businesses, voluntary organizations, training groups, elementary school students and seniors.

Charlie was a teacher and education manager in East Central Scotland over a twenty-year period. He managed support services in mainstream schools. Subsequently, he designed and delivered a special education provision for neurodivergent students with special educational needs.

Prior to moving to Canada, Charlie managed a regional support service for autistic people and their family members in his native Scotland.

## SHAWN MCCARVILL, CPA, CA

### President | Slemon Park Corporation

Shawn is the President of Slemon Park Corporation. He worked with Slemon Park Corporation in the early 1990s as its first Chief Financial Officer and rejoined the company in 2008 as President.

Slemon Park is the home of the Aerospace industry on PEI, with the property formerly known as Canadian Forces Base Summerside.

Shawn has worked in Ottawa, Charlottetown, Summerside and New York City during his career, including as Chief Financial Officer with Murphy Investments Ltd., D.P. Murphy Inc., Spell Read P.A.T. Learning Systems Inc. and the East Prince Regional Health Authority, and also as President of PEI Capital Inc.

Shawn is a CPA, CA who grew up in Kinkora, PEI and is a graduate of UPEI. He and his wife, Joanne, live in Kensington and they have five adult children and nine grandchildren.

## DON MCDOUGALL

**Former President | Labatt's**

Don McDougall, a native Islander, is a former President of Labatt's.

Don was part of a team that brought the Toronto Blue Jays to Canada, owned an aerospace company that supplied parts to the International Space Station, and played a key role in created the Slemon Park Corporation after the federal government closed CFB Summerside. Don, well known for his ethical leadership in many business and volunteer roles, was appointed earlier this year to the Order of Canada.

## DUY NGUYEN

**Graduate Student of Science in Robotics and Automation | University of Prince Edward Island**

Duy is a master's student at PEI studying robotics and automation. Originally from Vietnam, he moved to PEI two years ago. Since then, he has received numerous scholarships and awards from UPEI. He has also traveled to over 10 countries in Europe and 10 major cities across Canada. PEI has become his second home, where he wants to thrive and contribute to advancing automation and engineering education, making a lasting impact in the field and inspire others to pursue knowledge and innovation.

## LOUISE REGALADO

**Bench Operator | StandardAero**

Louise Regalado was born in the Philippines. She moved to Canada when she was just nine years old. Her interest in the aviation industry began when she went with her dad in grade 9 to "Take Your Kids to Work Day." At StandardAero, she saw how hands on the industry was which appealed to her. Throughout her high school career, she took a majority of the aviation related courses for a chance to help her with the future she wanted in the industry. In grade 12 she was able to have a co-op placement at StandardAero which gave her the opportunity to learn more about the industry and realise this was what she wanted to do. Her co-op work term turned into a full-time summer job.

## DAVE TRAINOR

**President | Action Aero**

Dave Trainor graduated from Holland College's Electromechanical Technology program in 1990 and then joined Allied Signal Aerospace, which later became Honeywell Engines and Systems. His skills, work ethic, and dedication served him well as he steadily climbed the ranks and, after 14 years, David moved on to positions with Honeywell in Montreal and Phoenix Arizona before returning to PEI. David completed his EMBA at John Molson School of Business in 2006.

With his knowledge of the aerospace industry, David identified a gap in the Prince Edward Island market and in 2008, he opened Action Aero in Charlottetown, a company that specializes in overhauling and repairing aircraft engine accessories. Today, Action Aero employs over 60 individuals and continues to expand.

In 2013, Dave, along with a group of other island business owners, stepped up to help keep PEI's Quebec Major Junior Hockey League team on PEI, now the Charlottetown Islanders. David serves as Chairman of the Board and is on the QMJHL Executive committee.

In 2017 Dave joined the Innovation PEI Board and will wrap up his term and Board Chair this September.