# ICF Canada New and Replacement Board Members 2017-2019



(New)

## Dr. Mehdi Sheikhzadeh Executive Dean of Applied Research & Innovation Lambton College

Dr. Mehdi Sheikhzadeh is the Executive Dean of Applied Research & Innovation at Lambton College and has Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from Western University. He previously held the position of NSERC-Industrial Research Chair for Colleges (IRCC) and was a faculty member of Instrumentation and Control Department at Lambton College. He has accumulated 7 years of industrial experience in chemical and petrochemical companies and 7 years of research management. As Executive Dean, Dr. Sheikhzadeh has supervised the activities of more than 300 industrial projects and managed the group of 40 research faculty, 10 staff and 350 research students. As researcher, Dr. Sheikhzadeh's research interests are process systems, advanced process control, optimization, and process design. He has been the research lead for more than 40 collaborative projects. Dr. Sheikhzadeh is the first author and co-author for more than 60 journal paper publications and conference presentations.

#### Mehdi Sheikhzadeh, Ph.D

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(New)

Mayor Fred Eisenberger City of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada Fred.Eisenberger@hamilton.ca

Mayor Fred Eisenberger was born in Amsterdam and came to Canada with his family when he was eight years old, settling in Hamilton. Fred is currently serving his second four-year term as mayor. Previously he served as a member of Hamilton council, as chair of the Hamilton Port Authority, and as president and chief executive of the Canadian Urban Institute, where he was involved in the development of leading-edge, progressive urban policy. During Fred's tenure as mayor, Hamilton was named by the Conference Board of Canada for having Canada's most-diversified economy and in 2016 the Intelligent Community Forum named Hamilton as one of the World's 21Smart communities. Hamilton's transformation has been notable. A national advanced manufacturing hub, with burgeoning life sciences and food processing sectors; strong education and research institutions; and creative industries that are attracting new economic investment and vitality to the city. Fred is focused on achieving continued growth and prosperity as well as protecting our environment. He was instrumental in landing a \$1-billion Light Rail Transit initiative for Hamilton, for ensuring Syrian refugees were welcomed and settled in the city, and for putting forward a \$50-million proposal to improve affordable housing and reduce poverty.



#### (Replaced Ben Champoux)

### **Kevin Silliker**

Director, Economic Development Directeur, Développement économique Direct | (506) 853-3532 kevin.silliker@moncton.ca



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Kevin Silliker is the Director of Economic Development with the City of Moncton where he has worked since 2007. Kevin has been involved in many municipal projects including the development of the downtown multi-use events centre, the ICF Smart21 (2009, 2010) and Top7 (2009) recognitions and the implementation of the City's new downtown financial incentive grant program. Kevin oversees the immigration portfolio for the City of Moncton and led the creation of the Greater Moncton Immigration Strategy and the implementation of the Greater Moncton Local Immigration Partnership.

Kevin is a St. Mary's University (Halifax, Nova Scotia) graduate and completed his MBA studies at Université de Moncton. Kevin has been very active in the community having volunteered for a number of organizations such as the United Way and the YMCA and currently is a Director with the local BIA, Downtown Moncton Centre-Ville Inc.



Blair Patacairk **Managing Director, Investment & Trade** |Invest Ottawa

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(Replaced Bruce Lazenby)

Blair Patacairk moved into the position of Managing Director of Investment and Trade in November of 2014. Prior to taking on this role, Blair was the President and CEO of Telecom Gateway Services Inc., a full service international business development consulting firm and government specialist. He was engaged as a special advisor to Invest Ottawa in the areas of foreign direct investment, trade and government relations. As such Blair was responsible for the attraction of investment, companies and people to the Ottawa region, the management of Ottawa's local and global partnerships and the international spokesperson on marketing Ottawa to the world.

Blair has over twenty years of experience in the public and private sectors, including working directly with the former Mayor of the City of Ottawa, Bob Chiarelli. He brings a wealth of knowledge on strategic partnerships and growing both SMEs and Fortune 500 companies. His previous experience includes roles at: Vayyoo Inc., a mobile solutions tech startup where he was Vice-President Business Development; Dell Inc. where he was the Director of Communications, Public Affairs and Business Development; and OCRI as the Director of Investment, Marketing, Media and Government Relations at OCRI, where he used his extensive network of business and media contacts to promote Ottawa-based technologies companies around the world.

A recipient of Ottawa's Top 40 Under 40 award in 2008, Blair has volunteered his time as a board member with numerous organizations and currently sits on the Board of: Centre of Excellence in Next Generation Networks CENGN); Consider Canada City Alliance (CCCA); and Intelligent Community Forum (ICF). He also shares his experience as a business and marketing/communications mentor in local universities/colleges and high schools.