

# City Building Summit: **Ottawa Strong**

**Wednesday, April 23, 2025**

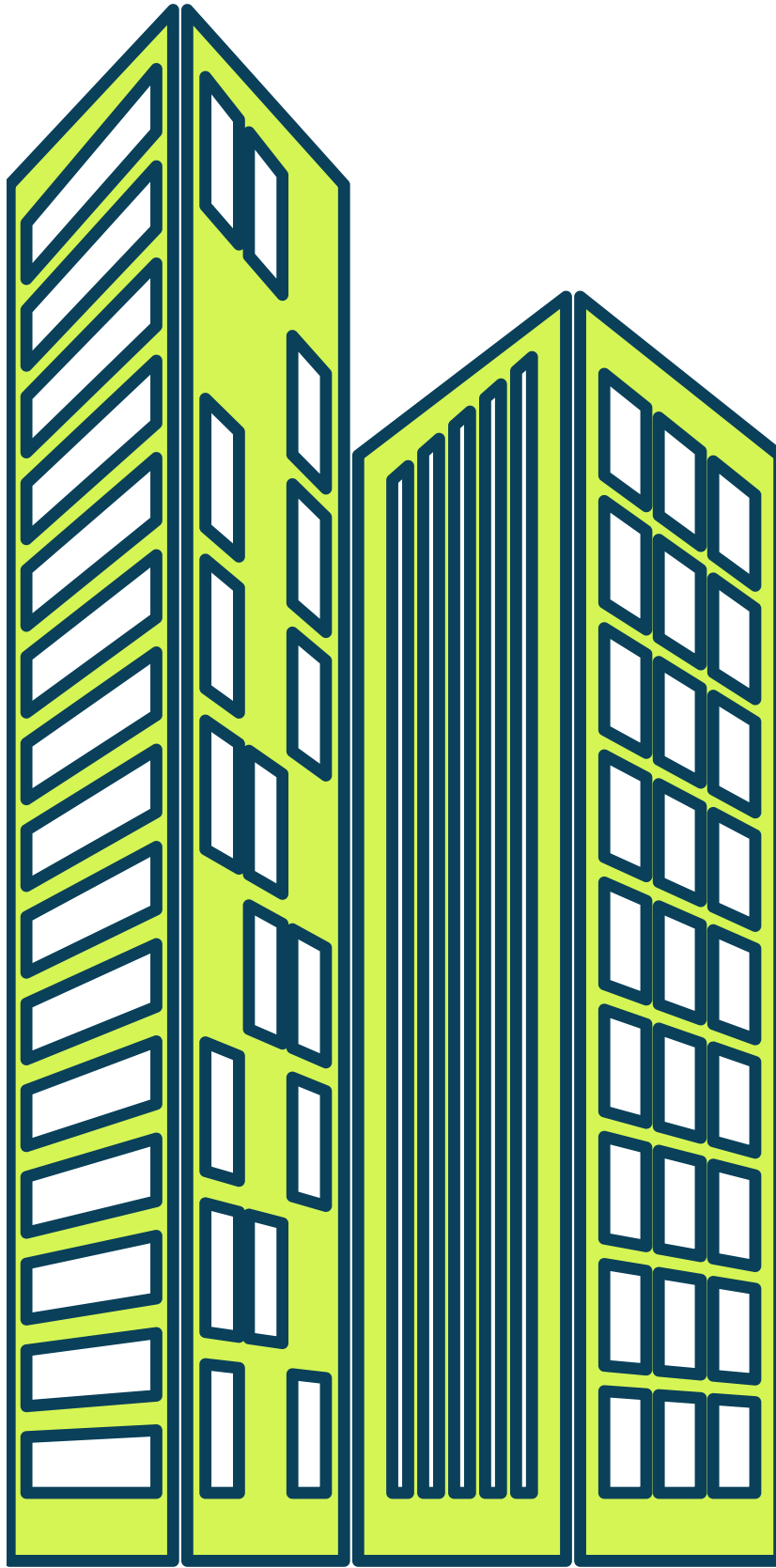
**Rogers Centre Ottawa**



**OTTAWA  
BUSINESS  
JOURNAL**



# AGENDA



**7:30 AM**

REGISTRATION AND NETWORKING

**8:30 AM**

OPENING REMARKS

**8:40 AM**

MAYOR'S ADDRESS

**9:00 AM**

DOWNTOWN OTTAWA ACTION  
AGENDA

**9:45 AM**

HEALTH BREAK + NETWORKING

**10:00 AM**

EMPOWERING DEVELOPERS:  
BUILDING CITIES OF  
TOMORROW

**10:50 AM**

ANIMATING THE CAPITAL: AN  
UPDATE ON NCC PROJECTS

**11:10 AM**

AMPLIFYING OTTAWA:  
BUILDING A MUSIC CITY

**12:00 PM**

LUNCH

# AGENDA

**1:10 PM**

AFTERNOON OPENING  
REMARKS

**1:15 PM**

POWERING OTTAWA: BREAKING  
THROUGH THE ENERGY WALL

**2:05 PM**

HEALTH + NETWORKING BREAK

**2:20 PM**

EDUCATION & HEALTH:  
OTTAWA'S FOUNDATION FOR A  
THRIVING FUTURE

**3:10 PM**

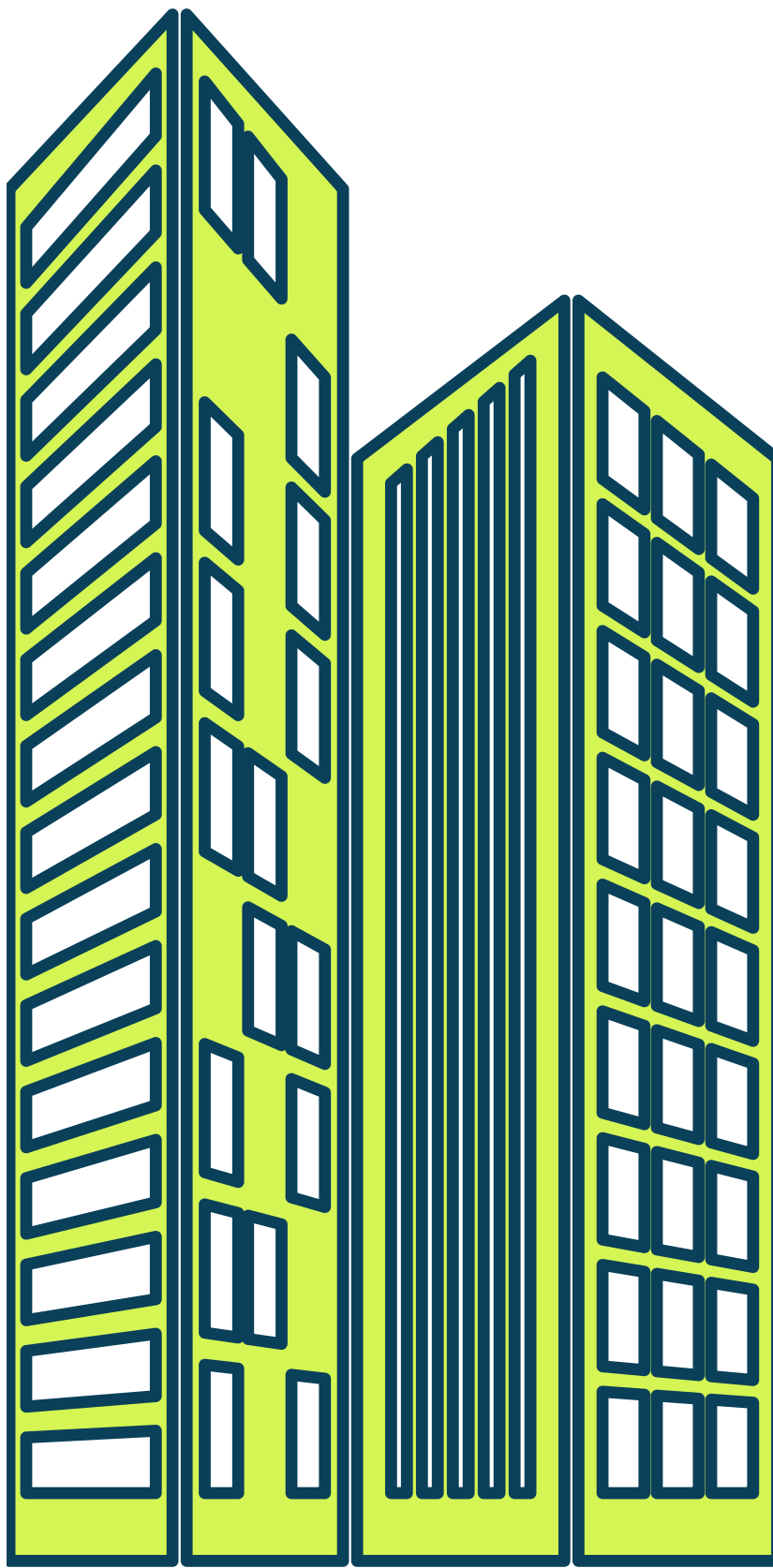
AI + CITIES: BUILDING  
OTTAWA'S FUTURE

**4:00 PM**

CLOSING REMARKS

**4:10 PM**

COCKTAIL + NETWORKING



# Downtown Ottawa Action Agenda



**MARY ROWE**

President & CEO,  
Canadian Urban Institute



**JENNIFER ARMSTRONG**

Director of Transportation &  
Planning, City of Ottawa



**DEBBIE STEWART**

General Manager, Strategic Initiatives  
Department, City of Ottawa



**ERIC STUBBS**

Police Chief,  
Ottawa Police Services

Join urban visionary Mary Rowe and key stakeholders for a dynamic deep dive into the heart of downtown Ottawa's transformation. This session tackles the pressing issues of housing, transit, and community safety, exploring both the challenges we face and the progress being made. Expect an engaging, solutions-focused discussion that highlights bold ideas, successful strategies, and the power of collaboration in shaping a thriving, resilient urban core. If you are invested in the future of downtown Ottawa, and you are, this is your chance to be part of the conversation driving real change.

# Empowering Developers: Building Cities of Tomorrow



**JENNIFER CROSS**

Business Development Manager,  
MARANT Construction



**ANDREW REEVES**

Architect & Principal Partner,  
Linebox Studio



**JONATHAN WESTEINDE**

Founder & CEO, Windmill  
Development Group

Around the world, leading cities are proving that sustainable development and economic growth can go hand in hand—so how can Ottawa rise to the challenge? This session dives into cutting-edge strategies for balancing economic, social, and environmental priorities in city-building. Discover real-world success stories from global leaders and explore the innovative approaches making zero-carbon and affordable housing a reality. From bold policies to breakthrough projects, this conversation will challenge conventional thinking and spark new ideas for shaping a resilient, inclusive, and future-ready Ottawa.

# Animating the Capital: An Update on NCC Projects



**TOBI NUSSBAUM**

President & CEO, National Capital  
Commission

An update from Tobi Nussbaum, President and CEO of the National Capital Commission on the projects underway in the National Capital region with a focus on the many initiatives along its shorelines and waterways, including its growing number of bistros and taverns.

# Amplifying Ottawa: Building a Music City



**ERIN BENJAMIN**

President & CEO,  
Canadian Live Music Association



**CHRISTINE CRUMP**

President, Hard Rock Hotel &  
Casino Ottawa



**MATHIEU GRONDIN**

Nightlife Commissioner,  
City of Ottawa



**MARK MONAHAN**

Executive Director,  
Ottawa Bluesfest



**ALI SHAFEE**

Regional Vice President,  
Live Nation Canada

Music isn't just entertainment - it's an economic powerhouse and a key ingredient in vibrant, thriving cities. With fresh insights from the latest economic impact report, this panel dives into Ottawa's potential as a dynamic music hub. Explore bold strategies to support local venues, artists, and cultural infrastructure, ensuring that live music fuels both community spirit and economic growth. From policy innovations to industry collaborations, discover how Ottawa can amplify its music scene and stake its claim as a premier destination for music lovers and creators alike. The future of our city's sound starts here—be part of the movement!

# Powering Ottawa: Breaking Through the Energy Wall



**KELLY DAIZE**

Executive Director, Kanata  
North Business Association



**HEIDI BREDENHOLLER-  
PRASAD**

VP of Commercial, Strategy & Business  
Development, Enbridge Gas Inc.



**BRYCE CONRAD**

President & CEO,  
Hydro Ottawa



**WENDY STEPHANSON**

City Manager,  
City of Ottawa

Ottawa's energy future is at a crossroads. As electrification surges, industries expand, and the race to net-zero 2050 accelerates, our power infrastructure faces a critical challenge—can it keep up? Without urgent action, grid instability, supply shortages, and rising demand could stall growth and put businesses, residents, and future developments at risk. Climate pressures and system resilience add even more urgency.

This high-stakes session brings together industry leaders, policymakers, and energy experts to tackle Ottawa's energy reality head-on. What are the barriers to sustainable growth? What bold solutions exist? And what immediate steps must we take to ensure a stable, sustainable, and future-ready energy system? The time to act is now—before the grid limits Ottawa's potential.

# Education & Health: Ottawa's Foundation for a Thriving Future



**MICHAEL CURRAN**

Publisher,  
Ottawa Business Journal



**SCOTT DELANEY**

Chairman & CEO,  
Lumenix



**CAMERON LOVE**

President & CEO,  
The Ottawa Hospital



**DR. JULIE ST-PIERRE**

Interim VP Research & Innovation,  
Professor, Faculty of Medicine,  
University of Ottawa

When we think of hospitals, we think of places where we heal. When we think of universities, we think of places where we learn. However, both types of institutions are so much more. They are both drivers of research, innovation and commercialization with tremendous economic potential. This session explores the cutting-edge advancements shaping the future of learning, research, and healthcare delivery, and how these sectors fuel economic growth and community well-being. From breakthrough medical research to post-secondary collaboration with private industry, discover how Ottawa can leverage its unique strengths in health and education to transform the city.

# AI + Cities: Building Ottawa's Future

Artificial intelligence is reshaping the way cities grow, function, and thrive. From predictive infrastructure planning to real-time urban management, AI is unlocking new possibilities for sustainability, mobility, and economic development. But how can Ottawa harness this technology to build a smarter, more resilient city?



**GREG LINDSAY**

Urbanist, Futurist, Speaker

In this forward-thinking closing session, Greg Lindsay—a leading voice at the intersection of AI and urban innovation—will explore how intelligent systems are transforming city-building worldwide. Discover the opportunities, challenges, and ethical considerations of an AI-powered future, and gain insights into how Ottawa can position itself at the forefront of this revolution. The future of city-building is here—how will we shape it?

# Thank you to our event partners!

