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BLUE-RIBBON PANEL

Carly Edmundson – co-chair

Edmundson is the president and CEO of CentrePort Canada Inc. with experience in strategic marketing and communications, as well as leadership roles within companies in the manufacturing, transportation and real estate. She currently serves as vice-chair of the City of Winnipeg’s Goods Movement Advisory Committee and is a board member for North Forge.

Scott Phillips – co-chair

Phillips was born and raised in southwest Manitoba and works as a project manager. He was first elected to the Rural Municipality of Sifton Council in 2010 and to the AMM Board of Directors in 2022. In his spare time, he runs his hobby farm and volunteers with the Southwest Cougars AAA hockey team.

Chief Larson Anderson

Anderson was first elected in 2018 as the Chief of Norway House Cree Nation, where he was born and has raised his family. He has experience working in health care, property management and on economic development initiatives. He is also a small business owner, a former school trustee and is fluent in Cree.

Kam Blight

Blight has been the reeve of the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie since 2010. In 2020, he was elected President of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM). He is a fourth-generation farmer from Oakville, where he still lives.

Chief Heidi Cook

Cook was elected to the Council of the Misipawistik Cree Nation in 2014 and has served as Chief of the Nation since 2020. She holds a bachelor of arts in environmental sustainability and politics, a masters certificate in project management and a masters in development practice in Indigenous development.

Victor DaSilva

Da Silva has over 34 years of experience working in the residential, heavy, and commercial construction industry. He holds Red Seal trade certifications as a concrete finisher, and as a construction craft worker. For the past 16 years he has been the business manager and secretary treasurer of LIUNA local 1258.

Jennifer Freeman

Freeman is the executive director of the Winnipeg Metropolitan Region, where she's worked for the past four years. She has expertise in board governance, project management, stakeholder relations, and she leads the development of the Capital Planning Region's first regional plan, Plan 20-50, aimed at fostering growth and economic prosperity.

Joan Hardy

Hardy (P Eng) recently retired after four decades of leadership experience in operations, sales and marketing, transportation and logistics, and customer service. She served on executive teams of major agricultural and railway companies and advised industry and government as a grain transportation subject-matter expert. She previously sat on the Strategic Corridors Advisory Committee.

Pamela Kolochnik

Kolochnik, CPA, MBA, and Certified Change Leader, is the CEO of Peak of the Market Ltd. With over 15 years of financial leadership, she prides herself on innovative growth strategies. Raised on a dairy farm in Manitoba, she values agriculture's economic role. She also serves as a school trustee and advocates for inclusive education.

Chris Lorenc

Lorenc has served as president and CEO of the Manitoba Heavy Construction Association (MHCA) since 1991, and president of the Western Canada Roadbuilders & Heavy Construction Association since 1995. He sits on various boards including the Workers Compensation Board, Manitoba Construction Sector Council and Manitoba Labour Board.

Dennis Meeches

Meeches is the former Chief of Long Plain First Nation who was instrumental in the creation of the Naawi-Oodena reserve. He is the president of the Tribal Council Investment Group, the chair of Indigeno Travel, an Economic Development Winnipeg board member and an Indigenous Leadership Development Institute board member.

Andre Murphy

Murphy was elected in 2022 as Mayor of The Pas and sits on the AMM board of directors. He has 38 years of experience in the pulp and paper industry and worked as a senior manager. He has expertise in strategies that enhance asset utilization and reduce costs and has lived in The Pas for the past 52 years.