

2021 Summit Speakers Bios



Becky Parker | Manager, Community Engagement, BC Agriculture Council

Having been raised as the 7<sup>th</sup> generation on her family farm, it's no surprise that Becky ended up working in agri-food. As a certified educator, she has spent the last decade building and executing programs which inform and engage the public on important agricultural topics. Becky is passionate about promoting this industry, and her 2015 Nuffield Scholarship detailed how to inspire Gen Z to pursue careers in agriculture and food. In her current role with the BC Agriculture Council, she fosters connections between B.C. farmers and consumers through the We Heart Local BC program.



John Jamieson | President & CEO, Canadian Centre for Food Integrity

John Jamieson, a Professional Agrologist and Certified Nutrient Management Planner is the President and CEO of the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity. John has worked in agriculture for over 20 years in a variety of capacities. He previously served as the Executive Director of the Prince Edward Island Federation of Agriculture and has a wealth of knowledge working with various commodity organizations.

Mr. Jamieson comes to CCFI after simultaneously serving as the Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Deputy Minister of Rural and Regional Development in Prince Edward Island. Through this work he became acutely aware of the importance of building and earning public trust in the Canadian food system.

He has sat on the boards of a number of national and regional organizations including the Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture Advisory Committee and on the Farm and Food Care Foundation Board of Directors.

In his spare time John enjoys traveling, fly fishing and riding on his motorcycle.



Paighton Smyth – Partner Engagement Coordinator, CCFI

Paighton Smyth is the Partner Engagement Coordinator at the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity working to develop innovative systems and effective tools to build value for members and partners. Paighton graduated from the University of Guelph with a BSc. in Animal Science and holds a MSc. in Capacity Development & Extension.

Paighton has worked with the CCFI team designing the public trust research initiatives, developing communication strategies, and supporting event coordination since 2017. Prior to joining CCFI, Paighton has worked with OMAFRA, the University of Guelph and local agriculture organizations in the roles of education, communications, and project management.

Paighton is an enthusiastic young professional who brings passion for agriculture and the Canadian food system to the table.



Robynne Anderson - President of Emerging Ag Inc.

Robynne Anderson is an international expert in agricultural and food policies. Her engagement reaches throughout the value chain providing support in issues management and strategic development to a broad range of clients ranging from farmers to food processors, academic institutions to governments. Robynne represents accredited organizations at the United Nations, bringing the voice of agriculture in multi-governmental processes. She distinguished herself in establishing the first Private Sector Mechanism representing agribusinesses at the UN Committee on World Food Security. Her engagement in multilateral fora broke new ground in bringing issues to prominence, such as the role of women in farming, the importance of post-harvest losses and food waste in food security, and the recruitment of youth to agriculture.

Robynne is a Canadian national. She is a graduate of Carleton University and has continued her education at the Harvard Agribusiness School and Purdue. She started her career in Canadian politics as legislative assistant to the then Deputy Prime Minister of Canada. In addition to her role at Emerging ag, Robynne is involved in her family's farm in Dugald, Manitoba, Canada. She has been involved in numerous community and charitable boards.



Shaun Haney | Owner, RealAgriculture

Founder of <u>RealAgriculture</u>, Shaun Haney manages one of the leading industry ag media companies for Canadian farmers and ranchers. RealAgriculture provides the latest in ag-policy, agronomics, current events and farm show features. Shaun is also the host of RealAg Radio which is broadcast across North America on Rural Radio Channel 147 on SiriusXM daily at 4:30 PM Eastern.

You can follow him on twitter at @shaunhaney or @realagriculture



Fred Sarkari | Human Behaviour Expert

Fred has a background in Psychotherapy, with a focus around emotional engagement in personal and professional relationships. He has been dubbed by the media as a human behavior expert. He coaches, teaches and provides management consulting services to a broad range of organizations from startups to some of the world's largest organizations. He is the president of a unique sales and personal development company that Inspires and Educates individuals and organizations to Execute their goals and plans.

Fred remains highly active in providing individuals with ongoing 1-on-1 coaching from goal setting to execution. Fred has facilitated numerous workshops for employees of various companies including: Microsoft, Wells Fargo, BMW, Scotia Bank, Coca-Cola, Home Depot, CIBC, Royal Bank, North West Mutual Funds, Ceridian, Promotional Products Association, BMO Bank of Montreal, Genworth Financial, Hilton Hotels, Midas, Four Seasons Hotels and many more.