

ACG[®] Atlantic Conference

The Association for Corporate Growth - Toronto is the premier organization driving middle-market growth for the Private Equity and Mergers & Acquisition industry in Canada.

The ACG Atlantic Network facilitates opportunities for business leaders looking for capital, networking and thought leadership throughout the Atlantic region. The ACG Toronto chapter hosts 20+ programs in Halifax, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

The ACG Network has 60 chapters, 14,000+ members and hosts 1,000+ programs across North America.

2026 Agenda

Wednesday, September 23

- 12:00 – 4:00pm - **DealSource North Atlantic** (Hosted at **Deloitte Halifax**, 1741 Lower Water Street, Suite 800, Halifax)
- 6:00 – 9:00pm - **Welcome Reception** for Speakers, Sponsors and Conference attendees (Hosted at the rooftop patio at **Stewart McKelvey**, 1741 Lower Water Street Suite 600, Halifax)

Thursday, September 24

- 8:00am – 3:45pm – Conference (Hosted at **Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21**, 1055 Marginal Road, Halifax)

2026 Presenting Sponsors



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Wednesday, September 23

Time	Topic	Information
12:00 - 4:00pm	DealSource North Atlantic	Location: Deloitte, 1741 Lower Water St. Suite 800, Halifax Pre-scheduled 1:1 meetings for Investment Banks and M&A Advisors to meet with Private Equity, Capital Providers, Family Offices, and Corporate Development teams
6:00 - 9:00pm	Opening Reception	Location: Stewart McKelvey – Rooftop Patio, 1741 Lower Water St. Suite 600, Halifax

Thursday, September 24

Location: Canadian Museum of Immigration at Pier 21

Time	Topic	Information
8:00 - 8:30am	Registration and Networking Breakfast	
8:30 - 8:45am	Opening Remarks	Welcome: - Tim Bishop, ACG Toronto CEO Conference Co-chairs: - Sally Ng, Client Partner, BDC - Jeff MacKenzie, Partner, Confederation M&A
8:50 - 9:40am	Keynote Presentation: Canada, the U.S. and Atlantic Canada: Navigating What Comes Next As Canada navigates an increasingly complex relationship with the United States, what does the future hold for our economy, our partnerships and Atlantic Canada? This timely and candid discussion will explore the Canada–U.S. trade relationship, the opportunities emerging from offshore oil and gas, wind energy, defence and security, and the potential for major infrastructure investment. The conversation will also examine the federal government's economic agenda, Canada's ability to attract investment, and what needs to change to get major projects moving. With a focus on Atlantic Canada's strategic position, the session will challenge conventional thinking and provoke discussion about Canada's future trading relationships—including our relationship with China—and how we can build greater economic and national security resilience.	Introduction: - Ben McDonald, Senior Associate, SeaFort Capital Moderator: - Geoff Bennett, President, Bennett Brown Capital Keynote Speaker: - Honourable Peter MacKay, PC KC Sponsors:  
9:45 - 10:30am	Four Dimensions of Defence: Capitalizing on Opportunities in Atlantic Canada Atlantic Canada is uniquely positioned to lead in the next wave of defence growth, with 40% of Canada's deployable military assets and a strong concentration of personnel across the region. This panel explores how organizations can unlock opportunities across the four dimensions of defence: - Infrastructure (physical + digital assets) - Industry & Supply Chains (manufacturing, SMEs, procurement) - Security & Regulation (controlled goods, export controls, cyber) - People & Innovation (talent, R&D, dual-use tech)	Introduction: - James Rathbun, Principal, Growth Equity, BDC Moderator: - Victoria Belbin, CEO, Atlantic Canada Aerospace & Defence Association Speakers: - Emily Smits, CEO, Modest Tree - Duncan McSporran, Managing Director, Vimy Forge Accelerator - Justin Martin, CEO, First Spear Group Sponsors:  

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Thursday, September 24 *Continued*

Time	Topic	Information
10:30 - 11:00am	Networking Break	
11:05 - 11:50am	Managing Change and Growth in Unstable Landscapes Growth rarely happens in a straight line. Economic uncertainty, shifting markets, talent pressures, and evolving customer demands require leaders to continually adapt while maintaining momentum. Join experienced operators and investors as they share lessons learned navigating change, managing risk, and building resilient businesses that can grow through periods of disruption and transformation.	Introduction: - Sean Flinn, Senior Vice-President, BFL Canada Moderator: - Jillian Murray, Partner, Transactions, Doane Grant Thornton LLP Speakers: - Anne Whelan, President & CEO, Seafair Capital - Steve Drummond, Former President, Source Atlantic Ltd. Sponsors:  
11:55am - 1:00pm	Lunch & Networking Break	
1:05 - 1:50pm	Building Global Businesses from Atlantic Canada: Success Stories of Growth Investment & Scaling Atlantic Canada is home to companies that have successfully competed and grown on the world stage. Hear firsthand from business leaders who have scaled internationally, attracted investment, expanded into new markets, and built globally recognized organizations while remaining rooted in the region. This discussion will explore the strategies, leadership decisions, and growth investments that helped transform Atlantic Canadian companies into international success stories.	Introduction: - Andrew Frazer, Market Vice President, Commercial Banking, CIBC Moderator: - Derrick Dempster, Partner, Deloitte Speakers: - JP Deveau, Executive Chairman, Acadian Seaplants - Kevin Rogers, President & CEO, Nautel - Andrea Feunekes, Corporate Director, Remsoft Sponsors:  
1:55 - 2:45pm	Closing Keynote Presentation: Atlantic Economic Panel: Key Findings from the Committee	Introduction: - Matthew Galgay, Partner, BDO Moderator: - Sally Ng, Client Partner, BDC Speaker: - Don Mills, Chair, Atlantic Economic Panel Sponsors:  
2:50 - 3:00pm	Closing Remarks	Conference Co-chairs: - Sally Ng, Client Partner, BDC - Jeff MacKenzie, Partner, Confederation M&A Final Remarks - Vaughn MacLellan, DLA Piper Thank you and Conclusion: - Tim Bishop, ACG Toronto CEO
3:00 - 3:45pm	Closing Reception & Networking	