

IEEE Canadian Conference of Electrical and Computer Engineering (CCECE) 2021

Panel 3

Where Next? Innovation and Partnerships in Emerging Technologies

Industry academic partnerships are a key driver in innovation and building a globally competitive economy. This panel brings together the perspectives of industry, both large and small, and academia to discuss where's next in digital technologies and the opportunities that lie therein for collaboration. The panel will highlight examples of successful collaborations supported by funding programs such as ENCQOR 5G and speak to the continued support opportunities that are available to help foster industry academic partnerships and innovation.

To register click on <https://events.vtools.ieee.org/m/280541>. The Zoom link and passcode will be emailed to registrants the day prior

The Panel Lead is **Philippa King** - Director Advanced Technology Platform Programs, Ontario Centre for Innovation (OCI)

Philippa King is the Director, Advanced Technology Platforms at OCI, a not-for-profit organization that works with industry, government, and academia to accelerate the commercialization of new technologies. Since joining OCI, Philippa has driven business development activities connecting Ontario's companies and post-secondary institutions, moved leading edge technologies out of the research lab into the marketplace, and helped start-ups grow and succeed. She has led the implementation of cross-provincial strategic initiatives in addition to sector specific initiatives in areas such as cybersecurity and defense.



In her current role at OCI, Philippa leads three programs in the Advanced Technology Platform (ATP) suite of programs including ENCQOR 5G, Next Generation Network and IBM Innovation Incubator Programs. These large-scale strategic initiatives bring together government, large corporations, academia and SMEs to fuel growth in emerging technology areas and support Ontario SMEs to access cutting edge digital economy technologies/infrastructure providing them with a competitive advantage in the global economy.

Philippa has over 15 years of experience in championing innovation and the commercialization of new disruptive technologies. Prior to joining OCI, she managed strategic projects in the USA and Canada. Philippa holds a PhD in Chemistry from Karlsruhe University in Germany, and Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Inorganic Chemistry from the University of East Anglia, England.

Panelists are:

Paul Baptista - Head of ENCQOR and Ericsson Montreal Site Leader, Ericsson

Paul Baptista has been at Ericsson Canada since 1997. In these 24 years he has held many different positions in R&D, operations and sales teams.

Mr. Baptista has led the deployment of several Canadian wireless networks: the first 3G network, several 4G/LTE networks and since 2018 via the ENCQOR 5G program he lead the deployment of the first pre-commercial 5G network in Canada.

Currently, he leads the Ericsson Montreal campus which is the workplace of 1000+ experts and handles government and industry relations for Quebec. In previous roles he has provided support to large wireless service providers in the US, Mexico and South America.

Baptista holds a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from Concordia University. Has been a member of the Order of engineers since 1999. He is married and is the father of two children.



Dan Desjardins, CEO and co-founder, Kings Distributed Systems

Dr. Dan Desjardins, CEO of Kings Distributed Systems, a Canadian deep-tech company, leads a team of ambitious scientists and engineers who are developing the Distributed Compute Protocol (DCP), a High Performance Computing platform uniquely built on the Web Stack. Dan received his PhD in Physics / computational electromagnetics from Queen's University, and has previously served as a military CC130H Hercules search and rescue pilot and Assistant Professor of Physics and Space Science at Royal Military College of Canada. Dan and the KDS team are passionate about making massive computing power accessible, easy to use, and affordable.



Ketaki Desai, VP Business Development, OCI

Ketaki Desai, Ph.D. is the Vice President, Business Development at OCI. She recently served as the Director of Strategy for a \$1 billion life sciences fund as part of the investment arm of UPMC, a \$21 billion integrated global nonprofit health enterprise in Pennsylvania. She taught Innovation and Commercialization as an Adjunct Professor at Chatham University in Pittsburgh. Before joining UPMC, Ketaki was an Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the University of Pittsburgh and also consulted with startups, small businesses and organizations like Innovation Works, a top national startup accelerator based in Pittsburgh. Prior to that, Ketaki was the Executive Director of the LindenPointe Development Corporation, a nonprofit which ran a startup incubator and a high-school entrepreneurship program. Ketaki has a Doctorate in Biomedical Sciences from Texas A&M University and a Master's in Public Management from Carnegie Mellon University.



Sameh Sorour, Assistant Professor, School of Computing, Queens University