

2015 Arctic Circle Assembly – October 16th -18th

Reykjavík, Iceland

Breakout session

October 17th | 15:30 – 18:30

Sustainable development in Northern Quebec: Challenges and Innovation

[Arctic Circle Assembly website](#)

SCOPE OF THE SESSION

Social issues associated with northern development both concern and engage northern populations, policymakers, businesses, scientists and technologists. A major challenge is to reach a common vision to ensure a harmonious and sustainable development of the North. Quebec's *Plan Nord*, which was presented by the Quebec Government at the Arctic Circle Conference in 2014, offers a unique opportunity to meet that challenge and share knowledge with other circumpolar nations. This session on *Sustainable development in Northern Quebec* aims to exchange views on research and partnership which are conditions required to achieve sustainable development for projects in the circumpolar world, such as the *Plan Nord*. The session will use a format that combines Quebec and international experts who will present their perspectives on development challenges. It will also provide a forum to reflect on the contribution of circumpolar research to the global efforts for a sustainable earth.

PROGRAM AND PARTICIPANTS

Presenter Biographies (on next page)

SCHEDULE		TITLE		SPEAKERS
15:30-15:50				The Honourable Philippe Couillard, Premier of Quebec
15:50-15:55		Statement and introduction of panelists by moderator	1.	Ms. Maryse Lassonde Scientific Director of the Québec Nature and Technology Research Fund
15:55-16:05	A.	A decade of research by the ArcticNet Network of Centres of Excellence	2.	Mr. Louis Fortier Scientific Director of ArcticNet, Université Laval, Quebec
16:05-16:15	B.	Arctic research, partnership and new perspectives : Sentinel North	3.	Mr. Marcel Babin Director of Takuvik Joint International Laboratory, Université Laval & CNRS, Québec et France
16:15-16:25	C.	EU-PolarNet: Connecting Science with Society	4.	Ms. Nicole Biebow Head of the International Cooperation Unit, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany
16:25-16:35	A.	The Institut Nordique du Québec: bringing research to innovation	5.	Mr. René Therrien Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, Université Laval, Quebec
16:35-16:45	B.	The circumpolar network of ecotoxicology with mining industry as part of U. of Arctic	6.	Mr. Lars Lövgren Kemiska institutionen Umea University, Sweden
16:45-16:55	C.	Health and Determinants of Health	7.	Ms. Antonia Maioni Associate Vice-Principal, Research and International Relations, McGill, Quebec
17:10-17:15		Statement and introduction of panelists by moderator	8.	Mr. Christos Sirros Agent-General, Quebec Government Office in London
17:15-17:25	A.	The Makivik Corporation as a demonstration of leadership in capacity building in the North	9.	Mr. Adamie Delisle Alaku Vice-President, Renewable Resources, Makivik Corporation, Quebec
17:35-17:45	B.	Emerging energy technologies and R&D opportunities for northern areas	10.	Mr. Gaétan Lantagne General Manager, Institut de recherche Hydro-Québec, Quebec
17:45-17:55	C.	Regional LNG and Northern Development	11.	Mr. Rodney Semotiuk CEO, Stolt LNGaz, Norway
18:10-18:20		New scientific skills needed for Quebec's Plan Nord, challenges for universities	12.	Mr. Yves Bégin Vice rector, Research and Academic Affairs, Institut national de la recherche scientifique, Quebec
18:20-18:30		Le Plan Nord: challenges for society	13.	Mr. Robert Sauvé President and CEO, Société du Plan Nord, Quebec
18:30		Closing		

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Ms. Brigitte Bigué, Project director, Institut nordique du Québec | brigitte.bigue@fsg.ulaval.ca

Mr. Robert Sauvé, President and CEO, Société du Plan Nord | robert.sauve@spn.gouv.qc.ca

Presenter Biographies



Ms. Maryse Lassonde

Scientific Director of the Québec Nature and Technology Research Fund

Moderator

Maryse Lassonde completed a Ph.D. in neuropsychology at Stanford University. She became professor at the University of Quebec in Trois-Rivieres (1977-1988) and then at the University of Montreal (1988-2013) where she was nominated Emeritus professor. She is a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association (1994), the Royal Society of Canada (1997), the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (2010) and held a Canada Research Chair (2001-2013). Professor Lassonde was named Officer, Order of Canada (2012), Knight, National Order of Quebec (1999). Professor Lassonde became the Scientific Director of the Quebec Science and Technology research granting agency in 2012 and is President elect of the Royal Society of Canada.



Mr. Louis Fortier

Scientific director of ArcticNet, Université Laval, Québec

Title : A decade of research by the ArcticNet Network of Centres of Excellence

A specialist of the ecology of marine zooplankton and fish, Professor Louis Fortier holds the Canada Research Chair on the response of arctic marine ecosystems to climate warming. He has coordinated several international arctic research programs such as the International North Water Polynya Study (NOW) and the Canadian Arctic Shelf Exchange Study (CASES). He is the Scientific Leader for the Canadian Research Icebreaker Amundsen. Fortier is Scientific Director of Canada's Network of Centres of Excellence ArcticNet (2004-2018) and of the Unité Mixte Internationale Takuvik of the French Conseil national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS).



Mr. Marcel Babin

Director of Takuvik Joint international Laboratory, Université Laval & CNRS, Québec et France

Title : Arctic research, partnership and new perspectives : Sentinel North

Dr. Marcel Babin is an internationally recognized authority in polar oceanography. He holds the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Remote Sensing of Canada's New Arctic Frontier and is founder and director of the Takuvik Joint International Laboratory (Université Laval, Canada & CNRS, France). Dr. Babin has led several major international research projects in the Arctic and is now scientific director of the Sentinel North program (Canada First Research Excellence Fund). Over the last 5 years, he has played a key role in science coordination between Canada, Europe (especially France) and USA, by implementation and conducting cutting-edge research activities.



Ms. Nicole Biebow

Head of the International Cooperation Unit, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany

Title : EU-PolarNet: Connecting Science with Society

Dr. Nicole Biebow is the project manager of EU-PolarNet and Head of the International Cooperation Unit at the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI). She received her PhD in Marine Geology 1996. Nicole Biebow has long-standing experience in the management of international projects and coordination of international consortia. She is the German delegate to the Sustained Arctic Observing Network (SAON) and one of the initiators of the ARICE (Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium for Europe: A strategy for meeting the needs for marine research in the Arctic) initiative.



Mr. René Therrien

Vice-dean of the Faculty of Science and Engineering, Université Laval, Québec

Title : The Institut Nordique du Québec: bringing research to innovation

The research program of Dr. Therrien focuses on solving issues related to water resources. Dr. Therrien has served on the expert panel on the Sustainable Management of Groundwater in Canada for the Council of Canadian Academies (2007-2009), on the expert panel on the Environmental and Health Impacts of the Canada's Oil Sands Industry of the Royal Society of Canada (2009-2010). He has also co-authored a report on the Geothermal Energy Resource Potential of Canada (2011). He received an honorary doctorate from the University of Liège, Belgium, in 2013.



Mr. Lars Lövgren

Kemiska institutionen Umea university, Sweden

Title : The circumpolar network of ecotoxicology with mining industry as part of U. of Arctic

Lars Lövgren is an associate professor in inorganic chemistry at Umeå University, Sweden. His expertise is mainly in the field of geochemistry, especially detailed understanding of sorption processes at surfaces of mineral particles. During most of his career he has been engaged in research projects addressing environmental aspects of mining and contaminated soils. Since 2010 Lars Lövgren is coordinating a thematic network associated to UArctic "Environmental Impact Assessment of Industry Contaminated Areas", which consists of 15 partner universities and institutes in 7 countries. Lars Lövgren is since 2010 chair of the Department of Chemistry at Umeå University.



Ms. Antonia Maioni

Associate Vice-principal, Research and International Relations, McGill, Québec

Title : Determinants of health: nutrition security, social issues and health care

Antonia Maioni is Associate Vice-Principal (Research and International Relations) at McGill University, where she is Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Institute for Health and Social Policy at McGill University. From 2001 to 2011, she was Director of the McGill Institute for the Study of Canada and served as President of the Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences from 2013 to 2015. Her research focuses on public policy, Canadian and comparative politics. She holds a B.A. from Université Laval, an M.A. in International Affairs at Carleton, and a Ph.D. from Northwestern University.

Mr. Christos Sirros

Agent-General, Québec, Gouvernement Office in London

Moderator

On the 10 December 2014, M. Christos Sirros took up his position as the newly appointed Québec Agent-General in London and will represent Québec in the United Kingdom, Ireland and the Nordic countries. Prior to this, Mr. Sirros was Québec's Agent-General in Brussels during the negotiations of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union. As a member of the National Assembly from 1981 to 2004, Mr. Sirros served as Minister for Health and Social Services, Minister for Native Affairs and Minister of Natural Resources. He was also awarded the title of Commander of the Ordre de la Pléiade.



Mr. Adamie Delisle-Alaku

Vice-president, Renewable Resources, Makivik Corporation, Québec

Title : The Makivik Corporation as a demonstration of leadership in the capacity building in the North

Adamie Delisle-Alaku was educated in his hometown of Salluit and pursued higher education in Sciences in Montreal. After his studies, he worked at the Raglan mine for 10 years, as the human resources coordinator and as a foreman. Adamie joined Makivik Corporation in the capacity of Executive Assistant. He developed an understanding of wildlife issues and challenges related to renewable resources facing the Inuit of Nunavik. He has showed great devotion in ensuring that Nunavimmiut were heard and represented at a Regional, National and International level. He is a member of the Hunting Fishing Trapping Coordinating Committee and co-chair of the Ungava Peninsula Caribou Aboriginal Roundtable.



Mr. Gaétan Lantagne

General Manager, Institut de recherche Hydro-Québec, Québec

Title : Emerging energy technologies & R&D opportunities for northern areas.

Gaétan Lantagne is scientific director at the Hydro-Québec research institute (IREQ). He has cumulated 25 years of experience in energy related research. He has contributed significantly to the energy efficiency R&D programme of Hydro-Québec as well as its positioning in renewable energy research activities. He is regularly consulting the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) of Canada on various issues related to energy and innovation. Gaétan Lantagne holds a Ph.D in Chemical Engineering (1990) from the University of Sherbrooke in Canada.



Mr. Richard Brosseau

Director Public affairs and community relations, Stolt LNGaz Inc.

Title : Regional LNG and Northern Development

Richard Brosseau is director Public affairs and community relations of Stolt LNGaz Inc. a medium scale LNG distributor serving industry in Eastern Canada and Northern Europe. He is responsible for government relations, supervising permits applications and act as spokesperson. Prior to that, he was a Senior Special Advisor in the Quebec Premier's office, also he has been Deputy Chief of Staff to the Deputy Premier and Minister for the Natural Resources where he directed work on the preparation and monitoring of the 'Plan Nord'. His private sector experience includes a position as Vice-President, Public Affairs, in a large firm of public relations. Richard holds a 2006 Master in Business Administration degree from the Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM).



Mr. Yves Bégin

Vice-rector, Research and Academic Affairs, Institut national de la recherche scientifique, Québec

Title : New scientific skills needed for Québec Plan Nord, challenges for universities

Yves Bégin is Vice-rector Research and Academic Affairs of Québec's National Institute of Scientific Research (INRS) since 2013 and was Director of the Research Centre on Water, Earth and the Environment from 2007 and 2013 and Professor at Laval University earlier (1985-2007). There, he has been for eight years the Director of the Centre for Northern Studies (CEN), a research group on the Canadian North. He is a generalist in environmental science and a specialist in the evaluation of water resources. Among his achievements within scientific organizations, he has set up in Northeastern Canada one of the largest network of research stations in the circumpolar North (Qaujisarvik Network) including a network of climatological stations in the same region (SILA Network). The stations are distributed within an area covering 4,500 km of latitude between 53 and 83°N.



Mr. Robert Sauvé

President and CEO, Société du Plan Nord, Quebec

Title : The Plan Nord of Québec : challenges for society

Robert Sauvé was appointed as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Société du Plan Nord on April 1, 2015, after acting since May 2014 as the Associate Secretary General responsible for the Secrétariat au Plan Nord. He has held several senior positions within the Québec public service, which he joined in 1987. His career as a public administrator has been influenced, among other things, by his in-depth knowledge of Québec's territory and regions. His positions have included Associate Secretary General for Aboriginal affairs, Deputy Minister at the Ministère des Régions, and Associate Deputy Minister for regional and municipal affairs. From 2009 to 2012, he was a Deputy Minister at the Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune, with responsibility for the Plan Nord. From August 2012 to October 2012, he was Associate Secretary General at the Bureau de transition du Plan Nord, and from October 2012 to May 2014, Associate General Secretary with responsibility for the Secrétariat des comités ministériels. Robert Sauvé was born in Beauharnois and holds a Bachelor's degree in architecture from Université de Montréal and a Master's degree in urban and regional planning from Oxford Polytechnic in England. He also pursued doctoral-level studies in land planning and regional development at Université de Montréal.