



LSO Ideas to Action Forum 2023

Disruption and Opportunity: Seizing a Pivotal Moment for Ontario's Life Sciences Ecosystem

Thursday Nov 2nd, 2023

Time: 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM





Venue: Borden Ladner Gervais LLP




Bay Adelaide Centre, E. Tower – 22 Adelaide St W., 34th floor, Toronto, ON M5H 4E3


Entering its 14th year, LSO's Annual Ideas to Action Forum brings together leaders from industry, academia, and government to discuss how we can take actionable steps to build a resilient, vibrant, and diverse life sciences sector. This year's theme, *Disruption and Opportunity: Seizing a Pivotal Moment for Ontario's Life Sciences Ecosystem*, will explore issues that will affect and transform our sector—from antimicrobial resistance and climate change to artificial intelligence and advances in precision medicine and medical technologies. Join us as we collaborate on what steps our sector can take today to navigate change and opportunity in the life sciences sector.

BUY TICKETS

<i>Thursday, November 2nd</i>	
8:00-8:30am	<i>Registration & Networking Breakfast</i>
8:30-8:40am	<i>Welcome</i>
8:40-9:00am	<i>Opening Remarks</i> <i>Minister Victor Fedeli (Nipissing), Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario</i>
9:00-9:30am	<i>Keynote Address - Reimagining the Future</i>
	<p>Frank Diana, Managing Partner and Futurist, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)</p> <p>Our world is changing at an exponential rate from advancements in science and technology to changing industry dynamics and economic principles. As a globally recognized futurist and thought leader, Frank Diana will present an interdisciplinary perspective on how we can best navigate the dynamics of the emerging future and the opportunities this entails.</p>
	<p>Sponsored by: <i>Bayshore</i>[®] Specialty Rx</p>

<p>9:30– 10:30am</p>	<p><i>Panel 1 - Preparing for the Next Crisis in the Life Sciences</i></p> <p>What is the next big crisis in the life sciences? Hear from speakers as they discuss topics that will impact our lives and health for years to come, including antimicrobial resistance and infectious diseases, aging populations, and climate change. Do we have the right policies and tools in place to deal with these crises? What actions do we—as a sector—need to take to get there?</p> <p>Moderator: Tim Evans, Inaugural Director and Associate Dean, School of Population and Global Health, McGill University</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Michelle Noble, Executive Director, Ontario Environment Industry Association (ONEIA) ● Laura Tambllyn Watts, Founder, President & CEO, CanAge ● Herveen Sachdeva, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Toronto Public Health <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by: </p>
<p>10:30- 10:50am</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Morning Networking Break</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by: </p>
<p>10:50- 11:50am</p>	<p><i>Panel 2 - The Future of Life Sciences in Canada</i></p> <p>What will define the next decade in the life sciences? Advances in precision medicine (including cell and gene therapies), robotics surgery and advanced medical technologies can improve patient outcomes and strengthen health system efficiency—transforming the health and quality of life for patients. Innovative solutions in agriculture, including precision agriculture, are important methods to improving sustainability and access to food. What barriers do we need to overcome to ensure the early adoption and affordable access of innovative technologies? What actions do we need to take to ensure that Canada can serve as a leader in these areas of opportunity?</p> <p>Moderator: Berkeley Vincent, President, Janssen Canada</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peter Zandstra, Director, UBC School of Biomedical Engineering ● Taymaa May, Deputy Head, Division of Surgical Oncology, University Health Network ● Nancy Tout, Chief Scientific Officer, Global Institute for Food Security ● Amie Phinney, Senior Director, Program Development and Partnerships, adMare BioInnovations <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by:  FAMILY OF COMPANIES IN CANADA</p>
<p>11:50- 12:30pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Buffet Lunch (Provided)</i></p>
<p>12:30- 1:30pm</p>	<p><i>Panel 3 - Disruptions in the Life Sciences Sector: Data & AI</i></p> <p>Data is necessary in all areas across the life sciences sector for making evidence-based decisions, but how do we ensure we have proper data infrastructure and processes in place to enable data to transform healthcare? Do we have the ideal technical infrastructure and framework in place to enable data to be leveraged to its potential? Do we have the right privacy frameworks to govern our use and access to data? How does this apply to policies on intellectual property? At the same time, advances in artificial intelligence (AI) have the potential to transform our sector, but also lead to major disruptions. How can AI transform healthcare? What do policymakers in health and life sciences need to know about AI and what actions should we be taking now?</p> <p>Moderator: Naheed Kurji, President, Recursion Canada</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Muhammad Mamdani, Vice President, Data Science and Advanced Analytics, Unity Health Toronto ● Kim McGrail, Professor, School of Population and Public Health and Centre for Health Services and Policy Research, University of British Columbia ● Joseph Geraci, Founder, Chief Scientific and Technical Officer, Netramark ● Roxana Sultan, Chief Data Officer and Vice President, Health, Vector Institute <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by: </p>

<p>1:30-1:50pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Afternoon Break</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by: </p>
<p>1:50-2:50pm</p>	<p><i>Panel 4 - Building A Diverse Life Sciences Sector: Talent & IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility)</i></p> <p>Currently, equity-deserving groups are underrepresented in Canada’s life sciences sector. To solve our sector’s biggest challenges of today and the future, our sector must be able to attract, train, and retain skilled and diverse talent. In this session, we will hear from experts in the industry on advancing best IDEA practices. At the same time, we will hear about the impacts of the pandemic on research in the life sciences, as well as how some groups were disproportionately affected by pandemic-related disruptions. What actions are needed to help return research to pre-pandemic levels and why are IDEA initiatives a central part of this plan? In this session, we will also hear key recommendations from the recent report by LSO and Shift Health, “Status of IDEA in Canada’s Life Sciences Sector.”</p> <p>Moderator: Anne Mullin, Principal, Shift Health</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Penny Walsh-McGuire, Executive Director, Canadian Alliance for Skills and Training in Life Sciences (CASTL) ● Darren Sam, Senior Manager, Operations, Visions of Science ● Afrodite Cruz, Recruitment, Placement and Employer Relations Manager, Master of Management of Innovation Program, University of Toronto Mississauga ● Lindsay Williams, VP, Managing Director, Stryker Canada <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by: </p>
<p>2:50-3:50pm</p>	<p><i>Panel 5 - Growing Companies in the Life Sciences Space: Gaps and Opportunities</i></p> <p>Life sciences companies looking to grow their businesses face a range of challenges—from access to capital and wet lab space to policies that support innovation and intellectual property. Which is the most important component to growing life sciences companies? How might this differ depending on the size of the company (e.g., small and medium sized organizations versus large organizations)? What policies do we need to ensure the long-term growth and success of life sciences companies in Canada? What learnings can be applied from other jurisdictions? In this panel, we will debate which is the key element for growth as a life sciences company in Ontario and Canada and what specific policy actions are needed to achieve this.</p> <p>Moderator: Ingrid Fung, Director of Enterprise Operations and Strategy, Head of IR, GreenLight Biosciences</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Travis McCready, Head of Life Sciences, Industries America; JLL ● Ritu Banerjee, Associate Deputy Minister; Innovation, Science, Economic Development Canada ● Peter van der Velden, Founder and Managing General Partner, Lumira Ventures ● Darren Anderson, CEO & Co-founder, VIVE Crop Protection <p style="text-align: right;">Sponsored by: </p>
<p>3:50-4:20pm</p>	<p><i>Fireside Chat</i></p> <p>This fireside chat will explore how we can take the ideas discussed throughout the day to best empower our sector. What does success look like for our life sciences sector? This session will look at alignment between Ontario’s Life Science Strategy and the federal Biomanufacturing and Life Sciences Strategy and identify areas of opportunity for the provincial and federal governments to work together to build a resilient and prosperous life sciences sector.</p> <p>Moderator: Mark Smithyes, Board of Directors, Life Sciences Ontario; National Director, Life Sciences, Delphic Research</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jason Field, President & CEO, Life Sciences Ontario ● Joanne Langley, Co-Chair, Council of Expert Advisors; Professor of Pediatrics and Community Health and Epidemiology, Dalhousie University Faculty of Medicine; Division Head, Pediatric Infectious Diseases, IWK Health Care Centre

4:20-4:30pm	<i>Close the Day & Next Steps</i>	
4:30 - 6:00pm	<i>Networking Reception</i>	Sponsored by: 

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