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**When Technologies Meet: Challenges and Opportunities for Canada in An Era of Technology Convergence**  
Organized by: Toni Glick, Stella Jiang and Chris Lau | Ontario

Ministry of Research, Innovation and Science

Speakers: Kathleen Kauth, Director of Partnerships, Advanced Energy Centre, MaRS; Irene Sterian, President and CEO, ReMAP; Duncan Stewart, General Manager, Security and disruptive technologies, National Research Council Canada; Michael Tremblay, President and CEO, Invest Ottawa & Bayview Yards; Iliana Oris Valiente, Founder, ColliderX

Moderator: David Ticoll, Director Emeritus, Information Technology Association of Canada  
  
**Takeaways and recommendations**

* When attracting big companies to Canada, it is important to also protect the local ecosystem of new venture development.
* This new age of public interest innovation plays to Canada’s strengths:
  + Canada is extraordinarily good at R&D;
  + Canada has a culture of tackling public problems.
* With the building of a new power infrastructure, the demand for better battery technology will drive accelerated product commercialization.
* The internet solved the problem of transferring information; what the internet did not solve was the transfer of value.
* Blockchain technology is a mechanism for a decentralized protocol that enables the streamlining of several transactions between counterparties.
* Canada can excel in these technology areas:

1. New materials: nano-materials, electronics materials and 3D printing – 3D printing can be for a home;
2. Optics and photonics: sensors and Lidar technology;
3. Renewable energy: energy storage and battery development.

* 3D printing combined with new materials and net-zero homes can be applied to smart cities, as well as smart villages and remote communities.