

PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE PROGRAM

May 28 – 29, 2025

Sudbury, Ontario

Subject to Change - UPDATED April 28, 2025

Pre-Conference Opening Dinner – Wednesday, May 28th

REGISTRATION AND OPENING DINNER: VALE CAVERN – SCIENCE NORTH

- 5:00 p.m. **Registration and Networking**
- 6:00 p.m. **Opening Remarks and Land Acknowledgement**
Meredith Armstrong, Director of Economic Development, City of Greater Sudbury
- 6:10 p.m. **Opening Prayer - Namehwin**
Dominic Beaudry, Associate Vice President for the Office of Academic and Indigenous Programs, Laurentian University
- 6:15 p.m. **Dinner Commences**
Planting Hope trailer courtesy of Science North
- 7:00 p.m. **Minister's Remarks**
The Honourable Stephen Lecce, MPP, Minister of Energy and Mines, Province of Ontario (Invited)
- 7:20 p.m. **Presentation: From Lithium-Ion to Solid State and Beyond: Demystifying EV Battery Technology Innovation and Future Adoption**
Professor Pope, a leading researcher in battery materials, will share the current state and evolution of lithium-ion batteries as well as pull back the curtain on new technologies that will shape the industry including the promise of solid-state technologies and the future role of sodium-ion battery solutions.

Dr. Michael Pope, P.Eng. (confirmed)
Co-Director, Ontario Battery and Electrochemistry Research Centre (OBEC); Associate Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Waterloo
- 7:50 p.m. **Fireside Discussion – Critical Minerals and the Geopolitics of Battery Materials Supply Chains**
Paul Lefebvre, Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury
Jeff Gaulin, Global Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Communications, Vale Base Metals
Brendan Sweeney, Managing Director, Trillium Network for Advanced Manufacturing
- 8:20 p.m. **Closing Remarks**
- 8:30 p.m. **Dinner Concludes**

Conference Program – Thursday, May 29th**REGISTRATION AND AM PLENARY SESSIONS: STUDENT LIFE CENTRE – CAMBRIAN COLLEGE**

- 7:30 a.m. **Registration and Networking**
Coffee and Continental Breakfast
- 8:20 a.m. **Welcome Remarks and Land Acknowledgement**
Conference Chair:
Shawn Poland, Vice President, External Partnerships, Strategic Enrolment, and Executive Director, Cambrian Foundation
Paul Lefebvre, Mayor, City of Greater Sudbury
- 8:35 a.m. **Mining as a Strategic Priority: Strengthening Ontario's Foundation for a Fully Integrated Mines-to-Mobility Supply Chain**
Priya Tandon, President, Ontario Mining Association
- 9:00 a.m. **Partnering for Battery Materials Supply Chains**
As nations and corporations navigate shifting geopolitical landscapes, long-term partnerships, government support, and investment strategies are critical to ensuring secure and efficient supply chains. This panel brings together industry leaders, policymakers, and financial experts to explore best practices and collaborative approaches in building robust critical mineral supply chains in North America.
- Panelists:*
Trevor Walker, President & CEO, Frontier Lithium
Hugh Samson, RBC Global Co-Head Metals & Mining, RBC Capital Markets
Musfiq Islam, Investment Lead, Advanced Manufacturing, Invest Ontario
Ashley Glen, Director, Structured & Project Finance, Export Development Canada
- Moderator: Matthew Fortier, Accelerate ZEV*
- 9:40 a.m. **Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects**
Spotlight - Magna Mining Inc.
Jason Jessup, President & CEO, Magna Mining Inc.
- 9:55 a.m. **Refreshment Break**
- 10:10 a.m. **Navigating Current and Future Battery Materials Demand**
In this presentation, we'll review the evolution of the North American EV and battery markets since 2020 and examine key trends. We will also discuss possible scenarios for market evolution through 2035 and zoom in on potential developments in Ontario. This presentation will draw on data, research, and analyses derived from Adamas Intelligence's industry-leading services."
- Alla Kolesnikova, MBA, Head of Data Analytics, Adamas Intelligence*

10:30 a.m. **From Electric Vehicles to Energy Storage, AI and Beyond – On the Precipice of the Battery Electric Economy Transition**

It's time to start thinking of batteries as a vital part of a sustainable ecosystem rather than siloed into specific applications. A battery-electric vehicle is as much a form of transportation as it is distributed energy resource and a backup generator for your home. The age of EVs is not ending or dying — it's just begun. Industry and government need to be in lock step when it comes to building out a supply chain and understanding the opportunities and challenges of a battery electric economy.

Panelists:

Daniel Breton, President and Director, Electric Mobility Canada

Rachel Doren, President and Executive Director, Clean Energy Canada

Cara Clairman, President & CEO, Plug'n Drive

Mona Eghanian, Assistant Vice President and Deputy Head of Ontario Vehicle Innovation Network

11:10 a.m. **Morning Break and Move to Concurrent Sessions**

AM CONCURRENT TECHNICAL SESSIONS (Choose One of Three)

11:25 a.m. **Concurrent #1: The Other Gold Rush: Driving Mobility through Rare Earth Elements (REEs) Amphitheatre Room #2226**

This panel explores the critical role of rare earth elements (REEs) in electric motors, featuring experts advancing innovation in the REEs supply chain. Discussions will cover innovative technologies to reduce reliance on REE mining, sustainable extraction methods, and circular economy strategies for magnet production. Attendees will gain insights into supply chain challenges and emerging solutions driving the future of electrification.

Participants:

Alla Kolesnikova, MBA, Head of Data Analytics, Adamas Intelligence

Vasileios Tsiannos, Vice President of Corporate Development, Neo Performance Materials

Kiril Mugerman, President & CEO, Geomega Resources Inc.

Dr. Muhammad Imran Ph.D., P.Eng., C.Dir., Vice-President of The Rare Earth Element Division at The Saskatchewan Research Council

Session Chair: Shelley Hirstwood, Director of Economic Development, Kingston Economic Development Corporation

11:25 a.m. **Concurrent #2 – Accelerating Critical Minerals Programs in Ontario eDome - #1830**

Participants:

Liam McGill, Manager, Critical Mineral Strategy Unit, Mines and Minerals Division, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Mines

Suzanne Halet, Acting Director, Mineral Development and Program Modernization Branch Mines and Minerals Division, Ontario Ministry of Energy and Mines

Session Chair: Michael Loken P.Eng., Director Strategic Services Branch, Mines and Minerals Division, Ministry of Energy and Mines

- 11:25 a.m. **Concurrent #3 – Novel Approaches Towards the Extraction and Recovery of Critical Minerals
Amphitheatre Room #2230**
Beyond the development of new mines, meeting the future demands for critical minerals will require new and innovative extraction and recovery approaches. This session will feature some leading Canadian companies that are advancing these technologies while broadening the definition of what it means to 'mine' critical minerals beyond what we traditionally consider mining.

Participants:

Theresa Quick, Vice President Growth, Novamera Surgical Mining Technologies

Josh Clarke, Lead Scientist; and Greg Hanna, Founder and CEO, Destiny Copper

Session Chair: Jeffrey Beaudoin, Manager, Business Development, Ontario Centre of Innovation

- 12:15 p.m. **Networking Lunch Student Life Centre**
During lunch delegates are encouraged to visit the outdoor display of battery electric consumer and mining vehicles adjacent to the Student Life Centre.

PM PLENARY SESSIONS: STUDENT LIFE CENTRE

- 1:30 p.m. **Live Podcast – The Unlikely Innovators Tackle Trade, Tariffs, and Fortress Canada with Lauren Tedesco**
Featuring:
Lauren Tedesco, Chief Operating Officer, Auto Part Manufacturers Association – APMA

Podcast Hosts:

Mike Commito, Director Research and Innovation, Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology

Steve Gravel, Manager, Centre for Smart Mining, Cambrian College of Applied Arts and Technology

- 2:50 p.m. **Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects
Spotlight – Canada Nickel Company**
Mark Selby, Chairman & CEO, Canada Nickel Company

**Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects
Spotlight – Electra Battery Materials**

Trent Mell, President, Electra Battery Materials

- 3:20 p.m. **Networking Break**

- 3:35 p.m. **From Critical Minerals to Batteries: Shaping the Future Economy and the Opportunities for Canada**
Maximizing the value of Canada's resources requires looking beyond the minerals themselves into value added processing, production and end-of-life recycling. This session will focus on current efforts to determine the ideal processes and the required industries to unlock this potential and facilitate the emergence of a new industry.

Sean De Vries, Executive Director, Battery Metals Association of Canada

Derek Eaton, Director of Future Economy, The Transition Accelerator

3:55 p.m.

From the Land to the Road: First Nations Role in Mines-to-Mobility

As the global shift to electrification accelerates, the development of a sustainable and secure supply chain is critical to the country's economic and environmental future. First Nations communities are at the forefront of this transition and play a vital role in the mineral development, processing, and infrastructure projects that power the battery-electric economy. This session will provide insights on how First Nations partnerships will shape the future of the battery-electric economy, from development to end-use mobility solutions.

*Panelists:**Saga Williams, Senior Advisor External Relations, First Nations Major Projects Coalition**Nathan Wright, Director of Indigenous Engagement, ALTO**Jessica Tait, Sustainable Transportation Manager, Indigenous Clean Energy (Invited)**Moderator:**Jenny-Lou Campbell, Executive Director, Indigenous Centre of Excellence for Mineral Development*

4:35 p.m.

Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects**Spotlight – Frontier Lithium***Graeme Goodall, Vice President of Operations, Frontier Lithium***Presentation Series: Advanced Northern Ontario Strategic Minerals Projects****Spotlights – Northern Graphite***Hugues Jacquemin, CEO, Northern Graphite*

5:05 p.m.

Closing Remarks*Shawn Poland, Vice President, External Partnerships, Strategic Enrolment, and Executive Director, Cambrian Foundation*

5:10 p.m.

Post Conference Reception - Student Life Centre, Fireside Lounge and Outdoor Display

6:30 p.m.

Reception Concludes