



## Speaker Biographies

### Hon. Larry Doke - Saskatchewan Party - Cut Knife-Turtleford

First elected to the Saskatchewan legislature in the 2011 provincial election, Larry Doke was re-elected in April of 2016.

Larry currently resides in the resort village of Metinota where he has served as a councillor, the director of the West Yellowhead Waste Resource Authority, and as the chair of the Jackfish Lake West Water Utility and Waste Water Utility.

Before moving to Metinota, Larry was the owner/operator of Fairview Dodge in North Battleford. He also took time to be involved in the North Battleford community by sitting as a board member of the local Chamber of Commerce, spending 12 years on the Parks and Recreation Board and 14 years on the board of the North Battleford Golf and Country Club with two years as its president.

Larry is currently the Minister of Government Relations and Minister responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs. He previously served as a member of the Public Accounts committee and the Standing Committee on the Economy. He has also served Saskatchewan as a member of Treasury Board and Investment Board and, in 2014, Premier Wall asked Larry to serve as Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Highways.

Larry and his wife Valerie have two children and five grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys restoring muscle cars, golfing, fishing and volunteering in the Metinota community.



## Keynote

### Darby Allan

During the Alberta wildfire of 2016, fire chief Darby Allen shot to global acclaim for guiding the 88,000 residents of Fort McMurray to safety with no loss of life—the largest evacuation in Canadian history. Now, he offers guidance on how to be a stoic, quick-thinking leader in tough situations. We all face emergencies and crises—Allen shows us how to stay the course.

Known as the face of the monstrous Alberta wildfires—and widely celebrated as a national hero—Darby Allen is an exemplar of selfless courage and level-headedness under pressure. Allen was Regional Fire Chief of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (now retired), an area that encompasses the community of Fort McMurray. In spring 2016, he spearheaded the evacuation of the city's entire population while the rest of the world watched. Throughout the ensuing weeks of operations, he worked tirelessly with first responders and volunteers, who came from across the nation (and globe) to assist. His updates to the media were not only a means of reliable information, but a source of optimism—Allen provided calm reassurance as the lead spokesperson throughout the rescue efforts.

A native of Birmingham, England, where he worked as a firefighter for the Hampshire Fire Brigade, Allen emigrated to Canada in 1990. He began work as a firefighter with the Calgary Fire Department in 1992, moving up in rank from Training Officer to Assistant Deputy Chief of Operations, before moving on to Fort McMurray Fire Service in 2009, where he became Regional Fire Chief in 2013.



### Claire Martin

Claire Martin, an award winning TV host/presenter and a veteran of the Canadian media industry, has worked in the public service, as well as on and off camera for public and private broadcasters for nearly 30 years.

Martin is currently employed with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and is tasked with bringing her experience in engaging Canadians via television and other broadcast media, as well as her knowledge of meteorology & social media, to the public service. The goal of this position is to re-engage, rebuild and strengthen relationships with Canadians (clients, stakeholders and the general public) and the Meteorological Service of Canada.



A qualified meteorologist and passionate environmentalist, Martin ran as the Green Party candidate in North Vancouver in the Canadian 2015 federal election campaign. Despite losing to the Liberal candidate, Martin has stated that the experience offered an “exceptionally unique opportunity to examine and develop the best practices in engaging the general public in an open and frank dialogue about the effects of climate change in Canada”.

Claire Martin started winning over television audiences in Edmonton, Alberta where in 1999 and again in 2000, she was awarded AMPIA's (Alberta Motion Picture Industry Awards) for "Best Female Host" and "Best Produced Educational Video" for writing and appearing in science videos designed to promote the Grade 5-8 science unit in the Alberta Public School science curriculum.

The International Weather Festival awarded Claire Martin the honour of "Best Weather Presenter in the World" in 2000 (Paris, France), 2001 (Quebec City, Canada) and 2003 (Zagreb, Croatia) beating out representatives from the likes of CNN and the BBC.

In 2011 the University of Alberta awarded Martin it's most prestigious award - the Distinguished Alumni Award - recognizing her achievements that had earned her national and international prominence, as well as her ongoing volunteer work with the World Meteorological Organization (a specialized agency of the United Nations).

Claire Martin grew up in London, England (is in fact, a true cockney) and moved to Canada in 1989. She is a niece of Barbara Edwards, who in 1974 became the BBC's first female weather presenter in the UK.

## Plenary

### Bill Adams

As Vice-President, Pacific and the West, Adams directs the industry's government relations in western Canada and oversees daily operations at IBC's offices in Edmonton and Vancouver. Before joining IBC, he held a number of senior communications positions including Communications Director, Halifax Port Working Group; Director, Community and Government Relations, Greater Halifax Partnership; and President, Atlantic Smart Growth Management.



Adams graduated with a bachelor's degree in public relations from Mount Saint Vincent University and also studied at the Faculty of Business Administration at the University of New Brunswick.

Adams was a Board Member of the Offshore/Onshore Technology Association of Nova Scotia; Chair of the Halifax board of Big Brothers Big Sisters and currently sits on the national board as well. He has also served on the New Brunswick Highway Safety Committee and Nova Scotia's Road Safety Advisory Committee.

### Dr. Chris DeBeer

Originally from Saskatoon, Chris completed a B.Sc. (honours) in Physical Geography at the University of Saskatchewan in 2004, an M.Sc. in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at the University of Alberta in 2006 (supervisor: Professor Martin Sharp), and a Ph.D. in Hydrology at the University of Saskatchewan in 2012 (supervisor: Professor John Pomeroy). He started work at the Global Institute for Water Security in December 2010 as the Institute and the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Water Security were being established at the U of S under the leadership of Professor Howard Wheater. Since March 2013, Chris has worked as the project manager for the Changing Cold Regions Network, and he has served in the role of Science Manager for the Global Water Futures Programme since the fall of 2016. Chris' research interests are on snow and glacier hydrology, hydrological modelling, and understanding and prediction of physical Earth system responses to climate variation.



## North Saskatchewan River Communities Panel

### Jason Everitt - Fire Chief, Prince Albert Fire Department

Jason Everitt is the Director of Fire and Protective Services (Fire Chief) for the City of Prince Albert. He has 28 years of experience in the Canadian Fire Service. This service includes several years within the industrial sector (Pulp and Paper, Oil and Gas and Nuclear Energy) as an Emergency Response Coordinator (Fire Chief), Emergency Response Specialist, Senior Safety Officer and Emergency Response Training Specialist. He has served as a member of the Shellbrook Volunteer Fire Department and as both an EMT and Advanced Life Support Paramedic with Parkland Ambulance Care Ltd. In addition to this, Jason served for 10 years as an Auxiliary Constable with the RCMP (F Div).

Jason currently serves as a Provincial Director for the Saskatchewan Division of the Navy League, and as a Director and 1st Vice President for the Saskatchewan Association of Fire Chiefs. He has served as an instructor, proctor and / or evaluator for Parkland College (Melville, SK), Lakeland College (Vermillion, AB) and College of the Rockies (Cranbrook, BC). He is a regular instructor for the Saskatchewan Volunteer Firefighter Association Spring and Fall Training Schools.

Jason is married to Liz and together have three sons – Kellin, Kyle and Danny.

### **Gerald Gilmore - EMO Coordinator, Melfort**

Gerald has been employed by the City of Melfort since 1973. His initial years were spent with infrastructure repair and replacement crews, moving to a middle management position in 1996 and then onto senior management in 2008, as Director of Works & Utilities. During that time, he spent 26 years as a member of Melfort Fire & Rescue retiring in 2011 as Captain and training officer. He has been an active member of the Emergency Measures Committee for the City of Melfort since 1996, moving into the position of EMO Coordinator a number of years ago. He is an adventurer at heart and enjoys new and challenging objectives. He plans to hike Vancouver Islands, West Coast Trail this coming spring.

## **Duane McKay**

Duane is the Commissioner of Emergency Management and Fire Safety Ministry of Government Relations. Duane has had a career of over thirty five years in public safety, including 21 years in municipal public safety and 14 years with the province of Saskatchewan, presently serving as the Commissioner of Emergency Management and Fire Safety.

Duane's leadership and innovative management style has provided the opportunity to lead many significant projects that have resulted in a fully inter-operative and integrated public safety system in Saskatchewan including:

- Development and implementation of the integrated Provincial Emergency Communication 9-1-1 system and dispatch center which serves approximately 400 Saskatchewan municipal and provincial public safety agencies,
- Development and management of the Provincial Public Safety Telecommunications Network (PPSTN). The largest land based public safety radio system in Canada.
- Public safety technology development and implementation, including: emergency services mapping, emergency services data management systems, provincial incident reporting and RMS systems, inter-agency Computer Aided Dispatch systems, and;
- Development of provincial governance and partnership models for municipal and provincial public safety agencies, 9-1-1 emergency communications, PPSTN, technology management and private industry.
- Development of an integrated provincial emergency response system which includes coordinated deployment of provincial assets, provincial rapid response teams and technically trained emergency volunteers.

In addition to his work in the province, Duane is actively involved in national public safety initiatives bringing national guidance to many committees and boards and has served as:

- Chair of the Canadian Council of Emergency Management Organizations,
- Co-Chair of the Senior Officials Responsible for Emergency Management,
- President of the Canadian Council of Fire Marshalls and Fire Commissioners,
- Co-chair of the Cross Sector Forum, and;
- Domestic Group on Emergency management
- Co-Chair of the Interoperability Working group on 700 Public Safety Broad Band

## Dr. Graham Strickert

Dr. Graham Strickert is an Assistant Professor at the School of Environment and Sustainability and a founding member of the Global Institute for Water Security at the University of Saskatchewan. He earned degrees in Geography; Outreach Recreation, Parks and Tourism; Applied Science and a PhD in Complex Systems.



Dr. Strickert's community engaged research seeks to better understand how different people think about, manage and govern environmental change with particular focus on water security and natural hazards. His research also focuses on effective communication of multiple ways of knowing (science, arts, and traditional knowledge) through collaboration between artists' scientists and a wide range of community partners. Currently, Graham is the theme leader of Outreach and Engagement for the Changing Cold Regions Network (Funded by NSERC), a co-investigator with the Delta Dialogue network (Funded by SSHRC and the principal investigator for the Human Dimensions of a Thawing Landscape (funded by SSHRC).

Graham received the 2014 University of Saskatchewan Award for Distinction in Outreach for Public Service and the 2017 Provosts Teaching Award for Innovative Teaching. He lives in Saskatoon with wife and two children and loves to spend time outdoors; sailing, paddling and biking. Outreach and Engagement for the Changing Cold Regions Network (Funded by NSERC), a co-investigator with the Delta Dialogue network (Funded by SSHRC and the principal investigator for the Human Dimensions of a Thawing Landscape (funded by SSHRC).

### Breakout

## Donna Bowyer

Donna is currently the Provincial Director for the Friends for Life project under the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) and also oversees the CMHA, Moose Jaw Branch. Donna has been with CMHA for over 25 years. She has worked with people with long term mental illness in the area of social and vocational rehabilitation and now is primarily an educator but still oversees Peer Support. Donna is a certified trainer in many areas of prevention, recovery, and first aid for mental health problems. Donna Lives in Moose Jaw with her husband and is a part of the clubhouse sandwich generation with boomerang children.

## Julius Brown

Julius Brown is the Provincial Coordinator for OSI-CAN and a military veteran. His father, 2 brothers and a son are military veterans and he has a daughter who is in her 15th year of service. He was employed with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) in the Justice Community Support Program before being selected as the provincial coordinator for the OSI-CAN Support Initiative.

## Kent Orosz

Kent Orosz has been a member of Saskatoon Search and Rescue (SSAR), an all-volunteer, registered charitable organization, for nearly 10 years. During this time, Kent has obtained his Searcher and Team Leader certifications, became a trainer, and has qualified as a Search Manager. He previously served as President of SSAR for three and a half years. Kent currently serves on the Board of Directors and as Training Chair for the Search and Rescue Saskatchewan Association of Volunteers (SARSAV), the provincial organization for ground search and rescue.

Over the years, Kent has been involved with dozens of searches for lost or missing persons across Saskatchewan. Many of these searches have involved multiple agency response, including other SARSAV

chapters, the RCMP “F” Division Hasty Team, Saskatoon Police Service’s Public Safety Unit, CASARA, STARS, and local fire department. He has also assisted in evidence searches at crime scenes and in various non-search emergencies and community support events.

## Barry Salmond

Barry’s background with exposure to PTSD/OSI began as an EMT with the ambulance service and northern regions for 15 years. Barry has also been involved with corrections and youth services for 20 years.

Barry has responded to numerous natural disasters as a volunteer including Hurricanes Andrew, Katrina and Rita. Barry has also volunteered with the efforts for the Provincial Floods and Fires in Saskatchewan and Alberta. And has been involved in several manmade disasters as well including 911.

Barry has been working with the CISM group to respond to critical incidents throughout Saskatchewan providing peer support and Sits on the local CISM volunteer team.

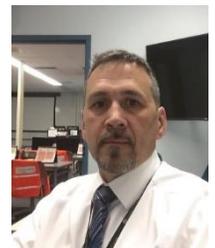
Barry is an instructor and facilitator for the Everly/Mitchel CISM program.

## Trevor Tychkowsky

Trevor has been employed with Smoky Lake County for over 21 years. In 2002, he took on the positions of Safety Officer and Director of Emergency Management and he developed an emergency management policy to implement in the event of any major disaster within the County. Trevor took training that detailed all ICS levels and went to Winnipeg to become involved in a Beta course for ICS Canada. He also attended several courses in Ottawa at the Disaster Services College. In 2012 Smoky Lake County formed a partnership with the surrounding municipalities within the County and regionalized their disaster services making Trevor the Regional Director of Emergency Management. Trevor has first-hand knowledge and experience in front-line firefighting for 12 years and has been with the RCMP as an auxiliary officer for the past 11 years. In May 2016 Trevor and the Smoky Lake regional team opened a reception center during the Fort McMurray fires for over 20 days. Trevor was also asked to go up to Fort McMurray to be part of the EOC team during the event and became involved in the Logistics branch. Trevor, along with several other emergency management personnel, saw the need for a Regional Incident Management Team that could respond as a trained group in level 3 emergencies. It was felt that small communities would not be able to fill the roles in the EOC for a long period of time and the Fort McMurray fire confirmed the suspicions that it doesn’t matter how big you are, there is always a need for regional teams. Trevor is currently the President of the ASIST team and he and the other members are striving towards being well prepared for the next major incident.

## Ray Unrau

Ray Unrau began working as an EMT for MD Ambulance in 1982, and became a paramedic in 1987. He changed careers in 1993 when he moved to the Saskatoon Fire Department. He transferred into the Training Division in 1999 where he instructed the EMS program and Technical Rescue programs. In 2002 Ray became Saskatoon’s Emergency Measures Coordinator and in 2015 the first Director of Emergency Planning for the City of Saskatoon. Ray is now the Director of Operations with Saskatchewan Ministry of Government Relations - Emergency Management and Fire Safety.



## Warman Community Emergency Response Team (WERT)

**Randy Meginbir** - Warman EMO Coordinator. Randy has been involved full-time in Emergency Services for 35 years. Through out his career he has been involved in many different areas. Randy is an Advanced Care Paramedic, a HAZMAT technician, as well as Technical Rescue Instructor for the Saskatoon Fire Department. For the past 2 years he is the leader and developer of the Warman Emergency Response Team known as WERT.

**Coralie Bueckert** is currently the Community Programs Supervisor for the City of Warman and through her positions works directly with the Warman Emergency Response Team (WERT) and the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). Working along side the Emergency Management Officer - Randy Meginbir, she helped to build WERT to where it is today. Her main role is to manage and administrative the Evacuation Centre and Volunteer Reception Centre, together with her volunteers they are developing an evacuation facility plan for the community of Warman. In addition, Coralie and her team continue to work through the processes and procedures required to run an efficient and effective volunteer reception centre.

## John Yamniuk

John is a certified Master Business Continuity Professional with 37 years diverse experience in the telecommunications industry and has been a practitioner in the business continuity industry for more than twenty-two years. He continues his work in the business continuity industry as a consultant and has been part of the DRI CANADA/DRI International instructor corps since 2007. His experience and expertise in the business continuity industry includes extensive work in business continuity planning and operations, both at a regional and a national telecommunications level, labour disruption planning, course development and delivery, exercise design and facilitation, after action reviews, risk evaluation, business impact analysis, strategy development, special event business continuity planning and operations (the 2001 World Championships in Athletics in Edmonton, TELUS 2010 Olympics planning and operations, and the 2002 G8 World Leaders Summit in Kananaskis). Currently, John is the Chair of the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Technical Committee for Z1600 Standard for Emergency and Continuity Management Programs, member of the Board of Directors of DRI CANADA (Director Western Region, Secretary & Privacy Officer, and Chair of the DRI CANADA Awards of Excellence Program), Past-President of DRIE West, and past Chair of the Canadian Telecommunications Emergency Preparedness Association. John is based in Calgary, Alberta.

