



Panel Speakers



Dafna Carr

Associate Deputy Minister, ServiceOntario

Dafna joined the Ontario Public Service in 2016 and became Associate Deputy Minister of ServiceOntario in November of 2021.

ServiceOntario provides access to a wide range of government services and information for the people and businesses of Ontario. Dafna is an experienced leader who brings a digital mindset to support the organization's focus on service excellence and continuous improvement. Over the course of her career she has led large-scale transformation projects enabled by technology and business intelligence that focus on better, faster and sustainable government processes and services.

Prior to joining ServiceOntario, Dafna was the Corporate Chief Information Officer / Associate Deputy Minister for GovTechON. In this role she led a talent pool of more than 4,000 information and information technology specialists, including software developers, operators, integrators and analysts who develop, deploy and operate information technology solutions for the Government of Ontario in the areas of health, education, human services, the environment, the economy, justice and transportation.

Throughout her public sector career, Dafna has held positions at Health Quality Ontario, Cancer Care Ontario, University Health Network and Gamma-Dynacare Laboratories. In these organizations, she led a series of large-scale transformation projects enabled by technology and business intelligence, in areas such as cancer screening and cancer care, access to care, wait times, patient safety, and laboratory operations.

Dafna holds a Master's in Business Administration from York University and has completed the Advanced Health Leadership Program at University of Toronto



Xerxes Cooper

President, Kyndryl Canada

Xerxes Cooper is the President of Kyndryl Canada, the leading technology services provider in Canada, supporting a market-leading base of technically advanced and highly regulated customers with mission-critical systems. Xerxes and his team focus on accelerating digital strategies for customers by leveraging their highly skilled workforce, a diverse ecosystem of partners, and innovative solutions including cloud, analytics, automation, and security. In his previous role Xerxes led the Global Technology Services division of IBM Canada, driving growth in the business in market share, customer satisfaction and employee engagement. In his nearly twenty years with IBM, Xerxes held senior technology executive positions in Canada and around the world, successfully bridging the needs of business with the possibilities of technology.

Xerxes draws on industry insights, experience in transformation and large enterprise leadership to help customers progress their business strategies. He believes in the importance of co-creating strategic plans with input from a diverse range of opinions and experiences. And operates with transparency and integrity at all organizational levels, building engagement, belief and trust. Xerxes has received external recognition for his leadership and focus on inclusion. In 2020, he received the Women in Communications and Technology (WCT) Diversity Champions award for Male Champions for Change. In 2021, he received the Best Executive -Technology award from the Globe and Mail's Report on Business.

Deeply passionate about the advancement of young women in technology, Xerxes is a member of the Board of Directors for TECHNATION and most recently joined Junior Achievement Central Ontario's Board of Governors. Xerxes is also a member of the Board of Directors for the Markham Stouffville Hospital Network, where he is a member of the Quality and Safety Committee.

Xerxes is a registered CPA, an avid history buff and enjoys soccer, basketball, and experiencing new cultures and cuisines. He lives in Markham, Canada with his wife and two children.



Celso Mello

CIO, UCS Forest Group

Celso Mello has 35 years of IT experience, 18 years as a CIO. Through his career, Celso worked for medium-sized companies and global conglomerates. His experience includes various industries such as telecommunications, software, manufacturing, field services, distribution and government. Originally from Brazil, Celso has also worked in Europe and in the U.S., and has been in Canada for the last 18 years.

Celso has a technical degree in Computer Science, a B.Sc. in Mathematics, an M.B.A. with concentration in International Business and an Advanced Business Certificate in Information Technology. He is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma honour society and speaks 4 languages.

Celso is married, has two teenage daughters and lives in Oakville, Ontario. In his free time, he enjoys travelling, playing tennis and experimenting with home improvement projects.



Jab Saliba

Founder & CTO, Magnet Forensics

Jad Saliba is the founder and chief technology officer of Magnet Forensics. Before founding Magnet Forensics in 2011, Saliba worked as a front-line police officer and digital forensic examiner with the Waterloo Regional Police Service. To help his agency better investigate crimes with digital evidence such as human trafficking and child sexual exploitation, Saliba developed software that could lawfully recover relevant data and present it as evidence. When his tool was quickly adopted by international police agencies, Saliba recognized an opportunity to do more for the pursuit of justice by devoting himself to software development.

At Magnet Forensics, Saliba has overseen the development of solutions that allow more than 4,000 public safety agencies and enterprises in over 100 countries to recover, analyze, manage and report on digital evidence linked to cybercrime and cyber-enabled crime. Saliba received the Governor General's Innovation Award in 2019. In 2021, he was inducted into the Digital Forensics and Incident Response Hall of Fame.



Aaron Shull

Managing Director and General Counsel

As CIGI's managing director and general counsel, Aaron Shull acts as a strategic liaison between CIGI's research initiatives and other departments while managing CIGI's legal affairs and advising senior management on a range of legal, operational and policy matters.

A member of CIGI's executive team, Aaron provides guidance and advice on matters of strategic and operational importance, while working closely with partners and other institutions to further CIGI's mission. He also serves as corporate secretary.

Aaron is an expert on cyber security issues. He coordinated the CIGI essay series *Governing Cyberspace during a Crisis in Trust*. In his introduction, he argues that more robust international norms for cyber security are a national imperative for Canada.

Prior to joining CIGI, Aaron practised law for a number of organizations, focusing on international, regulatory and environmental law. He has taught courses at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Law, and the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs and was previously a staff editor for the *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*.

Aaron graduated from the University of Waterloo, placing first in his class as a departmental scholar, with a B.A. (honours) in history and political science. His keen interest in international affairs and political history led him to pursue an M.A. in international affairs at Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, where he graduated with distinction. He concurrently pursued his LL.B. from the University of Ottawa, where he graduated cum laude with first class honours. Aaron received his LL.M. from Columbia Law School, where he graduated as a Harlan Fiske Stone scholar.



Mike Wessinger

Co-Founder & Executive Chair

Mike Wessinger is the Co-Founder and Executive Chair of the Board of Directors at PointClickCare. Mike's vision and leadership established PointClickCare as the first cloud-based health information system for the senior care industry. Today, the platform is the most-widely used system in the Long Term and Post Acute Carespace. Relentless in his pursuit to disrupt the healthcare status quo, Mike's forward-thinking vision drove the organization to level silos across the healthcare ecosystem, creating North America's largest care collaboration network. Designed with the ability to allow information to flow freely between care settings, the network makes dramatic improvements in care possible, especially for vulnerable populations.

In his role as Executive Chair, Mike continues to champion corporate culture, enhance governance, recruit diverse talent, and partner with internal and external boards and teams to solve critical health care challenges and propel PointClickCare forward as a world-class organization.

In addition, Mike is a C100 board member and actively leverages his years of experience to coach rapidly-scaling tech companies and help them grow their business.



Sara Mazhar

SVP, Chief Strategy and Technology Officer, Valeyo

Sara Mazhar has an established background in the global financial services industry, having led high performing teams within finance, strategic project management and product development disciplines.

Starting her career in banking, Sara specialized in product management and product development across finance, asset management and SaaS technologies. Her focus then expanded into strategic enterprise level execution to ensure customer value was achieved and continuously optimized.

Sara is a proactive and forward-thinking leader who helps shape organizations' strategic direction and culture through an acute focus on execution and results. Today Sara's focus, as SVP, Chief Strategy & Technology Officer at Valeyo, is to oversee enterprise strategy including the current and future roadmap of Valeyo's proprietary technologies and industry partnerships, to ensure the organization continues to deliver high-impact, customized solutions to its clients.



Georgia Woods

Executive Vice-President and Chief Information Officer, Canada Life

With over 30 years of technology experience in the financial services sector, Georgia Woods, Executive Vice-President and Chief Information Officer (CIO), Canada, leads the 1,200+ Canada Technology team at Canada Life. She's responsible for the ongoing development and execution of an integrated technology strategy across all Canadian business lines. Georgia has held roles in application development, IT operations and has served as Chief Information Security Officer (CISO). She's experienced in various technologies supporting banking and insurance product development, enterprise fraud capabilities, retail payments and digital and contact centres from her previous role as Senior Vice-President and Chief Information Officer at CIBC.

As a strong advocate for diversity, Georgia founded the XX Design Challenge, a hackathon-type event designed to create opportunities for women to design financial services solutions for women. She also serves as the executive sponsor for the Women in Leadership employee resource group at Canada Life.

Georgia is married with three children. She relaxes by reading, running, practising restorative yoga and enjoying weekends at her country home north of Toronto.



Tricia Geddes

Associate Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada

Ms. Tricia Geddes was appointed Associate Deputy Minister of Public Safety Canada effective June 20, 2022.

Prior to her appointment, Ms. Geddes held the role of Deputy Director, Policy and Strategic Partnerships (DDP) at the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) since April 2020. As DDP, she was responsible for key partnerships in the areas of strategic policy development, foreign relations, external review and compliance, communications, academic outreach and stakeholder engagement, as well as litigation and disclosure.

She also supported the Director and, by proxy, the Minister of Public Safety in their accountability for the overall operational activities of the Service, and ensured CSIS was accountable, transparent, and attuned to the strategic interests of the Government of Canada.

Ms. Geddes joined CSIS in 2014 as the Director General of Policy and Foreign Relations and then served as an Assistant Director, beginning in 2017. Previously, she held positions with the Canadian Armed Forces as Associate Director of Staff for the Strategic Joint Staff, as well as with the Privy Council Office in a number of senior analyst positions.

Ms. Geddes graduated from the University of Toronto (Trinity College) with a combined degree in Political Science and Peace and Conflict Studies.



Nandini Jolly

President and CEO, CryptoMill Cybersecurity Solutions

Nandini Jolly is the Founder, President, and CEO of CryptoMill Cybersecurity Solutions, a proudly Canadian company providing innovative technologies to address today's cyber threats. With a Master's in International Finance and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from the London Business School, Nandini is a passionate advocate for security and privacy in the digital age. Prior to founding CryptoMill, Nandini served as the Senior Vice-President of Global Treasury Services and Financial Risk Management for the Bank of America.

Nandini's career path in the financial sector also included the role of Director at Deloitte and Touche where she was a part of the National Financial Services Industry Group for Risk Management. Named as one of Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women for her business determination, technical innovation, and breaking new ground in a male-dominated industry. Nandini's accolades include being featured by the Government of Canada's Status of Women in Canada, as someone whose entrepreneurial spirit has influenced the Canadian business world. As a Privacy Design Ambassador, Nandini is a co-author of several white papers including "Embed Privacy & Security by Design to Gain a Competitive Advantage" with Dr. Ann Cavoukian, the former Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario, Canada.

Nandini is Rapporteur and part of the management team of NATO's Data Centric Security Study Groups – SG 251 (concluded) and SG 267 (completing - April 2022). As of June 2022 Nandini has been selected to co-chair a new NATO Study Group SG 275 to address Secure Collaboration on Public Clouds. In 2021, Nandini was awarded Founder of the Year award and Circles of Trust, The Best Cyber Protection award by the Canadian Regulatory Technology Association.

Trailblazing her own path, Nandini has made fostering a culture of collaboration and learning a priority at CryptoMill. Nandini finds her strength to continue on the 'road less traveled' by sticking to her manta, Gandhi's philosophy of 'being the change you want to see in the world'. Her work as a mentor has inspired women and entrepreneurs throughout Canada.