



THE BC RURAL CENTRE

KEEPING IT RURAL 2023

RURAL RENAISSANCE:
EMBRACING CHANGE AND
OPPORTUNITY

Agenda

DAY ONE - THURSDAY, JUNE 1st

Start Time	End Time	Session
12:00		Opening Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sylix Okanagan Nation - Land Acknowledgement ● Grace McGregor - BC Rural Centre Welcome Attendees and Speakers ● Barry Janyk - Housekeeping and introduce the staff and board
12:15	12:45	What's Happening in the Rurals? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roly Russell - Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development
		~break~
1:00	2:30	Rural Health Panel - Bridging the Gap: Advancing Rural Health Equity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jennifer Rice, Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health, ● Mike Goetz, Mayor, City of Merritt ● Allan Louis - Sylix First Nation, IHA Board ● Paul Adams, ED, BC Rural Health Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MODERATOR:
		~break~
2:45	3:00	Advancing Rural Economic Development in Small and Remote Communities Dannika Hammond, Masters Student and BC Govt Co-op Employee
		~break~

3:15	5:00	<p>Afternoon Keynote Speaker (incl Q&A)</p> <p>Chief Clarence Louie, Osoyoos Indian Band</p> <p>Relationship building and working partnerships</p>
		~break~
5:30		<p>Social Mixer - At the Hampton Inn & Suites</p> <p>Topic for discussion - <i>forming a Rural Chairs, Chiefs and Mayors Caucus</i></p>

DAY TWO - FRIDAY, JUNE 2nd

Start Time	End Time	Session
8:00am		BREAKFAST
9:00	10:30	<p>Agriculture Panel - Building Local Food Systems: Empowering Communities for Food Sovereignty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pascale Schittecatte, Land Matcher, Young Agrarians ● Vicki Gee, Boundary Community Ventures ● Julia Smith, Small Scale Meat Producers ● Nyree Marsh, Agriculture Business Advisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MODERATOR: Judy Wilson, Neskonlith
		~break~
10:45	12:00	<p>Forestry Panel - State of the Industry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ken Kalesnikoff, President, Kalesnikoff Lumber Co. Ltd. ● Dan Macmaster, Forest Manager - Nk'Mip Forestry ● Kristina Anderson, Kettle River Watershed ● Nick Arkle, Gorman Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MODERATOR: Lennard Joe, BC First Nations Forestry Council
		~LUNCH~
12:45	2:15	<p>Innovation & Broadband Panel : Driving Growth in Rural Communities: The Future of Broadband and Innovation</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jon Summerland, Okanagan Film Commission ● Colleen McCormick, Connected Communities ● Dr Sarah Breen, Kootenay Outdoor Recreation Enterprise ● Jason Taylor, Selkirk Technology Access Centre <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MODERATOR: Kel Saldern
		~break~
2:30	4:00	Mega-projects/New Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chief George Lampreau, Simpcw First Nation ● Martha Manuel, Responsible Mining ● Roly Russell, PS Rural Development (REDIP Projects) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MODERATOR: Gerry Thiessen, Former Mayor Vanderhoof
		~break~
4:15	5:00	Dialogue Session - Victor Cumming, Mayor, City of Vernon
		~break~
5:15	6:00	Closing Keynote Speaker Dr. Sean Markey, SFU - Resource and Environment Management

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