

# Leeds Grenville Economic Development Summit

## Presenter Biographies

November 20, 2020



### State of the Economy: A Global and National Snapshot

#### **Trevin Stratton | Chief Economist and Vice-President of Policy, Canadian Chamber of Commerce**



Dr. Trevin Stratton is an award-winning business economist, specializing in global and technological change. He helps organizations identify and manage opportunities arising from the trends that are reshaping industry and international business. Trevin is an advisor to both private and public sector leaders, and has counseled senior corporate executives and policymakers around the world.

Through his extensive experience building alliances among businesses, academic institutions, as well as trade associations, labour, and non-profit organizations, Trevin has been instrumental in shaping the public policy environment in Canada and abroad. As Chief Economist and Vice President of Policy at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, he helps develop national policy positions aimed at improving Canada's economic performance and the competitiveness of Canadian business. Prior to joining the Chamber, Trevin was named as Ottawa's Forty Under 40 for founding and leading BDO Canada's national economic development consulting line.

Trevin's has taught at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and the Center for Homeland Defense and Security. He studied at Carleton University in Canada, as well as at the London School of Economics in the United Kingdom and the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Switzerland.

### Keynote Session: An Ontario Made Economic Recovery

#### **Hon. Vic Fedeli | Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade**



The Honourable Victor Fedeli is a lifelong entrepreneur, successful business person, and philanthropist, and serves the Ford government as Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade.

His business experience led his firm Fedeli Corporation to be ranked 34th in the Top 50 Best Places to Work in Canada in 1989. It also served him well, when he was elected to two terms as Mayor of North Bay from 2003 to 2010. As Mayor, Vic focused on fiscal prudence and economic development, restoring hope and restoring solvency to North Bay. Vic served ten terms on the Board of the North Bay and District Chamber of Commerce, served as Director with Global Vision, and has served on many agencies, boards, and commissions, often as Chair.

He is married to local humour writer Patty, and is always seen in one of his trademark yellow ties.

## Eastern Ontario's Connectivity Update

### Lisa Severson | Director of Communications, Eastern Ontario Regional Network

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Lisa Severson is the Director of Communications of the Eastern Ontario Regional Broadband Network (EORN). In Phase 1 of this Public-Private Partnership, over \$175 million of investment was made in Eastern Ontario to extend high-speed broadband access for rural residents. In Phase 2, which is currently underway, approximately \$213 million will be invested to fix the gaps and capacity in the cell networks in Eastern Ontario. Prior to EORN, Lisa spent 7 years with the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.

Lisa works with all levels of government, indigenous communities, residents and businesses. Lisa has worked with the Eastern Ontario Warden's Caucus for 13 years and currently sits as a board member on the Eastern Ontario Leadership Council, is the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) representative on the TNCO working group, FCM's Technical Working Group.

### Jim Pine | Co-Lead, Eastern Ontario Regional Network

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Jim is one of the Co-Leads with the Eastern Ontario Regional Network. Jim has been a part of the Project since its earliest days.

For the past 18 years, Jim has been leading the administration at the County of Hastings. He started his career with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and served 9 years including Regional Director for Eastern Ontario. Over the course of Jim's career he has taken an active role in municipal advocacy through his work with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario where he served in a number of roles including as Secretary-Treasurer and as a member of the Board of Directors. Jim is also a past president of the Ontario Municipal Administrators' Association. including as Secretary-Treasurer and as a member of the Board of Directors.

## Leeds Grenville Economic Development Update

### Ann Weir | Economic Development Manager, United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

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Ann Weir works regionally on behalf of the Counties and its 10 member municipalities while collaborating with the region's many partners. In September 2017, Ontario East Economic Development recognized her as the Economic Developer of the Year for her exceptional performance in her region and to the advancement of the economic development profession.

In her role, she has strategically developed a framework for regional economic development to create an environment for communities to work together while maintaining their individual priorities and advancing their goals. Through her efforts, she has positively influenced many new investments and while supporting business expansions in the region.

## Economic Recovery Chat Room Moderators



### **Darren Gallacher**

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### **Rob Nolan**

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### **Katie Nolan**

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### **Tina Stevens**

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