



Blue Global Canada

Sustainable Innovation + Strategic Internationalization

BLUE ECONOMY SUMMIT

May 21-24, 2024

The Algonquin Resort, St. Andrews by-the-Sea
New Brunswick, Canada

www.blueglobalcanada.ca

Background

Maximizing the global ocean innovation economy requires a critical assessment of the current business environment, along with solutions that can address sustainability, innovation, competitiveness, and market access constraints. The Blue Global Canada (BGC) Summit is dedicated to generating actionable insights on sustainable innovation to help unlock the full potential of the global blue economy across multiple industry sectors, for the benefit of Canada and its global trading partners.

The BGC Summit's overarching goal is to devise a framework that can help understand the various relationships and interactions among key stakeholders in the ocean innovation ecosystem. A small open economy, Canada relies significantly on international trade to drive economic growth and competitiveness. Considering Canada's lacklustre productivity performance, shining a spotlight on sectors that offer large potential productivity gains through factor reallocation remains key.

At 243,042km, Canada has the longest total coastline in the world, with an ocean economy worth \$31.7 billion and around 300,000 jobs in fisheries and aquaculture, energy, shipping, tourism, and recreation. This presents a huge opportunity for Canada, both commercially and in terms of its ability to influence the emerging, new global economic order. The focus of the Summit is to help elicit debate on both incremental and transformational innovation opportunities in the global blue economy.

The BCG Summit will focus broadly on sustainable marine innovation and internationalization linkages between Canada and its global partners. Business and policy leaders, industry experts, policy specialists, academic scholars, innovators, and entrepreneurs will examine global best practices and come up with actionable insights that can help address some of the most pressing competitiveness challenges in recent years.

Among others, positioning the global blue economy for sustainable growth and prosperity will require:

- ✓ Increasing private sector and innovative financing
- ✓ Attracting top talent and addressing labour shortages
- ✓ Prioritizing skills development and intellectual capital
- ✓ Prioritizing investments in innovations capable of fostering sustainability
- ✓ Helping ocean technology startups and SMEs scale up and internationalize
- ✓ Increasing participation by Indigenous communities and underrepresented groups
- ✓ Recognizing the implications of the shifting patterns in global trade and geopolitics
- ✓ Evaluating the implications of digitalization for diversification and global market access
- ✓ Aligning countries' trade and development priorities with the ongoing structural shifts in global value chains
- ✓ Improving the business environment through incremental innovations in the regulatory architecture

The Summit

From May 21-24, 2024, business and policy leaders, industry experts, policy specialists, innovators, and entrepreneurs at the forefront of the sustainable blue economy from across Canada and around the world will share actionable insights and best practices that can help unlock the full potential of the global ocean economy.

Among others, the following themes across multiple industry sectors will be examined through plenary, panel, and keynote sessions:

- ✓ Ocean climate solutions and decarbonization
- ✓ Venture capital, blue finance, and private capital allocation
- ✓ Building synergies at the ocean innovation-sustainability nexus
- ✓ Quadruple bottom line in the blue economy
- ✓ Ocean clusters and digital entrepreneurship
- ✓ Ports, maritime trade, and supply chains
- ✓ Export financing and ocean SME internationalization
- ✓ Social equity, ocean governance, and Indigenous economic engagement
- ✓ Preservation of coastal cultures for sustainable blue impact
- ✓ Space-based innovations for the blue economy
- ✓ The blue economy and international development priorities
- ✓ Rethinking economic development for impact across ocean economies
- ✓ And much more!

Summit Objectives

The BGC Summit is dedicated to leveraging the blue economy framework to achieve environmentally responsible, commercially profitable, and

socially acceptable outcomes in the ocean economy. The Summit will focus broadly on sustainable marine innovation and internationalization linkages between Canada and its trading partners.

The broad objectives of the Summit are:

- ✓ To promote a better understanding of the interlinkages between trade, investment, innovation, and sustainability in the ocean sector
- ✓ To map and strengthen Canadian marine sustainability and innovation capabilities
- ✓ To foster comprehensive and coordinated synergies between Canada and its trading partners in the development and commercialization of ocean innovation capabilities on the global stage
- ✓ To showcase and build capacity in blue economy programming, innovation best practices, and SME internationalization opportunities
- ✓ To establish, consolidate, and foster industry-government interactions in the global blue economy.

Agenda at a Glance

Day 1: Tuesday May 21, 2024

6:00 - 8:00 PM Welcome Cocktail Reception

Day 2: Wednesday May 22, 2024

8:00 - 8:30 AM Registration, Coffee, and Networking

8:30 - 9:00 AM Introductions and Welcome Message

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Panel Discussions, Keynotes, and Networking

Day 3: Thursday May 23, 2024

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Panel Discussions, Keynotes, and Networking

6:30 - 9:00 PM Closing Ceremony & Red-Carpet Gala Dinner

Day 4: Friday May 24, 2024

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Tours and Golf

- ✓ Tour: Huntsman Marine Science Centre
- ✓ Tour: St. Andrews Biological Station
- ✓ Golf tournament: Algonquin Golf Course



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Enquiries

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