



## AGENDA

### *The 3rd Annual Conference of the Global Forum on Productivity*

### *Firms, Workers and Disruptive Technologies: Ensuring Sustainable and Inclusive Growth*

June 28-29, 2018  
Ottawa, Canada



Innovation, Science and  
Economic Development Canada

Innovation, Sciences et  
Développement économique Canada



## DAY 1 – June 28, 2018

Morning session (Ottawa Marriott Hotel, 100 Kent Street, Ottawa)

**8:30-9:30** Registration and coffee

**9:30-10:00** Introduction

**David McGovern (Associate Deputy Minister, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada)**

**Lawrence Schembri (Deputy Governor, Bank of Canada)**

**Álvaro Santos Pereira (Acting Chief Economist, OECD)**

**10:00-11:00** Setting up the stage: Evolution of disruptive technologies: What's new?

*Over the last several years, the world has seen a number of technological developments that have a potential to disrupt the way our economies function. What do we know about those disruptive technologies? How are they different from the adoption of ICT technologies in the 1990s and early 2000s? Is the world entering a new phase of the Industrial Revolution? What impacts do the new technologies have on business dynamics, productivity and employment?*

**Keynote: Eric Bartelsman (Professor and General Director, Tinbergen Institute)**

**11:00-11:30** Coffee break

**11:30-12:30** Panel 1: Policy and economic implications from new technologies

What are the implications from the new technologies in different sectors of the economy? How are they different from the past cycles of technological development? What will the business of the future look like and what will be the skills needed in the future?

**Chair: Lawrence Schembri, (Deputy Governor, Bank of Canada)**

**Panelist 1: Dirk Pilat (Deputy Director, OECD)**

**Panelist 2: Darren Hannah (Vice President of the Canadian Bankers Association and the Vice Chair of the Economy Policy Committee of BIAC)**

**Panelist 3: Avvey Peters (Chief Strategy Officer, Communitech, and Adviser to the Supercluster Next Generation Manufacturing Canada)**

**12:30-14:00** Lunch (Ottawa Marriott Hotel)

## Afternoon session (Bank of Canada, 30 Bank Street, Ottawa)

Please use the entrance to the Bank of Canada Museum, located at 30 Bank Street (corner of Bank and Wellington Streets) and bring a piece of government-approved photo identification.

### 14:00-15:30 Parallel Session 1: Structural changes

**1A - Disruptive technologies, resource allocation, business dynamics and business of the future:** What is the role of disruptive technologies in the current decline in business entry and exit? How large, established firms can survive the new technology wave? What is the contribution of technological progress on market concentration and productivity in different sectors?

Chair: Chiara Criscuolo (Head of Division, OECD)

Speaker 1: Ryan Decker (Economist, US Federal Reserve)

Speaker 2: Josefine Diekhof (Economist, Centre for European Economic Research)

Speaker 3: Alex Chernoff (Senior Economist, Bank of Canada)

**Canada Productivity Partnership Special Sponsored Session** 

**1B –Technology-driven polarization of the labor market:** What are the impacts of new technologies on workers? Do the new technologies such as automation and robots enhance a worker's productivity or replace it? What are the implications of the increasingly uneven income distribution for productivity and income growth?

Chair: Mike Veall (Professor, McMaster University)

Speaker 1: Antonin Bergeaud (Economist, Banque de France)

Speaker 2: Jaana Remes (Economist and Partner, McKinsey Group)

Speaker 3: James Bessen (Professor, Boston University)

### 15:30-16:00 Coffee Break

### 16:00-17:30 Parallel Session 2: Technology and institutions

**2A - Business and social innovation in response to disruptive technologies?:** What are the implications of new technologies for business and social innovation? Are businesses and social actors responding to the emergence of new technologies with new ways of doing things? Are there obstacles to adopting new business and social innovation? What are the best practices to assist organizations to develop disruptive technologies?

Chair: Stefan Profit (Deputy Director General, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and GFP co-chair)

Speaker 1: Sonia Sennik (Executive Director, Creative Destruction Lab)

Speaker 2: Anthony Arundel (Professor, Maastricht University)

Speaker 3: Christina Timiliotis (Economist, OECD)

**2B - Productivity and growth-enhancing institutions:** What is the design of institutions that promote growth and productivity through innovation and technology adoption, in light of the digital economy? What is the role of tax and regulatory policy in this environment?

Chair: Pierre Therrien (Director, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada)

Speaker 1: Mary Veronica Tovšak Pleterski (Director, European Commission)

Speaker 2: Jonathan Coppel (Commissioner, Productivity Commission Australia)

Speaker 3: Patrick Lenain (Assistant Director, OECD)

### 18:30-21:00 Dinner and Presentation (Reception starting at 18:00, Fairmont Château Laurier, 1 Rideau Street, Ottawa)

Welcoming remarks: Michelle d'Auray (Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the OECD)

Keynote speaker: Neil Turok (Director, Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics)

## DAY 2

### Morning session (Bank of Canada, 30 Bank Street, Ottawa)

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8:30-9:30 Breakfast

9:30-11:00 Parallel Session 3 - Intangibles, skills and disruptive technologies

**3A - Impacts of new technologies on clusters and other agglomeration economies:** *What is the role of science and new technologies in shaping how clusters and other agglomeration economies are formed? Do the new technologies enhance productivity growth within a regional cluster? What are the best practices to assess impacts from clusters?*

**Chair:** Adolfo Rodríguez-Vargas (Economist, Central Bank of Costa Rica)

**Speaker 1:** Catherine Beaudry (Professor, École Polytechnique de Montréal)

**Speaker 2:** Elvira Uyerra (Reader, University of Manchester)

**Speaker 3:** Tara Vinodrai (Associate Professor, University of Waterloo)

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**3B - Skills for the new economies – What is an optimal policy response?:** *What are the implications of the new technologies for skills necessary to succeed in the labor market? Are the numeric skills more important than others as a result of the new technologies? What is the role for public policy in mitigating the potential negative effects of new technologies on workers and productivity (e.g., ensuring businesses have access to workers with relevant skills)? Is bridging skill gaps the answer?*

**Chair:** Michel Houdebine (Chief Economist, French Treasury)

**Speaker 1:** Frank Neffke (Senior Research Fellow, Harvard University)

**Speaker 2:** Glenda Quintini (Senior Economist, OECD)

**Speaker 3:** Joel Blit (Associate Professor, University of Waterloo)

**Business Development Bank of Canada Special Sponsored Session**



**3C - Collateralising intangible assets: Challenges and Best Practices:** *How to ensure financial institutions gauge the proper value of firms' intangible assets? What are the best practices to remove barriers inhibiting firms with high potential growth to leverage their intangible assets to obtain financing?*

**Chair:** Pierre Cléroux (Vice President and Chief Economist, BDC)

**Speaker 1:** William Janeway (Co-founder, INET, member of the Board of Managers, CERF)

**Speaker 2:** Kris Boschmans (Policy Analyst, OECD)

**Speaker 3:** Trevor Allibon (Managing Director, Growth and Transition Capital, BDC)

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

**11:30-13:00 Panel 2: What do we know about the productivity slowdown?**

***Productivity paradox in a world of disruptive technologies:** What are the factors behind the recent productivity slowdown? Why is productivity not picking up despite the recent technological progress? Do traditional productivity measures (e.g., GDP deflators) fail to reflect new products and services driven by disruptive technologies? What are the potential adjustments (e.g., use of machine learning) to improve the accuracy of productivity measures?*

**Chair: Andrew Sharpe (Founder and Executive Director, Centre for the Study of Living Standards)**

**Panelist 1: John Fernald (Professor, INSEAD)**

**Panelist 2: Carol Corrado (Senior Advisor and Research Director, Conference Board)**

**Panelist 3: Kevin Fox (Professor, University of New South Wales)**

**13:00-14:00 Light lunch**

**14:00-14:45 Wrap-up session and way forward**

*Lessons learned from the Ottawa conference as well as lessons learned from the Lisbon, Budapest and Ottawa conferences and the way forward.*

**Chair: Luiz de Mello (Director, OECD)**

**Panelist 1: Mike Veall (Professor, McMaster University)**

**Panelist 2: Dan Andrews (Chief Advisor, Australia Treasury)**

**Panelist 3: Dan Mawson (Senior Economic Adviser, UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills)**