



UNCLE SAM IN THE 6IX



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Consul General Greg Stanford moderates the Third Innovation Partnership meeting

Third Innovation Partnership Meeting Highlights Key Tech Themes

The Consulate Toronto's third U.S.-Canada Innovation Partnership meeting took place on February 26, 2020, bringing together the region's brain trust on tech and innovation. Alan Bernstein, CIFAR President and the Partnership's Founding Member, presented findings of the recent Canada-U.S. Artificial Intelligence Symposium supported by CIFAR and the Consulate. Dan Ujcz from Dickinson Wright PLLC spoke about the new benefits of the USMCA. In their Great Lakes, Great Minds presentation Mark Fisher, Council of the Great Lakes Region (CGLR) spoke about the new Consulate-supported project aimed at boosting cross-border higher education collaboration. Laura Lochman, Director of the Office of Canadian Affairs for the Department of State joined the meeting to hear the group's perspectives.

Learn more about the Innovation Partnership from this Betakit article. In it, CG Stanford speaks about increasing cross-border collaboration between the U.S. and Canada as well as promoting the adoption and acceleration of emerging tech: <https://betakit.com/us-canada-innovation-partnership-focuses-on-ontario-innovation-hubs-corporate-partners/>.



A/S Fannon highlights the new ERGI website which offers best practices for sustainable energy minerals development during the session about is critical minerals at PDAC

U.S., Partners Launch Energy Resource Governance Initiative

Assistant Secretary of State for Energy Resources (ENR) Francis Fannon joined the Government of Canada and other partners at the Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) Convention to launch a new toolkit for the Energy Resource Governance Initiative (ERGI). ERGI is a U.S.-led approach to global best practices for handling the key energy minerals necessary for the impending energy transformation. The toolkit addresses mineral resource management, project development, production, and stewardship. ERGI was originally launched in New York last September, with founding partners Canada, Australia, Botswana, and Peru.

The ERGI toolkit is a collaborative, web-based platform giving practical guidance to sound mining sector governance and strengthening resilient energy mineral supply chains.

It will provide mining sector leaders with a compendium of best practices, tools, and case studies in cross-cutting mining sector governance issues, including managing mineral data, mineral leasing methodology, and understanding how to facilitate social license to operate. Through this worldwide platform, ERGI partners can engage with resource-rich countries to encourage a level playing field in the global energy minerals sector.

Additionally, A/S Fannon took part in a panel discussion, "What's Critical about Critical Minerals" highlighting the role of Western partners in transitioning into responsible energy market and practices. He shared his insights in an interview with the Globe and Mail: <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/politics/article-canada-and-the-us-to-co-operate-on-securing-critical-minerals-for/>

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U.S. Consulate hosts a “Women in Tech” luncheon with a group of local and dynamic female leaders

On February 28, the U.S. Consulate Toronto hosted NYC-based TeLisa Daughtry, award-winning social entrepreneur, investor, diversity tech advocate and founder of FlyTechnista. TeLisa was hosted in Ottawa, Halifax and Toronto as a part of a multi-city speaker program organized by the U.S. Mission to Canada.

While in Toronto, TeLisa participated in an Ontario Centres of Excellence (OCE) panel discussion alongside three other tech

company founders to discuss tech trends perspectives and the overall emerging technological and entrepreneurial landscape. Following her engagement with the OCE, the U.S. Consulate hosted a “Women in Tech” luncheon with a group of local and dynamic female leaders for a fruitful discussion on how diversity drives innovation in the world of business and entrepreneurship. TeLisa was also hosted by the DMZ, Canada’s top university business incubator based out of Ryerson University for an engaging roundtable discussion with women leaders of their recently launched Black Innovation Fellowship Program. During her talk, TeLisa focused on her journey, highlighting lessons learned from her failures and successes. TeLisa also had the opportunity to connect with the Black Professionals in Tech Network (BPTN), a platform designed to support the advancement of Black professionals in the Canadian technology industry.

Inside the Tweet-world: Consulate Toronto Visits Twitter

Since Twitter’s CEO Jack Dorsey first ever tweet in 2006, Twitter has changed the way we consume, exchange and share information. CG Stanford and Consulate Toronto’s team toured Twitter Canada to see firsthand what is inside the world of hashtags, trends and innovations. Twitter’s team welcomed the team and discussed their day-to-day operations as well as new projects and features piloted in Canada. The group discussed future cooperation including some creative approaches to highlight the U.S.-Canada cooperation in the field of innovation and AI.



Twitter’s team welcomes the Consulate team

Minnesota Professor Dr. Saida Abdi Delivers Keynote at Youth Resilience Conference

University of Minnesota Professor Dr. Saida Abdi delivered the keynote address at the 4th Annual Youth Resilience Conference in Toronto organized by Midaynta Community Services. Dr. Abdi brought her unique perspective as a trained clinician and expert in refugee trauma and resilience. She has worked extensively with the Somali refugee community in the United States. She discussed challenges and opportunities to Canadian counterparts, emphasizing the need for individual, family and community resilience to overcome violence. The Conference was well-attended by youth, law-enforcement professionals, social workers and community members. This initiative is part of the Consulate’s youth engagement programming.



Professor Dr. Saida Abdi delivers the keynote address at conference

VISITS

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce Ian Steff Discusses USMCA, 5G During his Toronto Visit

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Global Markets and Director General of the U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service Ian Steff visited Toronto on February 12-14, 2020 for a series of outreach meetings and events to highlight the promise of the USMCA and U.S.-Canada trade relations. During his meeting with U.S. and Canadian business executives, A/S Steff said that the United States strongly believes that, once implemented, the USMCA will create jobs and opportunities on both sides of the border. “The original agreement was signed before we had mobile commerce and the everyday technology that fosters innovation, trade, and growth,” said the A/S. “A tech hub like Toronto understands this and will benefit from the new agreement.” Steff also highlighted the exceptional promise for 5G wireless technology to form the backbone of future economic development and public services in both countries, while underscoring the risk of allowing untrusted vendors into any part of the network. He advised, “The level of data connectivity across the continent in a 5G network necessitates national and international measures to prevent any technology and services from untrusted companies, regardless of national origin, from being incorporated in 5G networks.”

While in Toronto, A/S Steff met with Canada’s Senior Assistant Deputy Minister of Industry Mitch Davies and greeted U.S. car manufacturers at the Canadian International Auto Show. He also attended the SelectUSA 2020 Manufacturing Forum Industry Roundtable and met with Canadian companies Hematite and Magna International who are successfully expanding their businesses in the United States.



A/S Steff recognizes Magna International who is successfully expanding their businesses in the United States

EDUCATION

Consulate Promotes U.S. Higher Education at Go Global Expo

The U.S. Consulate Toronto joined U.S. universities at the Toronto Reference Library as part of the Go Global Expo on February 9, 2020. The Consulate provided information on application guidelines, tuition agreements and standardized testing. Cultural Specialist Claudia Valladolid and Administrative Assistant Raafia Shahid answered questions from students and parents,

encouraging them to consult EdUSA resources and reach out to EducationUSA for free, virtual counseling on applying to any of the United States' 4,500 accredited colleges and universities. This outreach effort extended to students, parents, recent graduates and mid-career professionals attending the expo. For more information, visit www.educationusa.state.gov.



Consulate staff welcomes questions at Go Global Expo

U.S. Consulate Partners with Munk School of Global Affairs on Super Tuesday Program



On March 4, the U.S. Consulate partnered with the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto to convene a panel of U.S. and Canadian experts to discuss the impact of Super Tuesday on the U.S.-Canada relationship. The panel featured

Chris Sands, recently arrived Director of the Wilson Center's Canada Institute; Luiza Savage, Executive Director, Politico; and Peter Loewen, Professor of Political Science and former Director of the University of Toronto's School of Public Policy and Governance. The panel, moderated by Dr. Connor Ewing, Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto, focused on what the Super Tuesday 2020 results meant for the U.S. primaries, the electoral landscape for 2020 and the Canadian-American relationship. U.S. Consul General Stanford provided opening remarks at this event, attended by students and professors from the University of Toronto community. The previous evening, March 3, Munk students joined together to watch the live returns from Super Tuesday.

PHOTO: CG Stanford welcomes guests at Super Tuesday Program

EducationUSA holds Guidance Counsellor Forums in Toronto



EducationUSA held two forums for Canadian guidance counsellors to promote U.S. higher education in the Greater Toronto Area and Hamilton on January 14-15. The forums included representatives from thirty universities and colleges from across the United States. The

events provided a platform for Canadian guidance counsellors to learn about the U.S. post-secondary application process including details about the Common App and the early admissions process. The U.S. Consulate in Toronto supported the events, which were led by the EducationUSA Jenika Heim. Both the forums were well-attended and received positive feedback from attendees. Canada is the 5th largest sender of foreign students to U.S. colleges and universities.

PHOTO: The Consulate staff visits historic sites in St. Catherines

Brainstorming on Great Lakes Higher Education Partnerships



The U.S. Consulate Toronto hosted a gathering of the U.S. – Canada Academic Working Group on Jan. 31 to brainstorm on the new Great Lakes, Great Minds higher education mobility initiative. The roundtable included representatives from twelve different Ontario universities and colleges across Ontario as well as

Ontario's Ministry of Training and Colleges. The Council of the Great Lakes Region moderated the discussion on challenges and opportunities in cross-border student and faculty mobility. The Great Lakes, Great Minds initiative is set to launch in June 2020.

The Consulate's brainstorming event on Great Lakes Higher Education Partnership

Martin Luther King Jr., Speaker Addresses York University's Tubman Institute



Dr. Maurice Wallace addresses York University's Tubman Institute

On February 27, and in celebration of Black History Month, the U.S. Consulate in Toronto collaborated with the Harriet Tubman Institute at York University on a speaker program featuring Dr. Maurice Wallace, Associate Professor at Rutgers University. Dr. Wallace's talk focused on the auditory quality and tonal uniqueness of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s orations, presenting a novel perspective in a field that is densely populated with intriguing research. Titled "King's Vibrato: Visual Oratory and the Sound of the Photograph," Dr. Wallace articulated how a key dynamic in the power of Dr. King's speech lay in both his voice and his interactions with the audience. Dr. Wallace verbally illustrated a vivid scene of Dr. King delivering his final speech at the Mason Temple in Memphis Tennessee to a crowd. Dr. Kendra Boyd, a professor at York University provided feedback on the lecture and engaged the audience in a lively Q and A. The conversation enlightened the audience with a new perspective to consider on the life and voice of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The Tubman Institute is a research institution dedicated to studying the movements of the African diaspora around the world. .

Celebrating 100 Years of the IJC

On January 23, Consulate Toronto joined the University of Toronto's Centre for Contemporary History to celebrate a century of the International Joint Commission, the world's first transnational water treaty commission which governs the Great Lakes.

The Bill Graham Centre for Contemporary International History hosted a roundtable discussion to celebrate the book launch of "The First Century of the International Joint Commission." The book launch was moderated by co-editor Prof. Daniel Macfarlane and panelists, who were feature contributors; Meredith Denning, Noah Hall, and Kim Richard Nossal. The collection examines the history of the International Joint Commission (IJC), a binational Canada-U.S. accord that oversees border environments, from its inception in 1909. Georgetown Prof. Meredith Denning highlighted the influence of local actors and municipalities on their role in the emergence of this innovative water treaty commission. The interdisciplinary group of environmental scholars each offered their own take on the factors of success of the IJC, a century later. The experts concurred on various contributing factors to the binational treaty's success, such as shared cultures, collective historical pride in the Great Lakes, mutual support for the independence of the IJC, the role of localities and according to Queen's Prof. Kim Richard Nossal "a little luck".

The U.S. Consulate's guest speaker, Prof. Noah Hall offered his take, drawing from his environmental and water law background. Hall began by celebrating the impact of the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 and its ability to remain relevant today. He cited shared judiciary practices of both countries through common law, the principles of mutual obligation to protect shared natural resources, dispute resolution through cross-border investigation and information exchanges as key factors. The event concluded with audience Q & A in which the future of the IJC was discussed. The major take-away was continued support of local actors in the Great Lakes region and bi-national collaborative efforts.



Consulate celebrates 100 years of the IJC