



MONDAY DECEMBER 14TH 2020

8h00 – 8h15

OPENING OF THE 26TH EDITION OF THE CONFERENCE OF MONTREAL

8h20 – 8h50

FIRESIDE CHAT

CATALYZING THE GREEN RECOVERY: TIME FOR ACTION

SPEAKER

Jean-Pierre Clamadieu, Chairman, ENGIE

9h00 – 9h50

INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE

In collaboration with Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF)

TOWARDS A MORE RESILIENT GLOBAL ECONOMY

The COVID-19 crisis has revealed how brittle and sensitive the global economy is in the face of shocks and stresses, from supply chains to stock markets. Who are the biggest winners and losers this year, and what can we learn from their experiences? Will a new coronavirus vaccine be the cure for our economic system, or have we passed a point of no return where we have to lay a new foundation for a strong and sustained economy of the future? How can we all contribute to strengthening the global economy to fare better in the face of future challenges?

10h00 – 10h50

PLENARY SESSION

ESG CRITERIAS AT THE CORE OF OUR DECISIONS

Sustainability and resilience are essential concepts today, when it comes to both investing as well as making decisions for our societies. Responsible investing is a new trend that investors can no longer afford to ignore. The demand for sustainable investing services and information is increasing, reflected by an ever-increasing number of funds that invest explicitly on the basis of environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria. How should companies integrate ESG concepts into their traditional economic objectives? How could ESG criteria be taken into account to develop a better understanding of the overall strategy of companies? How can ESG criteria present a way to mitigate long-term risks?

11h00 – 11h50

FORUM 1

In collaboration with Finance Montréal

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Aligning the international financial system with environmental priorities requires being able to adequately measure environmental factors, as well as channel investments adequately. What role can technology play? How can artificial intelligence be used to better direct capital towards sustainable investments? Will the use of new technologies in an integrated manner increase the amount of environmental data available for better decision making?

11h00 – 11h50

FORUM 2

In collaboration with the Ministry of International Relations and La Francophonie (MRIF)

THE ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY OF FEDERATED STATES

Federated states are taking more and more initiatives in the area of paradiplomacy, especially with respect to economic exchanges. What are the best practices in economic diplomacy for federated states? What difficulties do governments of federated states face in their international negotiations? In a tense international trade environment, is the economic diplomacy of federated states a sustainable alternative for strengthening international relations at a more local level?



MONDAY DECEMBER 14TH 2020

12h00 – 12h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

SPEAKER

Guillaume Faury, Chief Executive Officer, Airbus

12h40 – 13h10

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

SPEAKER

Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO)

13h20 – 13h50

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

REIMAGINING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: TACKLING INEQUALITY TO BUILD BACK BETTER

SPEAKER

Angel Gurría, Secretary-General, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

14h00 – 14h50

PLENARY SESSION

FOR A RESPONSIBLE AND MORE HUMAN CAPITALISM

Capitalism as we have traditionally known it is over, as companies are facing an increasing need to reimagine their strategies and models toward more equitable, sustainable practices. What changes must businesses undergo to integrate more conscious and sustainable thinking? How can private companies, civil society representatives, and governments work together to achieve a more integrated, responsible, and sustainable capitalism?

15h00 – 15h50

PLENARY SESSION

TRAILBLAZING WOMEN IN BUSINESS

When it comes to diversity and inclusion, the mindsets are evolving but these changes need to come hand in hand with creating a culture of inclusion both in the workforce and at the C-Suite and Board levels. What are some of the best practices and policy changes that can be implemented to foster inclusiveness? What are the limitations that women still face in the workplace and in society in general, and how to overcome them? What will deliver the next wave of change?

16h00 – 16h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

In collaboration with Cogeco

SPEAKER

Peter Grauer, Chairman, Bloomberg LP

16h40 – 17h30

ROUND TABLE 1

In collaboration with HEC Montréal

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE: THE CHALLENGES OF A TRANSITION TOWARDS A CARBON-NEUTRAL WORLD

Climate change is forcing the business world and the financial sector to rethink their future. Mutual funds and pension plans are under increasing pressure from investors to reduce the environmental footprint of their investments. How do investors select environmentally responsible companies? How are mutual funds and pension plans adjusting their investments to support the transition to a carbon-neutral economy? How should institutional investors respond to accelerate the transition and how should they do so?



MONDAY DECEMBER 14TH 2020

16h40 – 17h30

ROUND TABLE 2

In collaboration with the Ministry of Immigration, Francisation and Integration, Québec

REGIONALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION: HOW TO ENVISION A COLLECTIVE ACTION BETWEEN THE DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS?

17h40 – 18h10

FIRESIDE CHAT

INVESTING IN A CARBON NEUTRAL FUTURE

SPEAKER

Shunichi Miyanaga, Chairman of the Board, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15TH 2020

8h00 – 8h50

SESSION 1

INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES AND NEW REALITIES OF THE JOB MARKET IN THE DIGITAL AGE

A round table of Quebec and international experts will focus on the learning environments that can promote educational success and innovative teaching practices corresponding to the new realities of the labor market in the digital age.

8h00 – 8h50

SESSION 2

In collaboration with the Ministry of Economy and Innovation, Québec

INNOVATION ZONES

Innovation zones in Quebec are created with the goal of increasing the commercialization of innovations, exports, local and foreign investment and business productivity. What have been the most remarkable results achieved by Quebec's innovation zones? How has innovation been affected by the COVID-19 crisis? What would the next logical step be in the development of these innovation zones?

8h20 – 8h50

FIRESIDE CHAT

SHAPING THE CURRENT INVESTMENT LANDSCAPE

SPEAKERS

Rishi Kapoor, Co-Chief Executive Officer, Investcorp

9h00 – 9h50

PLENARY SESSION

HOW TO FEED THE PLANET WITHOUT DESTROYING IT?

The Food and Beverage industry is under increased pressure to demonstrate a commitment to environmental preservation, as companies are becoming increasingly aware of the impact that the sourcing or manufacturing of their products can have on the environment as well as on their reputation. How have consumer expectations reshaped companies' business practices? How has sustainability become rooted in the way food and beverage organizations operate? What alternative initiatives are emerging to ensure a positive environmental impact?



TUESDAY DECEMBER 15TH 2020

10h00 – 10h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with the Fonds de recherche du Québec (FRQ)

THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY IN THE MIDST OF THE HEALTH CRISIS

The scientific community in Quebec and around the world has been mobilized relentlessly since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic. What have been the roles of science, the scientific community and technology and innovation in the management of the health crisis? To what extent has the current health crisis moved beyond a purely scientific framework to one of public challenge of standards and information, and how is the scientific community coping with the challenges posed by the spread of misinformation? What have been the economic and social consequences of the pandemic and what role can science play in contributing to economic recovery?

11h00 – 11h50

FORUM 1

In collaboration with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

B CORPS: FROM NICHE SECTOR TO GAME-CHANGING MOVEMENT

Benefit or B corporations are companies that aim to earn a profit as well as to create social and environmental good, a combination of goals that is more and more popular among business leaders, as they acknowledge the urgency of global challenges. How do B Corps enable the private sector to play these parallel roles? What is the growth potential of this type of business in Canada, the United States, and low and middle-income countries and how can they help create racial justice, equity, and economies that work for everyone? Can they move from reducing their own carbon footprint to building communities that are climate resilient and even regenerate ecosystems?

11h00 – 11h50

FORUM 2

In collaboration with Polytechnique Montréal

HYDROGEN STRATEGY: HOW CAN ECONOMIES BENEFIT FROM ITS PRODUCTION AND ITS USAGE?

With the gradual phase-out of fossil fuel vehicles, there are several options for a new energy source for our transportation and movement. Would the use of hydrogen in be a good viable option? What are the best practices that governments could adopt based on the experiences in other countries? What are the advantages and disadvantages of hydrogen compared to other green energy options?

12h00 – 12h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

SPEAKER

Sophie Brochu, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hydro-Québec

13h20 – 13h50

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

14h00 – 14h50

PLENARY SESSION

RELAUNCHING THE ENERGY TRANSITION

The global energy sector is undergoing one of the deepest transformations the world has witnessed in generations, with the aim to reduce carbon emissions and mitigate the impact of climate change. What does the future of the energy landscape look like, and what factors will be critical to long-term success? What opportunities does the energy transition movement present? How can innovative technologies as well as market and policy instruments enable a successful energy transition?



TUESDAY DECEMBER 15TH 2020

15h00 – 15h50

PLENARY SESSION

RETHINKING THE FUTURE: THE RACE FOR INNOVATION

The world today is witnessing an accelerating phase of global technological innovations (e.g. artificial intelligence, IoT) that are upturning diverse industries and leading to dramatic changes across a wide range of sectors – such as manufacturing, finance, retail, healthcare, etc. – as well as deeply impacting the structure of economies, jobs, and the nature of work. What are some examples of how technological advancements are opening innovative opportunities across sectors? How are businesses being reinvented through disruptive technologies? What does the future of work look like in a technology and data-driven world?

16h00 – 16h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

REINVENTING MOBILITY

SPEAKER

Catherine Guillouard, Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer, RATP Group

16h40 – 17h30

ROUND TABLE

In collaboration with the Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS)

ENERGY TRANSITION AND BUSINESS: HOW CAN WE COMBINE GREEN DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH WITH BUSINESS?

The world is undergoing a profound energy transformation from a fossil fuel-based system to a renewable energy system in order to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and avoid the most serious impacts of climate change. What examples of partnerships between scientific research and the business community can serve as catalysts for the years to come? Is it possible to reconcile the development of green technologies with the model of shareholder capitalism? What would be the latest developments in green energy that could be of interest to potential investors?

17h40 – 18h10

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

THE RACE TO BUILD A SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEM

SPEAKER

Marco Lambertini, Director-General, WWF International

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16TH 2020

8h00 – 8h50

SESSION

In collaboration with the city of Montréal

DOWNTOWN'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY: FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT CITY

The economic dynamism of downtown Montreal has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, a problem experienced in most of the world's major cities. How can we reinvent the attractiveness of the city center in a context where teleworking, distance education and travel restrictions could become the new norm, and could limit the relaunch of the city center in the long-term? What lines of intervention could be employed to support its economy during this period of change? How would strategic and urban planning help boost downtown's economy of tomorrow? What types of projects should be carried out as a priority to achieve more sustainable development?



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16TH 2020

8h20 – 8h50

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

DEGLOBALIZATION? REGLOBALIZATION? SLOWBALIZATION?

SPEAKER

Jin Liqun, President, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

9h00 – 9h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with Global Affairs Canada

THE END OF GLOBALIZATION AS WE KNOW IT TODAY

Globalization has greatly changed economies and societies, and has made our world more interconnected than ever before. The COVID-19 pandemic has however created an unprecedented disruption in global supply chain systems. How will globalization look like after the coronavirus pandemic? What are the major mega-trends related to globalization that are expected to shape and influence our future? How should executives think about building their businesses amid current turbulent conditions?

10h00 – 10h30

FIRESIDE CHAT

MISSION VACCINE: RAISING GLOBAL IMMUNITY TO COVID19

SPEAKER

David Malpass, President, World Bank Group

10h40 – 10h50

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

SPEAKER

Paulo Roberto Nunes Guedes, Minister of the Economy, Brazil

11h00 – 11h50

FORUM

INCLUSIVE GROWTH: BETWEEN SUSTAINABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

Since economic growth alone cannot reduce the increasing inequalities in our societies, it must be accompanied by policies that are inclusive, sustainable and accessible to as many people as possible. What policies should be put in place to create more sustainable and inclusive societies and economies? What role can technology play in fostering the development of a more resilient and inclusive economy? What actions can G20 governments take to foster an inclusive economic recovery? Between the health crisis and accelerated digitalization, what lessons can be learned from the year 2020, and how can we prepare for the world of tomorrow?



WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16TH 2020

12h00 – 12h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

SPEAKER

Inger Andersen, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations; and Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme

13h20 – 13h50

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

BUSINESS DRIVING CHANGE

SPEAKER

Tom Siebel, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, C3.ai

14h00 – 14h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with the city of Montréal

FINANCING STARTUPS: STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES

Start-ups play an important role in the economic dynamism of Canada and Montreal particularly, contributing to the economy by creating jobs, innovation and productivity growth. This session will explore some of the best fundraising practices to increase the creation, success and growth of new businesses in Montreal. It will also seek to identify possible mechanisms that could reduce the barriers entrepreneurs face in accessing capital; as well as examples of innovative strategies and models, which could represent an opportunity to broaden entrepreneurs' access to capital and promote their start-ups.

15h00 – 15h50

PLENARY SESSION

THE GLOBAL ECONOMY: WHAT CAN WE EXPECT?

This year's global recession has been only comparable to post World War 2 levels, with massive unemployment, bankruptcies and the near complete paralysis of supply chains. What are the next steps for kick-starting the global economy? How can the private and public sector work together, and what would it take for each other to make this partnership work? What is the forecast for recovery of the major global economies?

16h00 – 16h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

SPEAKER

Sir Martin Sorrell, Executive Chairman, S4 Capital; and Founder, WPP



THURSDAY DECEMBER 17TH 2020

9h00 – 9h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with Concordia University

NET ZERO TOWNS: WHAT IS STOPPING US?

Faced with an ever-increasing urban population as well as the current climate, social challenges, and public health regulations, designing net zero cities is becoming a priority for the public and private sectors. How are governments and companies using innovative strategies, cutting-edge technologies and renewable energy to rebuild cities into effective, decarbonized communities? What are the challenges facing decision-makers with regards to this urban transformation aiming to decrease carbon emissions? What can be done to encourage investments focused on the redefinition of cities such as in the areas of transport, infrastructure, design and natural resource conservation?

10h00 – 10h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with Ubisoft

Theme to be determined

11h00 – 11h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with Laval University

ROBOTS VERSUS HUMANS: THE DIGITAL REVOLUTION IN THE WORKFORCE

Technological tools are becoming increasingly important in all areas of activity and are spreading at an unprecedented rate throughout the world. The possibilities and limits of digital and artificial intelligence in the workforce are increasingly well documented, even if there is still much to be thought about. This is what this roundtable proposes to do by bringing together experts who will present complementary perspectives in order to understand the impacts of AI and digital technologies on work. Possible solutions will also be proposed to foster responsible innovation in the workplace.

12h00 – 12h30

FIRESIDE CHAT SESSION

13h00 – 13h50

PLENARY SESSION

In collaboration with the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BANQ)

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND CULTURE: THE FUTURE OF KNOWLEDGE

Artificial intelligence and its algorithms are developing at a staggering speed, propelled by the big technology companies and their gigantic means. They are producing new knowledge, radically transforming business models and changing our relationship with the world. These changes affect all areas of human activity, including libraries, archives and other institutions of culture and knowledge. They must be part of this new reality, while coping with the transformations induced by the COVID-19 pandemic. How can they acquire artificial intelligence, to contribute to the creation of a new ecosystem where these technologies are omnipresent? What public policies, both at the national and international level, can encourage this contribution? How can artificial intelligence be used as a tool for the development of knowledge and cultural production?

14h00 – 14h30

CLOSING SESSION