



Tuesday September 13, 2022 Halifax, Nova Scotia

07:30 - 08:30 **Check-in and Networking Breakfast**

08:30 - 08:45 **Opening Remarks**

08:45 - 09:30 **Pathfinder Investors from Venture Capital, Venture Debt & Creative Capital** | Meet the Investors
We bring together key players from some of the most differentiated and active early & growth stage venture funds. These firms dive deep into their respective investment mandates to give Forum delegates an inside look at how they engage with emerging companies.



09:30 - 10:00 **Keynote Speaker**



Laura McGee
Founder, CEO



Based in New York City and a C100 member, Laura founded Diversio to allow companies to operate towards a more inclusive, safe, and efficient workplace. They are a people-first organization that values feedback, transparency, collaboration and impact. Their mission is to help organizations worldwide become more inclusive.

10:00 - 10:45 **Networking Break** | Company Showcase Hubs

10:45 - 11:15 **Alternative Financing** | Panel Session
This panel of key players in the Canadian tech ecosystem discusses the current opportunity landscape, tech adoption, how they prefer to engage with entrepreneurs, as well as how to successfully engage with the broader community of potential strategic partners. Get your foot in the door and connect with these Venture Debt titans of industry at AVF.



11:15 - 11:35

Keynote Speaker



Shelley Kuipers
Co-Founder, Co-CEO



An activist in business, entrepreneurship and investment, Shelley is building the world she wants to live in. The51 is a Financial Feminist™ platform where current and aspiring investors (particularly women* and gender-diverse* individuals), come together to democratize access to capital for women and gender-diverse founders.

11:35 - 12:40

Networking Lunch - Presented by Startup Atlantic | Kathryn Lockhart, CEO, Propel

12:40 - 13:00

Keynote Speaker



Snita Balsara
Investor



Graphite Ventures is an evolution of MaRS Investment Accelerator Fund. Used as an erasable writing tool, Graphite is an ode to back of the napkin ideas, works-in-progress, and plans and concepts that Founders continually iterate on. Graphite Ventures is a Seeding for Scale venture firm, investing at the earliest stages, and setting trajectories to accelerate growth.

13:00 - 13:45

“Women in Tech - Leadership Beyond Boundaries” | Panel Session

The ecosystem is mobilizing like never before to support female founders. Join leading female funders and business leaders as they share their origin stories and what they look for in early stage startups, as well as their personal roads to success.



13:45 - 14:15

“Leveraging Up to Next Level Growth” - Canadian Technology Accelerator Program

| Panel Session

The Canadian Technology Accelerator (CTA) is a program of Global Affairs Canada’s Trade Commissioner Service. It offers high-intensity programming that helps selected highgrowth, high-potential Canadian tech firms scale up by connecting them with export, investment & partnership opportunities in global innovation centres including Boston, New York and San Francisco, with planned expansion to four Asian technology hubs (Hong Kong, Singapore, Taipei and Tokyo) and the global innovation centres of Berlin, London, Mexico City and Delhi.



14:15 - 15:00

Networking Break | Company Showcase Hubs

15:00 - 15:30

Keynote Speaker



Nikhil Thatte
Principal



15:30 - 16:00

IDEaS | Presentation

Innovation for Defence Excellence and Security (IDEaS) is more than just a funding program. They accelerate concepts and propel solutions forward, building a defence innovation ecosystem. IDEaS' programs provide a unique opportunity for entrepreneurs to accelerate the commercialization and de-risking of their respective ventures.



16:00 - 16:05

Imaginal Ventures Announcement | Imaginal Scale Up & Impact Investment Challenge



16:05 - 18:00

Legendary Taste of Nova Scotia Lobster Bash Networking Reception



Wednesday September 14, 2022

Halifax, Nova Scotia

7:30 - 8:50

Hot Networking Breakfast

8:50 - 9:00

Day 2 Opening Remarks

9:00 - 9:45

Growth Stage VC's | Meet the Investors

Put faces to names as we bring together key players from some of the most active venture funds in Canada! Hear straight from these VC leaders as they lend insight into what they are looking for, how to engage, and what they are excited about within the current opportunity landscape. Differentiating your tech company is more critical than ever before.



9:45 - 10:15

Keynote Speaker



A trusted advisor to governments, associations and corporations, Kim brings people together to enhance value and arrives at win/win scenarios for all. As CEO of CVCA, she advocates on behalf of the industry to ensure sound public policy and encourage a favourable environment for investment. The CVCA is Canada's professional association for the venture capital and private equity industry.

10:15 - 11:00

Networking Break | Company Showcase Hubs

11:00 - 11:45

"Corporate Strategics... Unique Resources, Funding, Partnering & Exits" | Meet the Players

This panel of key players in the global tech ecosystem discusses the current opportunity landscape, tech adoption, how they prefer to engage with entrepreneurs, as well as how to successfully engage with the broader community of potential strategic partners. Get your foot in the door and connect with these titans of industry at AVF.



11:45 - 12:05

Keynote Speaker



Sarah Willson
Investor & Analyst



Panache Ventures is Canada's most active seed stage venture capital fund. With a background in both business and science, Sarah is passionate about supporting the rapid scaling of early-stage ventures across a wide range of industries. The fund has a founders-first philosophy, a commitment to diversity and strategically coinvests with smart angel investors and seed stage funds.

12:05 - 13:00

Networking Lunch

13:00 - 13:15

“Canada’s Food & Agri-Tech Engine” | Tech Talk

Bioenterprise is Canada’s Food and Agri-Tech Engine, bringing more than 15 years of industry experience to help businesses connect, innovate and grow. From expert services and mentorship, public and private funding and investment, to national and global networking, the Bioenterprise Engine will help scale your business to create sector-wide impact.



13:15 - 13:45

“Blending Seed Funding with Traditional Investment for Business Growth” | Panel Session

A deep dive panel session providing an inside look at the future of Ag and Food Tech in Atlantic Canada and how it connects with the tsunami of global tech innovation. Unmanned aerial vehicles, robots, IoT, lasers, augmented intelligence, vertical farming, genomics, the microbiome... Ag and Food Tech now represents the greatest and most compelling opportunity landscape at the intersection of Cleantech and Life Sciences in history.



13:45 - 14:15

“Commercialization and Market Access Breakthroughs” | Panel Session

Innovative Solutions Canada is a Government of Canada innovation funding program that was launched to help Canadian innovators start, grow, and get to market. Two streams - the first is to fund Canadian R&D, and the second is to test prototypes in real-life settings. Challenge Stream - working with government organizations to launch challenges and Canadian innovators compete for funding to prove the feasibility of their solution and build a prototype. Testing Stream - buying late-stage, innovative prototypes from Canadian businesses and test them in operational settings with government departments.



14:15 - 14:45

Networking Break | Company Showcase Hubs

14:45 - 15:15

Keynote Speaker



Sumita Banerjee
Director, Insights & Strategic Initiatives



Closing Remarks

A Special Thank You to our Valued Sponsors & Partners

Founding Partner



Atlantic Canada
Opportunities
Agency

Agence de
promotion économique
du Canada atlantique



Industry Leaders



Pathfinders



Catalyst Partners



Program Partners



Adventure Partner



**Are you interested in becoming a sponsor or partner at #AVF2022?
Contact us today to find out how you can help grow the Atlantic Ecosystem!**

Contact Us

Marc Elrick

Executive Director

Phone: 403-819-0383

marc@criticalpathgroup.com

Spencer Coulter

Project Manager

Phone: 587-224-9403

spencer@criticalpathgroup.com

Partial Lineup of Alumni

